

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. 83.

CHICAGO, ILL., OCTOBER 6, 1900.

PRICE TWO CENTS

E. V. DEBS FORMALLY OPENS SOCIALIST CAMPAIGN, SOCIALIST POINTERS

Monster Parade and Demonstration Far Surpasses Anything of the Kind Ever Held in Chicago—Over Three Thousand Marchers in Line.

Enormous Gathering in Central Music Hall on Saturday, September 29th Ratifies Union of Socialist Forces in the State of Illinois.

Overflow Meetings Blockade State Street for Hours, About Seven Thousand People Being Unable to Enter the Hall, Which Was Crowded to Its Fullest Capacity.

Speakers Greeted With Overwhelming Enthusiasm—Report of the Addresses of Comrades Debs and Chase—Professor Geo. D. Herron Announces His Determination to Make Common Cause With Political Socialists in the Struggle for Freedom—Resolutions of Union and Solidarity Adopted Unanimously.

Three thousand inside and five thousand outside clamoring to get in, tells the story of the gathering last Saturday night. An hour before the meeting was announced to begin every seat was taken, and the late-comers wondered where so many Socialists came from. There were fully three thousand men in the parade, which is not so bad for the first Socialist parade ever held in this city. The long line was full of red flags, banners and a mass of transparencies with Socialist mottoes.

Long before the parade reached the hall, the crowd had gathered outside until the walk was blocked for rods on either side. So an out-door meeting was started, but it was soon found that no one speaker could possibly reach all those who crowded about to listen, and so another was started across the street, and while the meeting was going on inside Comrades Simons, Koop, Tuttle, Berlin, Wanhope and others, were addressing an audience of fully five thousand people who could not get into the hall. At the conclusion of his speech inside Comrade Debs came out and delivered a stirring address to those who had been disappointed at not getting to hear him inside.

As for the meeting within the hall, it was all that the most optimistic had expected, and very much more. Comrade Smiley, who presided, briefly sketched, in his opening speech, the social evolution through chattel slavery and serfdom to wage slavery, and told of the part taken by Comrade Debs in the great strike of 1894, and closed by saying that, "He came forth from the jail with a realization that trades unionism was too narrow a basis for a great movement, and resolved henceforth to work for the cause of socialism."

Mr. John Lyon of the old A. R. U. then came forward to present Comrade Debs with a great bouquet of beautiful roses as a token of the esteem and respect in which he was held by the members of the organization he had led in their great struggle for economic betterment.

As Comrade Debs rose to speak he was greeted with a tremendous ovation. People stood upon the seats and cheered and waved handkerchiefs, and it was some time before he could proceed. When the applause and cheering had finally subsided he expressed his thanks to his old comrades for their appreciation, and proceeded with his address. The following are some of the things he said, amidst frequent applause:

"The one vital issue in the present campaign springs from the private ownership of the means of production and it involves the whole question of political equality, economic freedom, and social progress. This fundamental issue has been studiously ignored by both the Republican and Democratic parties. It has been studiously and squarely met by the Social Democratic party."

"The alleged issues of the old parties are all rooted in the existing economic system, which they are pledged to preserve and perpetuate, and which our party is pledged to abolish. The control is for the control of the government by three separate classes, into which modern society is divided. The capitalist class is represented by the Republican party, the middle class by the Democratic party, and the working class by the Social Democratic party. Each of these is committed to the economic interests of the class that it represents."

"The Social Democratic platform is a plain indictment of the capitalist system. It is a call for class political action on the part of the working class, and its ringing declaration in favor of the collective ownership of the means of production is the clarion voice of economic freedom."

"The platform of each party is the expression of the class it represents. The platform of the Democratic party is the expression of the small capitalists. It differs from the Republican in degree only. The difference between it and the Social Democratic platform is not in degree, but in kind. The platform of the Republican party favors expansion. According to Senator Debs we have only 5 per cent of the trade of the Orient and should have 50 per cent. The getting of the other 45

per cent constitutes the white man's burden at the present time."

"The Democratic party is opposed to this policy, which denounces imperialism and declares it to be the paramount issue of the campaign. The difference between the two parties is so clear as to be self-evident. The small capitalists, represented by the Democratic party, lack the resources necessary to control foreign markets. On the other hand, expanding markets will extend the lease of power of the great capitalists and enable them to crush out their competitors in the middle classes. This is what is called the burning issue of the campaign."

