

# THE WORKERS' CALL.

"Workingmen of all countries unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

SECOND YEAR.—WHOLE NO. 81.

CHICAGO, ILL., SEPTEMBER 22, 1900.

PRICE TWO CENTS

## FROM THEIR OWN MOUTHS

Sketch of the Hellish Conditions Prevailing in the Coal Regions of Pennsylvania, Drawn from a Capitalistic Source.

The following account taken from Public Ownership, is by far the best we have yet seen of the great miners' strike. The facts as quoted, are taken by Public Ownership verbatim from the report of the Capitalistic Publishers' Association:

"The story of the grievances and sufferings of the miners of the Wyoming Valley would fill a book. The chief grievances may be summed up as follows:

"The company stores. These are unprofitable under a special definite statute of Pennsylvania. The companies deny that such a thing as the company stores exists, but it is a mere juggling of words, as they are called 'supply' stores. These stores supply the miners with the necessities of life and the account is deducted from the men's wages at the end of each month.

"The prices in company or 'supply' stores range from 70 to 40 per cent higher than in outside stores—a fair average would be 25 per cent. The men don't have to deal with the 'supply' stores if they think they can buy cheaper elsewhere," say the operators. But it is a fact that the man who persists in dealing elsewhere, suffers excessive dockage, is given bad breasts to work in, is limited on cars and in a dozen other ways is disciplined.

"The monthly payment of wages. The operators say it is done to keep the men from squandering their money. There is a statute in Pennsylvania requiring that all laboring men be paid at least once in two weeks. There seems to be a law here to cover every one of the men's complaints, but the companies appear to regard statutes, as applied to them, in the light of jokes. The only other explanation heard for the failure to pay twice a month is that it saves bookkeeping and thus obviates a lot of expense and trouble for the operators and company stores.

"The mine bosses. They have almost dictatorial power; they abuse that power. They are kings away down in the bowels of the earth. Some of these bosses go so far as to compel their subordinates to suffer indignities which would make a Zulu commit suicide. It is a shameful thing to write, but right here, in Scranton, a city of 100,000 inhabitants, there is at least one mine boss who uses his little brief authority to COMPEL HIS MEN TO YIELD TO HIS DESIRES THEIR WIVES AND DAUGHTERS. (It is W. B. Colver, the reporter for the Publishers' Press, who makes this statement—not a 'wild-eyed' Socialist.)

"Docking and measuring. The operators say 'That wages are the same now that they always have been; that is, a man gets as much per ton.' But a car is a ton. And for years the cars have been steadily growing larger. There have been strikes or threats of strikes and the operators have granted concessions. Straightaway an extra two or three inches of plank is added to the sideboards of the car. The Pennsylvania statutes declare that a mine's ton shall be 2,240 pounds. The car now in use holds 2,490 pounds and must be heaped up four and six inches high, so that after taking away the slate and dirt the company has one and one-half tons of clean, marketable coal. For mining this the men get on an average 92 cents per car. That is how the coal is measured.

"Then comes the dockage. After a car has been filled it is hoisted out of the mine to the top of the breaker. Here it is dumped. The breaker boss, who is another despot as tyrannical as the mine boss, has a docking clerk at the top of the breaker. This man—often one who has never been in a mine and knows nothing about the business—glances at the car of coal or fails to glance at it if he sees fit, and marks on the board 'half car docked,' or 'quarter car docked,' as he sees fit. The men are docked about 15 or 20 per cent and sometimes much more on all the coal they dig.

"Short time and division of labor. This, next to the powder grievance, is the chief complaint of the men. Of course the inhuman indignity to wife and daughter cannot be classed nor compared to ordinary evils. The men go into the mine at 6:30 or 7 o'clock in the morning. The manager or superintendent orders that a certain number of cars be sent down to be filled that day. If there are 100 men and 300 cars one would suppose that each one would get three, but not so. One boss may do as he sees fit, and he does. His favorite gets the easy working / rests / or faces. They also may get eight or ten cars to fill for their day's work, while the luckless miners, objects of the bosses' dislike, are sent to a hard, narrow and may get but a single car for the day. When that car is full they must stop. Each miner has a helper who is paid by the day. The helper's time goes on, whether the miner has one car or ten, so that it may happen that a miner is actually poorer when he quits work than when he began. One miner showed me his statement for the last two weeks in April. He got \$4.77 for the two weeks' work. The same man got 77 cents for the first half of June and \$3.75 is the best he has made in any two weeks for four months. No matter when the men get their cars filled they must stay in the mine in black, stifling, damp and chilly solitude until time for closing the mines. Many a man sits crouching in his tunnel six hours for the privilege of working three hours.

"The powder question is a most serious one. Then men are charged \$2.75 per keg for powder that costs 90 cents. That powder may mine them less than enough to pay for itself. That all depends upon the mine boss.

"The men are allowed to work, one, two, three, or four days a week, half a day or all day or not at all, as the operators may decide, but they must report for duty every day.

Read this, wage-workers, industrial

slaves, and reading it, remember that your day is coming when the same conditions shall environ you that now oppress the members of your great class who wrest the black diamonds from the bosom of Mother Earth to heat your homes and drive the machines you are permitted to attend.

Think of the inhumanities that capitalism prompts—yea, compels—men to practice upon their kind. Conceive, if you can, the condition that compels men to sacrifice their wives and daughters for a mere privilege of working for a bare existence—for the pittance of 77 cents for two weeks' work. Realize that if something is not done, it will not be long until that sum will measure your wages, and that your wives and daughters will be the price of the opportunity to "earn" even this.

And now, lest there still linger in your mind a suspicion that there are no classes in this "great, free country," read the continuation of the press reporter's account of the miners' distressing condition. Learn whether or not there are classes and class interests:

"It is known that the Retail Dealers' association of the entire district have agreed to cut off all credit as soon as the strike begins. This is because they have been notified by the wholesalers that the retailers themselves can expect no credit. OF COURSE THE COMPANY STORES WILL SHUT DOWN ON THE MEN AT ONCE."

Now, perhaps you will know that the capitalists are class-conscious. The big merchants cut off the credit of the small retailers and force them in turn to shut down on their customers. In this case the striking miners, in order to starve them the sooner into submission, to the exactions of the mine owners and operators, members of the capitalist class to which the big wholesalers belong. Oh, no, there are no classes, and the capitalists are not class-conscious!

Wage workers, organized and unorganized, do you see? What is there left for you but to unite, class-conscious yourselves, in a political party ready to your hand, the Socialist party, and on the political field where numbers count, wrest from your exploiters the means whereby they oppress you? Take the reins of government and direct its course to the Co-operative Commonwealth, where all may labor who will and none shall eat who will not, where wealth will belong to its makers, and drones and industrial despots will be known no more! Strike on the industrial field because you must, but strike at the ballot box because there your strike will win! Vote that the government shall own the mines and that men's wives and daughters shall be preserved in chastity and health to raise the coming generations.—Public Ownership.

### As Others See Us.

Baron Von Biedenfeld, whom our Chicago readers will remember was tried and acquitted last year upon the charge of killing a detective in a saloon row, has gone back to Germany, and has there written his impressions of this country. He sums up the American character as follows:

To the American the dollar is everything. He knows the way which leads to wealth: trust nobody, befriend nobody, try to grasp everything, and keep what you have. He is miserly against himself and the members of his family; pile interest upon interest, and penny upon penny; be mean, unhappy, and despised for about thirty years, and wealth will come as sure as disease, death, and the conviction that one has made a mistake.

It will not be difficult to perceive that the description here given of the "American character" applies most particularly to the class among whom the Baron found his social relations—the ruling, exploiting class—the "business man," the "prominent citizen," the capitalist robbers who always pose as representative of the whole community.