"The position of the two old parties in regard to the trusts is perfectly the same. Both favor the competitive system. Both condemn its fruits but favor the system itself. The right of corporations to exist and to exact tribute from the working classes should be respected, according to the Democratic party."

"It is true that Bryan denounces private monopolies, but if he believes what he says, why does he not propose to establish public monopolies in their place? There is absolutely no real difference between the Democratic and Republican parties on that issue."

"It is only a question of time when the concentration of industries will be complete. The interests of the trust are so completely interwoven that there will in time be a trust of trusts. No power on earth can arrest the system or combination. It is paying the way for a new order of things, and Socialists, understanding this trend, are marshalling under the banner of economic equality. A world-wide struggle is going forward. Men fit to be economic and political equals should be social equals, and under the coming regime class distinctions will disappear from the world forever."

"The thrones of Europe are beginning to tremble before the march of Socialistic ideas and will soon totter to their fall. And the same movement is going on in the United States. Under a Socialistic government life will no longer be a struggle for bread, and the soul will be free from the domination of the stomach. The elimination of the present economic system does not mean the elevation of the working class alone, but of all men."

"The existing system is unspeakably cruel. The face of capitalist society is blotched from the effects of its diseased organism. Today every Christian nation is armed to the teeth to protect itself against other Christian nations. War is the normal state of capitalism. If there was no gold in the Transvaal there would be no British soldiers there. If there was no prospect of acquiring natural wealth in the Philippines we would not now be worrying over the Filipinos' lack of capacity for self-government."

"With the end of capitalism will come the end of war. Such a meeting as this is immensely significant and suggestive. It is a testimony to the fact that men and women are thinking of this question as never before, and that the world is trembling on the brink of the greatest revolution it ever saw."

"THE NEXT RULING CLASS WILL BE THE WORKING CLASS. I look into the future with absolute confidence, and can see the ideal commonwealth, with woman standing side by side with man."

"The brand of inferiority will be erased from her brow and together they will go forward to a higher and happier life."

Comrade Perry, the candidate for governor in Illinois, then gave a few minutes' talk, pointing out the fact that the Socialists of Illinois had seen fit to nominate for the highest position within their gift a man who actually earned what he had, instead of being a mere social parasite.

The next speaker was Comrade Chase of Haverhill, the first Socialist mayor to be elected in America, and as he came forward he was greeted with round after round of applause and cheers from those who saw in him that "something accomplished, something done," which will always command respect at least. And his speech was just what the audience expected and wished—not an attempt at persuasion, eloquence, or exhortation, but a simple recitation of accomplished facts, that argued louder than anything that could be said. The following is a resume of what he said, as well as could be secured without a stenographic report:

Gentlemen, as your chairman has remarked, Massachusetts was first to launch a blow against chattel slavery, so also has she been first to strike a blow at the wage slavery of today. I stand before you as the first Socialist mayor in America, not that I am more fitted than anyone else to occupy the position, but because of the same irrefragable demand for liberty that our fathers made in behalf of the negro forty years ago."

It is not my intention to detain you with a long dissertation upon economics, but merely to give a brief account of how we citizens of Haverhill are able today to boast of being the first community to elect men who stand for the principles of socialism."

"You have been often told that socialism is foreign to America; that the citizens of this country will have nothing to do with it, and much to the same effect, and yet in spite of this, the first Socialist elected in America was elected by men who trace their ancestry back to those who landed on Plymouth Rock and who defy any man to prove them anything but Americans. The population of Haverhill is made up almost entirely of men from New Hampshire and Vermont, who are engaged in the chief industry of the town, which is shoemaking."

"About ten years ago the number of active Socialists in Haverhill was six, and one of the few things I have seen to be proud of is the fact that I was one of the six. This little band unceasingly agitated for and promulgated the doctrine of socialism with the usual result which Socialists at that time attained. We were jeered, hissed, cursed and called anarchists and nihilists in fact everything that was vile. When we walked through the street people who saw us coming crossed over to the other side, for fear that in jostling past us they might perhaps explode the bomb which we were supposed to carry on our persons. Yet in spite of all we persisted, and the result of the election showed that our efforts were not in vain. Our vote increased from 6 to 36, from 36 to 156, and the year following this we polled over 300 votes. Next year, that is three years ago, owing to the negligence of the Democratic party we were defeated, but we were able to elect our man, polling for him about 1,200 votes. Great was the consternation of the Republican, Democratic and Prohibition politicians at the result, loudly and solemnly did they swear that never again would Socialists be elected. People who were opposed to us asked each other, with tears streaming down their faces, what was to become of them, since now a shoemaker was to lead them through this vale of tears. Last year we had another election, and the Democrats profiting by the lesson they had learned, united not only all the factions in their party, but actually linked themselves with their ancient enemy, the Republicans, to defeat the Socialists. Yes, friends, not only old Republicans and Democrats join forces for this purpose, but the Prohibitionists also joined hands with their liquor-drinking friends to insure its accomplishment."

Money literally poured into the city of Haverhill; thousands of dollars were sent by the state and national committees of the old parties. But even this was not all. The railroad which the Socialists had requested rather than for the two years previous, sent us a check to the chairman of the united Republican-Democratic-Prohibition party, which had merged into one body calling themselves the citizens' party. This check was left unfiled so that the chairman might write down any sum he saw fit, and yet, in spite of all, we were victorious. Not only did we re-elect our mayor, but increased the representation in the aldermanic chamber to six, electing them all with comfortable majorities."

As to what we have done since being elected, I may state that the pay of street employes has been increased 25 cents per day and their hours of labor decreased from 9 to 8, thereby giving them \$2 per day for eight hours' work. Next we succeeded in reducing the rate of gas from \$1.55 to \$1 per thousand, as we did not believe it was right that the gas company should pay 50 per cent dividends on their stock, with money taken from the people. The gas company claimed that it had contemplated making this reduction some four months previous to our demand, in order to minimize the effect of our action, but we plainly told them that we considered their profits altogether too large, in fact, that we believed THAT PROFITS WERE TOO LARGE WHEN THEY EXCEEDED BY ONE CENT THE COST OF PRODUCTION. We then demanded the reduction in the price of gas from one dollar to eighty cents, and with the help of the state inspector we gained our point, but the gas company, touched in their most sensitive part, their profit, took the case into the courts, where it still remains safely pigeon-holed."

"I might here call your attention to this as an excellent illustration of the fact for which Socialists have always contended, that state as well as all other laws were made for the capitalist class interests, by hirelings engaged for that purpose, and that so long as the people vote for these capitalist candidates so long will these laws remain to thwart the interests of the people."

"In conclusion, I want to say, that when I look over this audience and compare them with the people of Haverhill, I must say that you do not look less intelligent than they, and I would like to remind you that the conditions which we had to face in Massachusetts confront you in Illinois. Don't think for a moment that we were always Socialists in Haverhill. Ah, no! I knew hundreds in that town who only a year ago were anything but Socialists, and I even remember the time when I voted for Grover Cleveland, and was proud of it, but if God will pardon me this sin I assure you I will feel my approach towards heaven clear in this respect in the future. And now, friends, as I look over the movement of socialism here in the West, I feel that the time will soon come when, like the tide, it will sweep eastward, carrying all before it, and we, the citizens of Haverhill, stand ready to join in with you to sweep down this land of ours the curse of capitalism."

The speaker concluded amidst thunders of applause.

Notwithstanding the lateness of the hour the house was still crowded to standing room, when Professor Geo. D. Herron rose to speak. There was something dramatic in his appearance upon that platform from which he had so often spoken for indefinite and partial social reforms, and there is no disputing the fact that there were many among the old comrades who felt somewhat in doubt as to what he would say. But a few minutes served to change doubters and critics into admirers and attentive listeners. As the entire speech is to be published in the next issue of the Pocket Library, and can be easily secured by all who wish, only a few selections are given here:

"When I saw that American socialism was actually in the political melting pot, being tried by fire that it might come forth as a national effort for that freedom and fullness of life which were promised by our fathers, then I also saw that my place was in the melting pot. I could not wait until socialism should be exactly pleasing to me in all of its aspects, or until I should be altogether pleasing to Socialists in some of my views of life; my place was with my comrades, sharing with them their struggles, the defeats and disgraces, that are always involved in the first creative steps of an organized movement."