If a number of strong men in deep water are asked to choose between climbing on to a sinking ship and clinging to handfuls of floating straw, the sensible ones that know enough to swim will start for the shore, especially if that shore is fair to look upon and not far away.

A vote for Bryan is a vote for the little labor skinnners. A vote for McKinley is a vote for the big ones. A vote for Debs is a vote for the laborer. In which class do you belong?

If asked to choose between "Bull-Fin Bryanism" and "Imperialistic McKinleyism" what would you do? Why vote for socialism to be sure.

Make your ballot an expression of your opinion, not an approval of the crowd.

## "WHERE IS HE AT?"

Jones "Comes Out" from Nowhere and Leaps Into Chaos.

### HE WAS "COMING OUR WAY,"

But Now Serves As An Object Lesson On the Results of Ignoring the Class Struggle.

While Socialists are as a rule exceedingly persistent in their efforts to extract distinct and definite statements of position and ideas from those who attract attention in the daily press, by proclaiming themselves "Socialists," there are some particular cases in which they, through experience recognize the futility of inquiry, and stand quite ready to concur in whatever action the individual who is said to be "coming their way" may decide upon.

Mayor Jones has "come out" for Bryan. And Mayor Jones' action in this respect, it must be admitted, is exactly what might have been expected from Mayor Jones. His consistent inconsistency can secure in Bryan's manageric of contradictions, a temporary resting place—at least until November.

Mayor Jones has "come out" for Bryan. Where he "came out" from is an unfathomable mystery. If there is any reasoning human being who could locate the political whereabouts of Mayor Jones previous to his plunging into the "confusion worse confounded" of Bryanism, we at least have never met that individual, and certainly Mayor Jones himself has thrown no light on the question.

At any rate, from his former indefinable position he has now "come out" for Bryan, and the Democratic museum of political curiosities has secured its choicest specimen.

"Seeing is believing," so runs a well-known phrase. But Mayor Jones possesses the faculty of believing without seeing, and this quality was ultimately bound to land him in camp of William Jennings Bryan.

Mayor Jones believed in "socialism," but could see no classes in society; in the Co-operative Commonwealth, but not in the means of securing it; he believed in no party, but could not see that he had organized one; still believes in no party, but sees no inconsistency in working with the Bryan political machine; believes in "equality," and is blind to the Democratic policy in North Carolina; believes in the abolition of war, through the election of "Colonel" Bryan; believes that the ballot is a "sacrament," and casts his lot with those who stole the "sacrament" from the negro; believes in the Socialist propaganda, but thinks that those who make it are unnecessary. And stranger than all, Mayor Jones firmly believes that he is a Socialist himself!

It might be thought that in this list of "beliefs" taken verbatim from the latest declaration of Mayor Jones, the utmost height of credulous absurdity had been reached, but the most extraordinary article of faith in this confession is yet to come.

Mayor Jones says that "he knows there are party Republicans and party Socialists who will find no trouble in 'ridiculing' his arguments."

His "arguments!" If Mayor Jones has actually succeeded in convincing himself that he is in possession of anything remotely resembling an argument, he is certainly impregnable to Socialist assaults at least. Even the Socialist is impotent in attacking the "thing that is not."

But Mayor Jones has succeeded in proving his undeniable right to vote for William Jennings Bryan and the impossibilities and absurdities which that "statesman" is supposed to represent.

And if as the Chicago American claims, this "coming out" will induce many who would otherwise have voted for Eugene V. Debs, to cast their ballots for Bryan and Stevenson, Socialists will be quite ready to recognize that while reactionism has gained a doubtful recruit, their own organization has undergone a much-needed purging.

All records of new members were broken at the last meeting of Central committee, when 45 applications were received with only one new branch (the 17th ward with ten new members). Nearly every branch brought in some new members, and the report of the branches was one long story of growth and activity.

The poor workingman who with a smothered curse of despair resigns himself to his damnable condition may be sure that his resignation will be graciously accepted by his capitalistic masters.—Nebraska Socialist.

Tom Reed, the good Republican said in Agricultural Park, Los Angeles, that a man who had ten dollars had more sense than a man who had nothing. You fellows who have nothing evidently have no sense. Show them by a Socialist vote that they lie.

## PARAMOUNT ISSUES

The Republican and Democratic Platforms.

### HOW THEY AFFECT WORKERS.

Private Ownership in the Means of Production Can Only Mean Slavery for the Producing Class.

What is the paramount issue of the campaign?

McKinley says: Sound money, expansion and prosperity.

Bryan says: Imperialism.

Socialists say, as workingmen, that it is whether they shall continue to be wage slaves, ruled by the owners of the means by which all men, women and children must live, or whether they shall be free men owning those means themselves, collectively.

What do you think, workingmen?

Read on to see if you favor freedom for yourself and family, or not.

The Republican party is the party of the great capitalists. They form the class of large owners of the modern tools of production, and they take through that ownership the product of your labor applied to those tools. As long as they can keep you employed in producing with those tools, they consider that you are provided for; that you should be contented and grateful to them for steady employment and living wages. In order to keep you thus contented with a small fraction of the value you produce, they must keep you hard at work so that you will not have the time to look into things to find out how you are fleeced. But to take up any spare time you may have they have provided newspapers and magazines for your amusement, and to instruct you how to make a dollar go further—further in the interests of their class, by teaching you to use it to "better yourself" for their interests—at the expense of your comfort. This process of keeping you at work producing contentedly for your masters is called "prosperity."

It is facilitated by procuring markets in which to dispose of your product, and this process is called expansion, and the third idol of the trinity of republican capitalistic economies is sound money. Its receipt by you in wages is supposed to keep you a sound Republican voter, and its expenditure by you nets a sound profit to the capitalist to whom you entrust the distribution of that part of your product which you are enabled to consume according to the wages which this "sound" system which you endorse allows you.

This, then, is the Republican position: So long as you believe that you cannot think for yourselves and that you must have leaders to do this thinking for you, they will encourage you in that belief. So long as you are contented to labor long hours, and are contented because the chance of laboring long hours is open to you, and are satisfied with a small portion of your product in return for your labor, the Republican capitalists will see to it that your surplus product secures a foreign market. So long as you believe that yourselves and your sons "honor" yourselves by taking up arms at the pleasure of your capitalist rulers to open up these markets, they will cheer you on with words of praise for your patriotism and love of the flag, so long as you do all these things which redound to your rulers' interests, they will do this much for you; keep the money which represents your wages as sound as possible, that is, keep it from fluctuating much in value from the time you get it until the time you spend it.

Then three cheers for republicanism: hard work and plenty of it, the chance to shed our blood to keep plenty of work in our midst, and money as wages which will be honored as "sound" when we go to buy our food. Let all the ignorant workingmen cheer.

The Democratic party says imperialism is what should engage the attention of the voters. Bryan claims that the Republicans are turning the republic into an empire and are increasing the standing army for that purpose. That the ambitions of Republican "statesmen" are in the direction of sovereignty. He takes the effect for the cause. The actions and program of the Republicans is the only method of procedure left open to them, and is caused by the desire to create a profitable place to dispose of the enormous product which American workingmen's labor has created. Instead of taking the other side of the proposition which the evolution of society has brought about, and which the Republicans are furthering according to the interest of the owning class, Bryan evades it, and puts forth the bait of imperialism. Economic questions are of secondary importance and can wait until this question of imperialism is settled, says Bryan in effect.

"Economic, life questions, can wait!" Capitalism has got to the point, where, if the workers are to eat, they must have foreign markets to produce for, or they must overthrow the system of production for profit and produce ac-

ording to their needs. At this crisis, with the need of foreign markets, he says, can wait. He practically says that we must consent to starve just so that he can become president. We appoint him to abolish our means of life at one point and to keep us from obtaining it at the other. But Bryan is all wind. If he would do or could do what his speeches indicate are his intentions if elected, the above description of our condition under his administration would be realized, and being unendurable, revolution would follow. If elected we will simply have Bryan where we now have McKinley, with the difference perhaps that the senate will keep him within the bounds prescribed by the trusts, whereas now McKinley, the senate and the trusts are of one accord. The senate and the trusts will then still be of one accord, and with two against one where will that one, Mr. Bryan, stand?