"Three great lines were converging in the American Socialist outcome. We must name first the Socialist Labor people who brought from Europe to America what is sometimes called dogmatic socialism. These men have seemed to some of us to be reactionaries and harsh, and to have carried class-hatred, and to have carried class-hatred, and to have carried class-hatred. But it is to be wondered at that they have been bitter and dogmatic in their advocacy of socialism and in their attacks upon the capitalist order? Our early Socialists were men who had themselves experienced and devastation of life that comes to the service of capitalism; they were men who spelled out their Karl Marx in the hideous misery of sweat-shops; men who panned their threadbare coats to print their tracts. THEY WERE SOCIALISTS WHEN IT TOOK A FANATIC AND A HERO TO BE A SOCIALIST. Socialists, when to be known as a Socialist meant hunger or starvation for themselves and their families. They were men who made brave and pitiful sacrifices for one another as comrades; men, who, however fierce, practiced towards each other some of the ethics which we Christians do not even heroic enough to preach. These men do not make a Bible of their Marx, and they understand as well as any of us that the economic philosophy of fifty years ago will have to be recast in the mould of present American facts and ideas. What they now justly call is that socialism under whatever name it appears, or by whatever party it is brought before the people shall base itself directly upon the fundamental fact, THAT THOSE WHO LIVE BY SELLING THEIR LABOR HAVE TO CAPITULATE AND BECOME CLASS-CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT THEY ARE THE RIGHTFUL OWNERS AND REAL PRODUCERS OF THE SURPLUS, and that this producing class must bravely and coherently set to work to achieve its own liberty from

the capitalist and labor consuming system of industry."

Another converging line is that individualism, which was the genius of our American political origin, and which was the meaning of eighteenth century political and social philosophy. The end which that individualism sought was right. Rosseau and Jefferson and the French revolutionists had a claim which shall be justly and fully acquitted in the court of American socialism."

American Democracy, which originally meant voluntary co-operation as the order of the state, will soon be lost even as an ideal unless it realize itself in Democracy and co-operation in production and distribution."

The third converging line is a new religious movement developing a much clearer and more comprehensive spiritual consciousness in the common life. It is a movement so wide and deep that it is scarcely yet recognized and has nothing to do with the conventional religious experiences."

"It is time we quit asking what Lincoln would do, or what Jefferson would do, or what Moses would do, or what Marx would do, and decide for ourselves and by our own original inspiration what we are to do in the face of the world-problem that confronts us. No age or its leaders can live by the inspiration and leadership of a past age. There is always more truth and resource in the present than have ever been available in the past."

"Whatever it may disclose in the future, the Democratic party has not disclosed any constructive ability in the past. The best that its most ardent reformers propose is the abolition of special privileges and the restoration of an imaginary free competition. Now twentieth century problems cannot be solved by eighteenth century phrases. Socialist special privileges can be abolished only by making the highest privileges of the few, the common privileges of all. The special privileges at which the individualistic reformer would aim are the direct results of the very competition which he proposes to abolish. Special privileges, class legislation and industrial monopoly are merely the triumph of the strongest competitors."

"Socialism comes not as a remedy for the evils of existing society, but as a program of principles for a new society, or, rather, let us say the first proposition for social order that has ever been presented to the world. Mankind has not yet had anything that can properly be called social order. Society has not yet been created. The materials for the building of the human world are here, and the creation remains to be undertaken. The task of creating a coherent and free society is the mightiest to which man has summoned himself, and it is the task which now presses urgently upon us. Socialism does not recognize its society anything in every succeeding human stage a preparation for society. The Socialist is an evolutionist, but with this difference between himself and much that is called scientific evolution, namely, that the social will is henceforth to be the supreme factor in evolution. Henceforth what we call society has been the product of blind forces which man did not understand and could not control. But we are reaching that moment when man will become the evolver as well as the evolved; when man will become conscious of himself as a creator and creative force in the creation. Man will henceforth take evolution in his own hands, and fashion creation according to his own will, and make out of society what he wants it to be. Henceforth the social will is to become the creator and master, and at whose words the strife and storms of history shall be stilled, and give back their responsive peace to the masterful social will of love."

Again some of you are offended at the class-conscious appeal of socialism. I think it is because you do not rightly understand its meaning. Socialists have no thought of arraying one class against another class as individuals; class-consciousness does not mean class-consciousness as individuals; it means by class-consciousness is this: that nothing can obviate the hideous fact that one class of human beings is living off another class; that a capitalist class is heaping up the produce of the producing class, and he appends to the laborer to become class-conscious because he knows perfectly well that the laborer cannot achieve his freedom nor live the produce of his labor until he becomes conscious that he is the real producer and owner of the earth. So long as the laborer is willing to be a mere wage-earner, so long as he is led about by politician and agitator, so long as his weariness and poverty, his dependence and hopelessness, so eat out his nerve of soul and body that he will not act, just so long will his condition wax worse and worse. Labor

the campaign committee is not joking when it calls for funds.