Workingmen, the remedy lies not with faith in Bryan, but with faith in yourselves. As a class you are now getting the worst of it. As a class you must apply the remedy. The disorder indicates the remedy. Class disorder, class remedy. Class order, class benefit. Are you a parrot or do you think? If a parrot, follow the lessons of the class—the Bryan and McKinley class—which says you must divide into their camps.

If you think you will know that you gain most in union with your class. Then imperialism, expansion, McKinley, prosperity and bankers' sound money—exit!

Enter collective ownership, economic freedom, plenty, pleasant occupation, leisure, happy women and children, in short: enter socialism.

Workers, choose.

### QUICK ACTION NEEDED.

Necessary Signatures Must Be on Hand Not Later Than September 25th to Get on the Ballot.

Comrades.—We again call your attention to the fact that 19,500 NAMES ARE NEEDED for the COUNTY petitions and they ARE NOT turned in as yet.

Without them WE CANNOT GET ON THE OFFICIAL BALLOT. REMEMBER!

The county petitions must be delivered at the secretary's office, F. G. Strickland, 163 E. Randolph street, room 64, NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 25, EITHER by hand or by mail, or they may be sent into The Call office by the time mentioned above.

The congressional petitions and the senatorial and representative petitions must be turned in by the same date, so they may be filed by September 26th. DO NOT bring in your petitions mixed. Bring in the county's separate. Congressional separate. And the Senatorial and representative separate.

I again mention the number of signatures needed on the various petitions, and they must be turned in with the full number of signatures:

- First Congressional District, 1,157.
- Second, 1,145.
- Third, 832.
- Fourth, 817.
- Fifth, 820.
- Sixth, 816.
- Seventh, 1,116.
- Eighth, 679.

Senatorial and representative petitions and the number of signatures required:

- First Senatorial District, 420.
- Third, 757.
- Fourth, 696.
- Fifth, 628.
- Sixth, 500.
- Seventh, 350.
- Ninth, 400.
- Eleventh, 480.
- Thirteenth, 305.
- Fifteenth, 805.
- Seventeenth, 350.
- Nineteenth, 750.
- Twenty-first, 310.
- Twenty-third, 350.

Now comrades YOU MUST turn in your different petitions by the time mentioned or you WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET ON THE OFFICIAL BALLOT.

Fraternally,  
F. G. Strickland, Secy.

### "Calling Him Down."

A clergyman in Sterling, Ill., who was injudicious enough to express himself as being in favor of labor unions, from his pulpit, was promptly "called down" by a wealthy member of his congregation, who "hurled vile and profane words" at the man who so far forgot the interests of his masters as to speak a word in favor of the workers. The newspaper which gives the report farther informs us that the capitalist in question, two years ago, had "assisted morally and financially to stamp out the Molders' union," while he had also "contributed liberally to the support" of the clergyman whose utterances last Sunday aroused his anger. No doubt he regarded the clergyman's conduct as most ungrateful and traitorous to those from whom he derived his support. This episode might perhaps throw some light upon the question of why the workingmen don't go to church?

## SOCIALIST POINTERS

Coal miners of Pennsylvania don't seem to know prosperity when they see it.

The only vote that is thrown away is the one not cast in your own interests.

The Socialist does not work for votes; he wants converts, and the votes will follow.

Just wishing that your state would hold the banner for socialism will not make it so.

It is quite evident that neither Bryan or McKinley have heard of the bull pen at Wardner.

Just one united effort at the polls by the workingmen would make strikes unnecessary.

If you think no one but lawyers are competent to govern you, vote the Republican or Democratic ticket.

Why should not the exploiters of labor look with contempt on the workingmen who allow the exploitation?

How do you like to be checked off by the old party managers as so many voting cattle, always to be depended on?

No reasoning man can get away from the truths of socialism if they are presented to him. Therefore help circulate the party papers.

If every Socialist would work as a few are working the harvest would not only surprise the other fellows but themselves as well.

Every Socialist should consider himself an enlisted soldier in the cause, for no one else will take the trouble to spread its doctrines.

Both of the old party candidates for governor of New York have records not acceptable to workingmen, but they are friends of labor now.

The fellows who are so sollicitous about the full dinner pail never eat out of one. When they get hungry they touch an electric button.

Often a campaign subscription placed where the soil appears least promising will make a permanent friend for the paper, and a vote later on.

A good many people who would not vote the Socialist ticket under any circumstances, know exactly what the party should do and are free to tell it.

Whatever the paramount issue may be in other sections of the country, it is socialism in Haverhill, and Republicans and Democrats both recognize the fact.

Now that the coal miners have foolishly gone on a strike they will not be able to subscribe for the bonds the next time Germany or Russia wants a loan.

What a hard-headed sensible fellow the capitalist papers think the workingman is as long as he marches in the old party parades and asks no questions.

Bryan asks: "What is the young man going to do?" If he is a wise young man he is going to vote for socialism so that his last days will not be spent in the poor house.

When you get right down to the facts in the case, the Republicans do not view with alarm the possible election of Bryan half as much as they do the threatened loss of the offices.

The railroads know there is no difference between the two old parties. They are not taking the interest they did four years ago, when they had not learned that Bryan was a Socialist for votes only.

In a great calamity like that at Galveston the government should take care of its children instead of leaving them to the mercies of individual contribution. But that would be paternal. Besides the government has its hands full taking care of the politicians.

The little children are calling for socialism from the slums, from the streets and from the factories; the old men and women are calling for socialism, from the poor houses, the hovels and the garrets. Can you vote for a system that condemns the former to a life of ignorance and crime and that consigns the latter to the potter's field?

Remember that we send The Call in clubs of ten for three months at ten cents each.

THE WORKERS' CALL.

Issued every Saturday at 25 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. Entered at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., as mail matter of the second class.

Subscription Rates: One year, \$3.00; Six months, \$1.80; Three months, \$1.00; Single copies, 10c.

Advertisements: A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted.

Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.



National Socialist Ticket. For President—EUGENE V. DEBS. For Vice-President—JOB HARRIMAN.

ALL TOGETHER NOW!

We are now in the most critical portion of the campaign. Within the next few weeks every voter throughout this country will be interested in political questions.

AN APPEAL.

Hereditary bondage! Know ye not who would be free, themselves must strike the blow!

The Campaign Fund.

Comrades:—It is a plain fact YOU ARE NEGLECTING THE CAMPAIGN FUND.

From Pekin, Ill.

The delegates of the Social Democratic party of the Fourteenth District of Illinois met in convention in Pekin, Ill., on the 12th of September, 1900.

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BRYAN AND TRUSTS.

How any intelligent man can support Wm. J. Bryan after the speech which he made on "Trusts" at St. Louis, is hard to see.

drummers, to the farmer because of alleged rising prices, and finally when he comes to the laborer, even Bryan seems to have brains and reasoning power enough to see that he has nothing to say that will interest the laborer, and so he lapses into pure demagoguery.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

Pingree and Jones! Pingree and Jones! Here they are. All you workmen who lack self-reliance and are always looking for some Moses to lead you out of the Egypt of wage slavery, step up and behold these two "horrible examples."

AN APPEAL.

As is one so is the other. They will both vote for the capitalism that embodies their interests. And yet one of them at least openly alleges that he is a "Socialist."

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working class is to make itself the ruling class." This is the brand of "Socialist" who delight in proclaiming himself the "follower" of some individual. He says in effect, "I want the Co-operative Commonwealth, but am not capable of managing it, therefore some capitalist politician shall do it for me."

SOCIAL REORGANIZATION.

The Socialist branch in Englewood met at Eire's hall on Sunday, the 16th of September, for the purpose of consolidating and reorganizing the existing ward branches and gathering all unattached Socialists in the locality.

A LESSON FROM GALVESTON.

How the "Sacred Rights of Property" Are Respected When Social Necessity Intervenes.

A clique of ravenous wretches, taking advantage of the fact that the city is cut off from bridge connection with the mainland, conspired to secure control of the transportation facilities by water, and charged extortionate prices even to those who were seeking to carry relief to the suffering people.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

E. V. Debs Accepts.

J. B. Smiley, Esq., Chicago, Ill. My Dear Comrade:—Your favor of the 14th, advising me of the demonstration to be held at Chicago on the 29th inst., has been received, and it gives me pleasure to say that I shall be in attendance as requested by the committee. I am gratified to note that the Socialists of Illinois, as in other states, are working together in union and harmony, and I do not doubt that the results in November will vindicate the wisdom and fealty to wisdom of our united action.

Telegram of Acceptance.

J. B. Smiley, room 64, 163 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill. Will speak at Central Music meeting according to your request.

From the National Secretary.

I desire to call the attention of all comrades to the special campaign literature gotten up by the N. E. C., and which is now ready; the leaflets will be sold at \$1.25 per 1,000 copies, expressage to be paid by the comrades purchasing them. They are as follows:

- No. 1. "Socialism is Coming," with portraits of our national candidates; a tabulation of the Socialist vote for the past in all countries; a biography of the candidates; the national platform, and other interesting matter.

Financial report of Campaign Committee.

Table with columns for names and amounts: H. M. \$10.00, Old State Committee S. L. P. 5.60, Twenty-fifth ward branch 2.10, etc.

Illinois State Committee.

Following is the most important business transacted at the meeting of the Illinois State Committee, S. D. P., September 16th:

SIDE LIGHTS.

On the Great Strike of the Coal Miners of Pennsylvania Against Capitalist Robbery.

For years the men have been demanding that they be paid according to the "run of mine" for all the coal they mined. But the operators refused and screened out great mountains of fine coal that now form the most characteristic feature of the landscapes in the mining regions.

To Arrange Parade.

Song rehearsal for the demonstration of September 29, at Hull House, Polk and Halsted streets, Tuesday, 8 p. m., September 25. Everyone invited.

Details of Meeting.

At the meeting of the Joint State and County Campaign committees, September 17, it was decided to sell the boxes and side seats of the first floor, conditionally.

Activity in Ohio.

Greetings and Good Cheer to the Ever Active Illinois Comrades!—Everything in Ohio is most encouraging. There is the greatest interest everywhere. The

Debs vote is sure to be large, and the old party politicians are sitting on the anxious seat and guessing. The Ohio comrades are hard at work all the time. I held particularly good meetings at Toledo, Tiffin, Findlay and Dayton. Keep an eye on Toledo and Dayton. The Debs' vote in those cities will be a rouser. Tell the Davenport, Ia., boys they will have to get a move on if they mean to keep ahead of their comrades in Dayton. Here's success to both of them.

Wish I had time to write a full account of my Ohio work for the Call, but can only send this line of greetings to my many Illinois friends.

Tell them for me we are fast moving to victory. Let them not get discouraged, but keep hustling all the time they're awake and scrubbing all night long as Comrades Charley Martin in Tiffin, and Willard Barringer in Dayton do. I don't like to mention names because all the boys are working. Illinois and Ohio have hundreds of tireless workers, and victory will soon be theirs. LaMonte.

Xenia, O., Sept. 12, 1900.

Owing to a press of matter relating to party affairs, many contributions from correspondents have been unavoidably laid over until next week.—[ED.]

Report of Illinois Campaign Committee.

Table with columns for names and amounts: Income from Wellington hall \$23.25, Comrade Ziegler 5.00, Henry Singer 3.00, etc.

Financial report of Campaign Committee.

Table with columns for names and amounts: H. M. \$10.00, Old State Committee S. L. P. 5.60, Twenty-fifth ward branch 2.10, etc.

Illinois State Committee.

Following is the most important business transacted at the meeting of the Illinois State Committee, S. D. P., September 16th:

SIDE LIGHTS.

On the Great Strike of the Coal Miners of Pennsylvania Against Capitalist Robbery.

For years the men have been demanding that they be paid according to the "run of mine" for all the coal they mined. But the operators refused and screened out great mountains of fine coal that now form the most characteristic feature of the landscapes in the mining regions.

To Arrange Parade.

Song rehearsal for the demonstration of September 29, at Hull House, Polk and Halsted streets, Tuesday, 8 p. m., September 25. Everyone invited.

Details of Meeting.

At the meeting of the Joint State and County Campaign committees, September 17, it was decided to sell the boxes and side seats of the first floor, conditionally.

Activity in Ohio.

Greetings and Good Cheer to the Ever Active Illinois Comrades!—Everything in Ohio is most encouraging. There is the greatest interest everywhere. The

Send in a club of ten this week.

Are you still hustling for subscribers?

# International Congress.

## Report of the Delegates of the Social Democratic Party to the International Socialist Congress at Paris.

Although behind their European comrades in point of numbers and influence in their country, the American Socialists may well be satisfied with the results of their work when looking back upon the events of the past four years since the last International Congress.

The rapid growth of a Socialist sentiment among the American people generally, and the growing sense of solidarity and class-consciousness among the working people have been prompted by great events quite new in the history of the United States. Although they appear to the Socialist as a natural result of the capitalist system, they have taken the rest of the people completely by surprise, and have done more to stir them up and to stimulate thought and interest in political and economic questions than years and years of Socialist propaganda could ever possibly produce.

Four years ago the bankrupt middle class sought to prevent its own downfall by demanding the free coinage of silver at a fictitious value. It is needless to say that in their propaganda the Socialists have done their best to point out to the wage workers that their interests would not be conserved by the triumph of the middle class, which had nothing but fine phrases for the working people. In the elections the middle class lost, and the Republican party, the party of the great capitalists and trusts, went into power. But looking back to the political campaign of four years ago, we cannot now help recognizing that the denunciation of plutocracy and the exposure of its scandalous reign resorted to by the Democrats for political reasons, had its effect in creating among the people a spirit of distrust and disgust with the rule of the capitalist class, and paved the way for the ideas of Socialism and the political solidarity of the working class.

The events of the succeeding years, the positive work of our triumphant plutocracy has but added oil to the flames of social discontent and wonderfully facilitated the educational and organizing work of Socialist agitators. A period of intense business activity has succeeded the former stagnation, and with it came a change in the relative positions of the various classes composing our body politic.

The great capitalists have come to feel the immense power at their command and obedient to the immutable laws of development which bid a class to grow or decay, have launched the republic on a new course of colonial expansion and military conquest. Radical as that departure is from former peaceful policy of our republic, fraught as it is with most momentous changes in the further political development of America, it is but secondary to and a result of another expansion of our capitalist system, which marks its entrance upon a new and higher stage, probably the last before the inauguration of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The advent of the trust has stirred all the classes of our people to their depths and has served more than anything else to bring out in striking manner the soundness of the Socialist diagnosis of our present system. At the same time it has deeply affected the interests of each separate class, revolutionizing old methods, ruthlessly destroying and displacing entire occupations, thus giving ample time to thousands of people to think of the wonderful changes wrought by modern capitalism and their possible results.

The middle class has also been deeply affected by the economic development of the last four years, and has practically been divided in two. Four years ago the farmers, burdened with debts, were foremost in demanding the free coinage of silver, and it was they that furnished the larger part of the Democratic votes. The coincidence of good crops at home with a failure of crops in Europe sent up the prices of wheat and other agricultural products to an unusual extent, and the farmers not only improved thereby their condition, but have come to see that high prices of wheat are possible under a gold currency as well.