Teddy discovered that the bull pen was something of an issue in the West after all.

The Socialist party has not sold its nominations for drainage trustee to the highest bidder.

Remember that the Socialist party has no paid helpers to see that its vote is all registered.

The vote that helps put the Socialist ticket on the official ballot in each state is not thrown away.

If everybody does his best from now until election what a surprised lot the capitalists will be next day.

How do the Democrats who think they are Socialists, like the idea of hitching up with Burke Cockran?

It will only take about four years to put Bryan and Hanna on the same stump talking against socialism.

The party press is the life-blood of the movement. Are you doing your share to help extend its influence?

Pingree may hold his nose while voting for McKinley, but he will not be able to keep his ears from flopping.

Are you doing anything towards helping to scatter a few Socialist papers in your precinct between now and election?

The Democratic and Republican parties are the twin relics of barbarism, now that slavery and polygamy are no more.

The trusts are good to the people who own them. If the public owned them they would therefore be good to everybody.

It at least denotes something when a Socialist meeting is large enough to get even brief mention from the capitalist press.

Mark Hanna is evidently not as good a Socialist as the Democrats thought he was for his campaign contribution is still to come.

Some of these great big western states should be ashamed of themselves to make a little state like Massachusetts take the lead.

Mark Hanna says anyone who would bring politics into the coal strike should be shot. Mark wants a less dangerous and less definite issue.

Perhaps the trusts could not pay so much this year to Mark Hanna's fund because they also had to contribute to Bryan's campaign fund.

The reformers who howl so loudly for public ownership of public utilities are always careful to vote so they will not get anything of the sort.

The poll of the big office buildings may show a big majority for McKinley, or it may show that the clerks are anxious to hold their jobs.

Mayor Jones of Toledo may take to Bryan some of the voters who would have been for Debs, but he will not take any of those who are Socialists.

It does not make any difference in business whether you are elected by a Democratic or Republican boss. Neither does it in the matter of governments.

Workingmen of Illinois have a chance to vote for a coal miner for governor, or if they prefer to have another class govern them they can toss up between two lawyers.

If the coal miners find Mark Hanna valuable to them as a friend in court, can't they see what an added advantage it would be to have one of their own number there.

One hundred and forty thousand coal miners in Pennsylvania, each man with a vote, and the militia called out to suppress them. What a field for Socialist papers and speakers.

Coxey is now devoting his attention to the accumulation of money. He knows that if he is rich the government at Washington will allow him to stand on the grass for a week at a time.

Isn't it surprising that miners who have been making three or four dollars a week should not jump for joy at the prospect of a ten per cent raise? With 20 cents per day extra each week they should be enabled to buy all of the luxuries of the season.

(Continued on page 2.)

THE WORKERS' CALL.

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Subscription Rates: One year \$3.00, Six months \$1.50, Three months \$0.75, Single copies \$0.05.

Advertisements: A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted. Rates will be made known upon application.

Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed. Communications must reach the office by Monday evening preceding the issue in which they are to appear.

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

BORROWS FROM ANARCHISM: The old adage that a "drowning man grasps at a straw" is well exemplified in the arguments (?) to which the capitalist press is forced to resort in its efforts to stem the growing tide of socialism.

is not difficult to see why neither of the old capitalist parties presented any attraction for wage workingwomen. And when it is also considered, that the woman had no voice in political matters, (a state of affairs both capitalist parties regard as perfectly correct), it is plain that her co-operation in active politics would be regarded as useless and unnecessary.

SOCIALISM AND WOMEN.

In the brief account of the Socialist parade of last Saturday, which appeared in the daily press of the city, the number of women who took part in the procession was commented upon as being rather remarkable, and to those outside the movement who look upon socialism as mere "politics," in the capitalist sense of the word, it is not strange that this feature should attract their attention and occasion some surprise.

And the speakers. Our presidential candidate, Eugene V. Debs, fully demonstrated to the satisfaction, even of the "narrowest" Socialist present, that he possesses the clearest possible conception of the "paramount issue" for the working class—Socialism vs. Capitalism, to be expressed at the ballot box in the coming election.