Not so with the industrial and commercial middle class. While they have also been able to improve their condition to some extent on account of the better times, they have had to suffer greatly from the competition of trusts, and are, therefore, more dissatisfied than the farmers. The Democratic party has, therefore, been compelled to take up the "trust evil" as its campaign issue, much to the dissatisfaction of the corrupt ring of politicians who stand at its head, and who are paid by the great corporations and trusts to prevent any hostile legislation that could really harm capitalist interests. At the last moment, however, they saw a way out of the difficulty in the Republican policy of imperialism, which they pretend to oppose (although they have never refused in congress to vote appropriations of money for military purposes), and have declared it the paramount issue of the campaign.

Meanwhile, the working people have been listening to the Democratic denunciations of the Republican policy, have been reading the exposures of the

trusts and their methods in the press and been feeling the effects of the latest development of "prosperity."

The idea of the nationalization of the industries controlled by trusts as well as the municipalization of the so-called natural monopolies which has been gaining more and more ground in the United States, has served to familiarize the American workman with the Socialist ideal which only a few years ago was a bugbear in the hands of the capitalist press to frighten him with.

And, as is everywhere the case, the capitalist class took care lest the workmen imbibe the milk and water principles of Socialism which the middle class has been spreading. The great conflicts between capital and labor which have been assuming greater and greater proportions in our country, have helped to show the working class of America that the class struggle is no idle abstraction of Socialist philosophy. It would be impossible to give an adequate account of the great strikes in a short review such as must necessarily constitute a report to this congress. Suffice it to say, that several of them have involved scores of thousands of men, and have invariably led to the interference of the police and the military force in favor of the employers. We need not add that the Socialists have utilized these occasions to point out to the working class that we have a class government, and that the workers need not expect better treatment until they learn to elect their own men to the legislative bodies.

The most notable strike for the open brutality and disregard for the rights of the workmen displayed by the capitalistic government, took place among the miners of Idaho, and has been fully described in a pamphlet by one of our delegates to your congress. Briefly told, the Democratic governor of the state combined with the Republican president of the United States in shooting down peaceful strikers, throwing innocent men into prison, and subjecting them to barbarities which have not been equaled in the annals of labor persecution in Russia.

### THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT.

No wonder that such a persistent policy of brutality towards, and contempt for the working class, coupled with the other conditions we have described, facilitated the spread of Socialist ideas and has resulted in a rapid increase of Socialist votes. In 1896, the year of the presidential election, and of the International congress at London, we received a little over 36,000 votes. In 1897 the vote jumped to 55,000. In 1898 the combined Socialist vote of the Socialist Labor party and Social Democratic party was nearly 92,000, and we may expect double that number when the vote of our presidential candidate is counted next November.

There was only one Socialist elected to a municipal council in the United States at the time of the last International congress. At present we have more than a dozen of Socialist councilmen in the various municipalities of the country; two Socialists are disturbing the peaceful slumber and easy conscience of the capitalist legislators in the Massachusetts legislature. Comrade John C. Chase has for the second time been elected mayor of the town of Haverhill, Mass., the last time against the combined opposition of the Republican, Democratic and Prohibition parties, and Comrade Coulter has been elected mayor of the town of Brockton, Mass.

The integrity, courage and energy with which these Socialist officials have discharged their new duties and stood up for the interests of the working people who elected them have done more than years of propaganda could do by giving the working class an object lesson of the soundness of our position, and instilling new hope in the hearts of those who are struggling for the abolition of wage slavery.

Still more wonderful has been the progress of our press. In 1896 we had only one English Socialist paper; at present we have nine weekly papers and one monthly magazine, besides a number of dailies and weeklies in the German and other languages.

When we turn from the Socialist movement generally to the inner development and progress of the party we regret that we have to record a series of strikes, but for which the success of our movement would have been far greater.

At the time of the London International congress there was but one Socialist party in the United States, the Socialist Labor party; but shortly thereafter tactical differences manifested themselves within the ranks which finally led to a split in the party.

Briefly stated, the chief cause of the split was the objectionable—at present criminal—policy of two or three leaders of the Socialist Labor party towards the trades unions. Impatient at the slow progress of Socialism in the ranks of the trades unions, and justly indignant at the corrupt practices of some of the leaders of the American trade unions, these men conceived a new plan for the speedy conversion of Socialism of the American workmen, namely: the organization of rival trade unions which they called the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. The wisdom of organizing a rival

trade union has always been questioned by Socialists. The last International congress has left no room for doubt as to its attitude on that subject when it said in its trade union resolution: "Especially difference of political views ought not to be considered a reason for separate action in the economic struggles." Disregard of the above resolution might be justified, perhaps, under exceptional circumstances. There might perhaps, be some reason for it if the Socialists constituted a majority or at least a strong minority in the unions, although even under such circumstances the wisdom of such a step might be questioned. But when, as was the case with the Socialist Alliance, a rival organization is set up by a handful of men belonging to a few unions, mostly in one city, and when that is done not through the initiative of the workers themselves, but by a few ambitious leaders of a political party who have never been working at a trade and, therefore, are out of touch with the trade union movement, when, moreover, such a step is taken by them without consulting the Socialists who have spent their lives in that movement, then there can hardly be any doubt that such an organization has no right to exist. The Alliance was endorsed at first by the Socialist Labor party on the express promise given by its founders that it would not interfere with the existing trade unions, but would devote itself to organizing the unorganized workers. Even at that time some of the Socialists who had more experience in the trade union movement predicted that the promises could not be carried out, and that the Alliance was bound to come in conflict with the other trade unions.

Experience has shown that even these men did not foresee all the consequences that were to follow. Soon after its organization, the Alliance came in conflict with the existing printers' union, and let its men take the places of striking printers at lower wages; similar conflicts soon followed with other trades, and the word "Socialist" came to be synonymous with "scab" (Blackleg) among the trade unions. The worst of it was that it reflected upon the party which stood committed to the Alliance, and whose official organ was made also the official organ of the Alliance without the consent of the membership of the party. Under these circumstances friction within the party became inevitable, and owing to the arbitrary conduct of affairs by the party officers and open disregard and contempt for the will of the rank and file, led to open revolt and the secession of the National Executive committee. We will spare the congress the recital of the strife that followed. Suffice it to say, that the seceded officers refused to lay down their mandates, although the majority of the party sustained by a referendum vote the action of deposing them, and they and their adherents still continue a separate existence under the name of the S. L. P., although the regular organization had retained the bulk of its membership, every Socialist writer, speaker, and trade union agitator of note, and all of its newspapers, except one Jewish paper in New York city.

At its last convention held in the city of Rochester, in January of the present year, the party rescinded the previous resolution endorsing the Alliance and expressed its attitude on the trade union question, as follows:

Whereas, The trade union movement of the working class is an evident manifestation of the struggle between capital and labor, and is absolutely necessary to resist the superior economic power of capital, to improve the condition of the workmen, and to maintain their standard of life; and

Whereas, The class struggle carried on by the trade unions tends to develop in the workmen the sense of solidarity and political independence by organizing them as a class antagonistic to the capitalist class.

Resolved, That we, the Socialist Labor party, in national convention assembled, fully recognizing that the exploitation of labor will cease only when society takes possession of the means of production, nevertheless declares that it is the duty of all Socialists to participate in all the struggles of organized labor to improve its conditions under the present system;

Resolved, That we hereby recall any and all previous resolutions expressing preference for one body of organized labor over another;

Resolved, That we affirm the resolution of the Socialist Labor party adopted in 1893 and re-adopted in 1896, recommending to all members of the party to join the organization of the trades to which they respectively belong.

Another very important step taken at that convention was the appointment of a committee of nine to confer with the Social Democratic party with a view to bringing about a union of the two parties.

The Social Democratic party was founded under the leadership of E. V. Debs in 1897, and was composed at first of somewhat heterogeneous elements, its Socialism being rather confused, as may be seen from the fact that they expected to inaugurate the era of Socialism by starting Socialist colonies in the less populated states. However, a period of about one year was sufficient to clear up the vision of its more advanced element, and the colonization plan was thrown overboard. The only thing after that which kept that party separated from the Socialist Labor party was the unsocialistic attitude of the latter towards the trades unions and the fanatical sectarian spirit which actuated its leaders. With the change which had now, however, been brought about in the Socialist Labor party there was no more reason why the two parties should not unite into one great harmonious organization, and hence the appointment of the above committee on unity at Rochester.

The Social Democratic party which met in convention two months after in the city of Indianapolis received the proposition of the Rochester committee with great enthusiasm, and in its turn appointed a similar committee. The two committees met later, in New York city, and formulated a treaty of union, as well as a constitution for the new united party, submitting to the two parties the names Social Democratic party and the United Socialist party, out of which one was to be chosen. By the referendum vote cast by the members of the two parties, the treaty of union was adopted and the name Social Democratic party chosen for the united party. By the same vote Eugene V. Debs of the former S. L. P. and Job Harriman of the S. L. P. were chosen, as candidates for the respective offices of president and vice-president of the United States. The union of the two parties was, however, not to be accomplished without friction. When all arrangements seemed complete, the National Executive board of the old Social Democratic party issued a "manifesto" advising its members to vote against union; but the "manifesto" had but little effect; the union of the two greatest Socialist parties had become a necessity, and although the officers of the former S. L. P. and their adherents still hold out against union and maintain a rival organization, the bulk of its membership has joined the united party, and also all of the papers of the old S. L. P. except its English and German official organs.

Present indications, however, point to a speedy end of the controversies within the ranks of the S. D. P., and the enthusiasm of the comrades over the accomplishment of the union, the popularity of our candidates in Socialist and labor circles, and the extremely favorable circumstances for Socialist propaganda which have been mentioned above, all point to a great Socialist triumph at the polls next November.

In conclusion we may assure our European comrades that the inner struggle through which the Socialist movement passed during the last two years has not failed to bear good fruit. The party has entered upon a new era in its history, and looks back upon the time of its sectarian existence as the initial stage in its movement, unavoidable perhaps, but happily left behind. Its present size, form of organization, and spirit which actuates it make a repetition of any attempts to rule it by any one person or set of persons, impossible. Its frank avowal of former mistakes, and its uniform friendship and good will shown the workmen have won it the sympathies of the advanced elements of the working class of America, and make it possible for it in no very distant future to catch up with, if not to excel, our European comrades in the work of advancing our cause.

Fraternally,  
Jacob Rombro,  
J. Sergius Ingerman,  
Job Harriman,  
Delegates.

—New York, September 1900.

### LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

An agitation meeting will be held by the Thirteenth ward branch on Saturday, the 23d inst., at 3 p. m., corner of Grand and Western avenues. Comrade John Collins and others will address the audience.

A large and enthusiastic meeting took place on State street Sunday night, and was addressed by Comrades Kaplan of Boston, and Comrade Somerville, organizer. The meeting was very enthusiastic and resulted in quite a large amount of literature being sold and a number of converts to socialism.

A branch was formed in the Seventeenth ward this week, of eleven members, and they have arranged for open-air meetings on Wednesday nights, corner Milwaukee avenue and Carpenter street, at 8 p. m. The meeting was enthusiastic and pains will be taken to supply the comrades with speakers, and wake up the Seventeenth ward as it never has before.

On Friday evening, at the corner of Union and Twelfth street, Comrade F. G. Strickland addressed a meeting of over one hundred persons. After the speaker concluded a lively discussion ensued, and when everybody had got through Comrade Strickland started a Socialist song which was joined in by the entire audience, thus bringing the meeting to a most satisfactory conclusion.

The Twelfth ward branch held a rousing meeting on Saturday at the corner of Madison and Western avenues. Comrades Somerville, Collins, Brennan and Williams each made a short address, and were listened to attentively from beginning to end. This was Comrade Williams first essay as a public speaker, and his initial attempt gives good promise of future success in Socialist open air propaganda.

The Socialist branch recently organized in the Fifteenth ward promises to make things lively in its vicinity, and its present activity will seemingly make some of the older branches hustle to keep up with the procession. The branch held an outdoor meeting last Saturday evening, at the corner of Milwaukee avenue, where no less than three new speakers, members of the branch, who have been developed in the short time it has been established, addressed the audience. This is a record which we think is unsurpassed in the history of socialism in this city. At the meeting above mentioned several local Democratic politicians ventured to measure their power of debate with some of the new speakers, and speedily discovered that they were going up against a hard game. The branch itself does not consider that it has reached the limits of its usefulness in Socialist propaganda and has notified this office that in addition to its regular weekly meetings on Saturdays, it will hold open air agitation meetings also on every Wednesday, at the corner of California and Milwaukee avenues. Several members have also guaranteed \$5 per week to the campaign fund.

Do not waste workmen's votes on capitalist candidates

## Platform of the Social Democratic Party

The Social Democratic party of the United States, in Convention assembled, reaffirms its allegiance to the revolutionary principles of international socialism and declares the supreme political issue in America today to be the contest between the working class and the capitalist class for the possession of the power of government. We affirm our steadfast purpose to use those powers, once achieved, to destroy wage slavery, abolish the institution of private property in the means of production and distribution, and to establish the Co-operative Commonwealth.

In the United States, as in all other civilized countries, the natural order of economic development has separated society into two antagonistic classes—the capitalists, a comparatively small class, the possessors of all the modern means of production and distribution (land, mines, machinery and means of transportation) and the large and ever-increasing class of wage earners, possessing no means of production.

This economic supremacy has secured to the dominant class the full control of the government, the pulpit, the schools, and the public press, thereby making them the arbiters of the fate of the working class, while it is economically exploited and oppressed, intellectually and physically crippled, and degraded, and its political equality rendered a bitter mockery; and the contest between these two classes grows ever sharper. Hand in hand with the growth of monopolies, goes the annihilation of small industries and the middle class depending upon them. Ever larger grows the multitude of destitute wage workers and of the unemployed, and ever fiercer the struggle between the class of the exploiter and the exploited, the capitalists and the wage workers.

The evil effects of capitalistic production are intensified by the recurring industrial crises, continually rendering the existence of the greater part of the population more precarious and uncertain, which amply proves that the modern means of production have outgrown the existing social order based on production for profit.

Human energy and natural resources are wasted for individual gain. Ignorance is fostered, that wage slavery may be perpetuated. Science and invention are perverted to the exploitation of men, women, and children.

The lives and liberties of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit. Wars are fomented between nations; indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged; the destruction of whole races is sanctioned, in order that the capitalist class may extend its commercial dominion abroad and enhance its supremacy at home.

The introduction of a new and higher order of society is the historic mission of the working class. All other classes despite their apparent or actual conflicts are interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the means of production. We therefore charge that in this country the Democratic, Republican and all other parties which do not stand for the complete

Two of a kind.  
The Gospel According to Tweedle-dum and the Truth As It Is Contained in Tweedle-dee.

Last week we reviewed McKinley's letter of acceptance, and if it was not for tiring the reader with the monotony, we would run the same editorial in this week as a review of Bryan's letter, which has just appeared. Upon the trust question McKinley says:

"Combinations of capital which control the market in commodities necessary to the general use of the people by suppressing natural and ordinary competition, are obnoxious to the common law and the public welfare. . . . Honest co-operation of capital is necessary to meet new business conditions and extend our rapidly-increasing foreign trade, but conspiracies and combinations intended to restrict business, create monopolies, and control prices, should be effectively restrained."

Bryan responds with equally meaningless ponderosity:

"No defense can be made of an industrial system in which one or a few men can control for their own profit the output or price of any article of merchandise. . . . The Democratic party makes no war upon honestly-acquired wealth; neither does it seek to embarrass corporations engaged in legitimate business."

Now can any man, Democrat or Republican, find anything in either of these utterances that would offend or instruct or restrict anyone, in any earthly, heavenly or infernal manner? But let us take the whole paragraph in which the first of the above quotations of Bryan's appears, and look at it closer:

"A private monopoly has always been an outlaw. No defense can be made of an industrial system in which one or a few men can control for their own profit the output or price of any article of merchandise. Under such a system the consumer suffers extortion, the producer of raw material has but one purchaser, and must sell at the arbitrary price fixed; the laborer has but one employer, and is powerless to protest against injustice, either in wages or in conditions of labor; the small stockholder is at the mercy of the speculator, while the traveling salesman contributes his salary to the overgrown profits of the trust. Since but a small portion of the people can share in the advantages secured by private monopoly it follows that the remainder of the people are not only excluded from the benefits, but are the helpless victims of every monopoly organized. It is difficult to overestimate the immediate injustice that may be done, or to calculate the ultimate effect of this injustice upon the social and political welfare of the people."

If that first sentence is anything but the mouthings of a demagogue it means that there is no defense for capitalism, for that is the "industrial system" described. But the sentence which is given in the first paragraph of this article proves him the demagogue, for he there declares himself in favor of private property and corporate wealth. Let us now take the remainder of the paragraph in which this last quotation appears, so that the full inconsistency or demagoguery may come to light:

"The Democratic party makes no war upon honestly-acquired wealth; neither does it seek to embarrass corporations engaged in legitimate business, but it does protest against corporations en-

overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike the tools of the capitalist class.

The working class can not, however, act as a class in its struggle against the collective power of the capitalist class except by constituting itself into a political party, distinct and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, without distinction of color, race or sex, and upon all citizens in sympathy with the historic mission of the working class, to organize under the banner of the Social Democratic party, a party truly representing the interests of the toiling masses and uncompromisingly waging war upon the exploiting class, until the system of wage slavery shall be abolished and the Co-operative Commonwealth shall be established.

Pending the accomplishment of this our ultimate purpose, we pledge every effort of the Social Democratic party for the immediate improvement of the condition of labor, and also for the securing of its progressive demands.

As steps in that direction we make the following demands:

First—Revision of our federal constitution, in order to remove the obstacles to complete control of government by the people, irrespective of sex.

Second—The public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts, and combines.

Third—The public ownership of all railroads, telegraphs, and telephones; all means of transportation, and communication; all waterworks, gas and electric plants, and other public utilities.

Fourth—The public ownership of all gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, coal, and other mines, and all oil and gas wells.

Fifth—The reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production.

Sixth—The inauguration of a system of public works and improvements for the employment of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose.

Seventh—Useful inventions to be free, the inventors to be remunerated by the public.

Eighth—Labor legislation to be national, instead of local, and international when possible.

Ninth—National insurance of working people against accidents, lack of employment, and want in old age.

Tenth—Equal civil and political rights for men and women, and the abolition of all laws discriminating against women.

Eleventh—The adoption of the initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and the right of recall of representatives by the voters.

Twelfth—Abolition of war and the introduction of international arbitration.

"Workmen of all countries, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

tering politics and attempting to assume control of the instrumentalities of government. A corporation is not organized for political purposes, and should be compelled to confine itself to the business described in its charter. Honest corporations, engaged in an honest business, will find it to their advantage to aid in the enactment of such legislation as will protect them from the undeserved odium which will be brought upon them by those corporations which enter the political arena."

There we have a most artfully worded mass of bosh. With lawyer-like cunning which declares that "all powers not expressly conferred by charter are reserved," and that the wording of a charter must be always "strictly construed," and he would have his readers believe that corporations found it necessary to annex departments of government to their business, as railroads and hotels and elevators. Anyone who stops to reason knows that this will never be necessary so long as there are Bryans and Mark Hannes in the land. The capitalist class, as a class, controls all the means of social control. Among these are the instruments by which public intelligence is conveyed, including the Associated Press and the telegraph wires. Through these it fits the public mind for the acceptance of demagoguery and then trusts to the demagogues arising to claim their reward by catering to the prejudices and imposing upon the ignorance already created or fostered.

In this work there is no question of "honest or dishonest corporations." It is purely a question of the protection of privilege, and what Bryan really means is that SMALL corporations have an interest in supporting him against the large ones. It is purely a question of quantity and not quality.

Bryan has also much to say about labor and laborers. His talk on "government by injunction," blacklisting and compulsory arbitration is the same meaningless nonsense that has been hashed up by every political demagogue for the last ten years, and can have no meaning under any conditions, as all the things complained of are inherent in capitalism and can be altered only with the abolition of that system. But he makes no demand that is new and worthy of attention. This is the suggestion of a cabinet position for labor. Here is demagoguery with a vengeance. Of what benefit has been to the laborers of this country, to create the host of "departments of labor" in every state and municipality, to pile up lying and generally useless reports and furnish fat sinecures for stool pigeons who betray their fellow toilers. Now Bryan proposes that a national roost be made for some chief decoy duck, who, seated at Washington, shall see to it that the whole mass of laborers are kept in line and who will be prepared to promise all things to all men and give good excuses for giving nothing.

And so the whole message goes, and those who are interested in choosing between different classes of masters will doubtless find it an "able document," but to those who have learned not to want any masters, it is pure demagoguery, save as diluted here and there with gross ignorance.

S. D. P. DELEGATE.

Job Harriman Chosen as Representative to the International Socialist Congress at Paris.

The National Executive committee in accordance with the provisions of the referendum vote, has decided to send a delegate to the International congress at Paris.

"To the Members of the S. D. P.:" "Comrades:—Your Committee has been authorized to use its discretion in the matter of sending a delegate to the International Congress at Paris.

"First, it is of the highest importance generally, that the S. D. P. be represented. The Congress is the representative assemblage of the militant Socialists of the world.

"Second, it is especially important this year, because the differences in principle, tactics and methods between the S. D. P. and the S. L. P. will certainly be considered, directly or indirectly, and it is absolutely necessary that we be properly represented.

"Third, the present Congress will probably take steps to establish an International Socialist Bureau for the purpose of drawing closer together the Socialist bodies of the world.

"The Committee considered that there was no man better qualified for the work than Comrade Harriman, both on account of his personal ability as a speaker and debater and his position as a national candidate of the party.

"Comrade Harriman has been working hard for the party for four months past, and the state of his health makes it imperative that he have a few weeks' relief from the burden of agitation work.

"To defray the expenses of the delegate, assessment stamps of ten cents each are issued by the N. E. C. Comrades will please be prompt in paying this assessment through the financial officers of their locals.

"Leonard D. Abbott, "Morris Hillquit, "Henry Stobodin, Committee.

STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS.

Clergyman of Hazelton, Pa., Sees Only Defeat for the Miners in the Great Struggle.

The Chicago Journal prints the following statement from the Rev. Father Phillips of Hazelton, Pa., on the present strike in that vicinity:

"My conference yesterday in New York with the executive officers of the big coal companies, has convinced me that if there be a prolonged conflict it will be a battle to the death with but one result, which is easy to foretell. The operators will never recognize the United Mine Workers. The miners themselves eventually seeing this, must sue for peace by unconditional surrender, and then their last state will be worse than the first.

"The Journal editorially agrees with this view, but adds that "the battle is not always to the strong."

"Whether the view which Father Phillips takes of the situation be correct or not, one thing is certain, that in this conflict, as in every other, "the battle is always to the strong." Great questions are always decided by force, not necessarily by physical force, but quite as often by superior force of intellect. Through the lack of class-consciousness and a full recognition of common interests, the workers are without the necessary intellectual force to win permanent victories, and although possessed of overwhelming superior physical force, are yet practically powerless, through their crude method of fighting capitalism on the economic field, where their weakness is pitted against the fullest strength of their opponents.

"Were they to attack their enemy at his weakest, and their strongest point, they could easily land their good right hand on the solar plexus of capitalism, and then the kind-hearted priest instead of telling them that their case was hopeless, might find employment for his clerical functions in striving capitalism. But even his good offices could not save it from eternal damnation. Intelligent, united action at the ballot box, for the interests of their own class, would at once change the position of the miners from one of weakness to one of irresistible strength, and then the battle would go to them—they would have made themselves "the strong."

GRAND SOCIALIST

Demonstration and Meeting

By the Social Democratic Party of Illinois, to Ratify the Union of Socialist Forces in this State, and to Open the National Campaign, at

CENTRAL MUSIC HALL, SATURDAY, SEPT. 29, 8 P.M.

The following speakers will address the meeting:

- E. V. DEBS, Presidential Candidate, JOHN C. CHASE, Socialist Mayor of Haverhill, Mass. PROFESSOR GEO. D. HERRON, HERMAN C. PERRY, Candidate for Governor of Illinois.

The seats on the lower floor are for sale at 25 cents each; they can be secured at the office of the Workers' Call, 56 N. Clark street; the Social Democratic Herald, 126 Washington street, and F. G. Strickland, 163 E. Randolph street, room 61.

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How is it that this question becomes interesting so suddenly? For the past five years the "people" of Chicago have been paying \$1 per thousand feet of gas consumed, and there has been no particular complaint, either press or official, against this rate, though Carter Harrison has been mayor of the city most of this time.

This is the cause: A fight between two capitalist organizations controlling the supply of gas, crops up, and they reduce the price of gas to 46 cents per thousand in one district of the city where both have pipes laid.

Instantly the "people" of Chicago awake to the fact that they have been "robbed" and "indignation" meetings, (some of them illuminated with kerosene lamps), are being held in numbers, and the wall of the little business man is especially loud. The public press, especially that organ of petty capitalism, Hearst's Chicago American, joins the chorus, and the Mayor and other "prominent" declare themselves in favor of relieving the "distress" which these little business men have suddenly discovered themselves to be in.

For years the workmen of Chicago have been compelled to pay tribute to the Rockefeller Standard Oil trust, when electricity and gas were, generally speaking, at the service and within the reach of the feeble class alone. But this never attracted the at-

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tion of the press, or those political champions of the "common people," Carter Harrison and "Bobby" Burke. And in the rumpus that is now being raised about this latest "injustice," it is easily seen that the workingman's interests are not considered.

And they will not be in this matter, or any other, until he makes his voice heard louder and louder through the ballot box. Until then he will be compelled to submit to the exactions of Rockefeller, and to be stuffed about election time with political "gas" by his capitalist "friends."

All comrades and others who had Workers' Call picnic tickets to sell will please turn in the tickets or money for same to those from whom they received them, at once, and oblige.

Fraternally, The Board of Directors.

The International Socialist Review

On the first of July, 1906, we began the publication of the International Socialist Review, edited by A. M. Simons, with the help of many of the best-known socialist writers of Europe and America.

The July and August numbers have amply redeemed the promises made in our prospectus. The July number contains a searching and thoughtful article by Rev. William T. Brown, entitled, "Plutocracy and Democracy," and a contribution of world-wide interest by H. M. Hyndman, entitled, "England and International Socialism." Jean Longuet, the grandson of Karl Marx, sends a letter explaining the status of French political parties and the results of the recent elections, while Prof. Emile Vinck writes of the recent legislative election in Belgium. Both of these letters have encouraging news of the rapid growth of Socialism. Marcus Fishback contributes a thoughtful and scholarly article on Karl Marx and the money question, and Max E. Hayes gives a review of the relations of the trade unions to Socialism in the United States. The editor traces the growth of Socialist thought in America, comments on the attack of capitalism upon China, and reviews the great lock-out of the building trades in Chicago, and the strike of street car men in St. Louis.

The August number opens with an exhaustive study of the Chicago lock-out by S. G. Lindholm. The political situation in Italy is fully described by our regular correspondent, Dr. Alessandro Schiavi. His letter was written just after the recent election, at which the Socialists made decided gains, and it throws much light on the disorder prevailing since the death of King Humbert. H. Quech, the editor of London Justice, contributes a paper on the "Working Class Movement in England," which is full of accurate information. But the great feature of the August number is the brilliant address by Paul Lafargue, entitled, "Socialism and the Intellectuals." The address is here first published in English, and the translation is authorized by Lafargue. Under the title, "Dangerous Questions," the editor points out why the Republican and Democratic politicians, by common consent, are avoiding any serious discussion of the trusts, the negro question, government by injunction and the Idaho bull pen, while the anti-expansion issue is being spoiled by the unanimous desire of capitalists to get their share of China. Prof. Ely's "Monopolies and Trusts" is reviewed at some length, and other books more briefly. A new department, "The World of Labor," edited by Max E. Hayes, begins in this issue and will be a regular feature of the Review.

The September number promises to be the strongest number of a periodical relating to Socialism yet issued in the English language. Eugene V. Debs, the Socialist nominee for President, will have a strong and interesting article on the "Outlook for Socialism in the United States," reviewing and discussing the movements in American society that are making for Socialism. Job Harriman, the Vice-Presidential candidate will supplement this with "A Comparison of the Democratic and Republican Platforms in the Present Campaign," which is the most thorough discussion of the issues presented by the two old parties yet put out. These two articles alone would make this number the most valuable propaganda pamphlet ever issued for the price, yet they are but a small part of what the whole number contains. Rev. Charles H. Yail is one of the ablest exponents of Socialism writing in the English language at the present time. Under the title "The

Political and Economic Aspect of the Trust Question" he gives what will be found one of the most popular and thorough expositions of the Socialist philosophy regarding trusts yet issued. Robert Rives La Monte has come to be known, both by his translations and his original writings, as one of the ablest writers on the principles of Marxian Socialism in America. He will have an article in the September number of the International Socialist Review on "The Essentials of Scientific Socialism." It will thus be seen that these four articles answer the following questions: What is Socialism? What do the Socialists have to say about the Trusts? What is the attitude of the Socialist Party to the other political parties? What are the present prospects of Socialism? Never before has it been possible to hand a single pamphlet to a questioner that would settle all his difficulties at once.

Miss Charlotte Teller, who spent several weeks at the home of Wilhelm Liebknecht a year ago, will review the life and work of the great Socialist, whose death has just grieved and startled the Socialist world, and there will also be a translation of an incident in the life of Marx and Liebknecht during the London exile taken from a work of Liebknecht's hitherto unknown to the English readers.

In addition to all this there will be the trade union department, edited by Max Hayes, which will give all the news of the labor movement in the economic field. The regular editorial departments will treat the topics of the day from the Socialist point of view, and we have also been promised articles from some of our foreign correspondents.

All these features taken together will make the September number of the Review something that every Socialist will not only want to read himself but will want to put in the hands of as many non-socialists as possible. The October and November numbers will be equally good, for we are making a special effort to produce good "Socialist-making" material in these three campaign issues.

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For one dollar we will send the International Socialist Review for September, October and November to eight different addresses. Any less number will be charged at 25 cents each, but any one who has sent in eight names may send in as many more as he wishes at 12 1/2 cents each. This offer does NOT apply to addresses within the city of Chicago, nor to any foreign countries except Canada and Mexico.

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