YOU WANT THIS.

Socialist Campaign Book Containing a Vast Amount of Information Will Be Shortly Issued.

Thousands of Socialist votes are to be made within the next few weeks. Are you willing to do your share in making them? If so, this is written to tell you how it can be done.

"Not Guilty."

From the published reports of the mobbing of Roosevelt by Colorado workingmen, we draw the conclusion that the Colonel has been made the victim of a baseless accusation.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

The meeting which formally opened the Socialist campaign in this city, was in itself a testimonial to the fact that the efforts of comrades who have almost nightly stood upon the street corners and declared the principles of socialism to the passers by, have not been made in vain.

Equally cordial was the greeting received by Professor George D. Herron, and the importance of his address cannot be over-estimated. The writer of this column, like many other Socialists, was and is still somewhat suspicious of so-called "prominent" persons.

The daily papers announce that the Joliet steel mills have closed down for lack of orders. The officials of the company declare that this action is due to the uncertainty prevailing in the minds of merchants and consumers in regard to the political situation.

But they point out no remedy for this state of affairs, except that of submission on the part of the workers to the class in whose interest the press exists. The workingmen can only "restore confidence" in their masters, the owners of the means of production, by voting them into power.

And now Richard Croker who "evolved" from an ordinary commonplace thug to the position of a "boss" in the Democratic party, comes forward to take part in the popular political pastime known as "scoring" the trusts.

It is a significant comment upon the nature of capitalist "morality" that Croker, who is in himself a fair representative of the excrement of capitalist society, should be pressed into service by the capitalist journals to act as a Mentor to the young.

There is no socialism in the democratic platform, none in the democratic candidate and none in the democratic party. If you want socialism you must vote for it. Mr. Bryan is an individualist supporting a capitalist system.—San Diego Chieftain.

advice. And it is a good thing for the "boys" that they cannot. What they can do, however, nay, what they will do, is to help as much as possible in the economic evolution which is now going on, and whose present symptoms, the trusts, are the precursors of socialism, even now point out that the Croker type is becoming impossible.

Almost every day the capitalist papers publish dispatches from Europe which contain warning of the approaching commercial crash. Last week we called attention to an ominous dispatch of this nature from Germany.

But for the question of the unemployed in England as elsewhere, capitalism has no real remedy. It will continue to grow until the working class realizing its full import, turn their attention to the cause which underlies it and of which it is a natural consequence, viz., the system of appropriating the surplus product of labor by a ruling class, an appropriation which in plain terms means robbery.

In reference to the water stealing at the Stockyards, it is regarded as a significant triumph of "justice" by the capitalist press that three or four of the employees of the great packing houses have been indicted for the theft of city water.

In asking workingmen to vote for themselves in the present campaign, and they can only do so by voting the Socialist ticket, represented by Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman, their attention is called to the fact that the present period of "unexampled prosperity," such as it is, shows unmistakable signs of falling out.

Wicked Li Hung Chang.

One of the Chicago papers of last Sunday publishes a cartoon representing "Uncle Sam" looking disdainfully at "Li Hung Chang," the Chinese statesman, who is pictured in the attitude of a suppliant for peace, before the haughty "Sam."

"Final Dispositions."

The Times-Herald sounds a note of warning in its last editorial regarding socialism. It prefaces its remarks with a lie, to the effect that the Socialists are not putting up electoral tickets, but are throwing their strength in the national election to Bryan.

LEGALLY DECIDED.

Workmen! You Are "Free to Pick Your Own Boss"—How About Selecting Yourself for the Job?

A legal luminary of this city has been letting his farthing candle shine for the benefit of workingmen. He has given it as his opinion that no man is compelled to be an "unwilling" servant. There, now! All the planworkers, for instance, who last spring were starved into submission by the owners of the factories, returned to their work "willingly."

This wise decision is published in the Chicago Journal under the extraordinary heading, "Every man is free to pick his boss." That would be a glorious privilege if true, but the fact is it is utterly impossible under existing conditions.

UNION MAN! READ THIS.

Will You Vote With Your Own Class or That of Your Masters?—Debs or Bryan—Whose?

"You all did love him once, not without cause; what cause withholds you then to 'vote' for him?" This is not the time to mourn, so we have changed Shakespeares' quotation in the matter of one word, substituting "vote" for "mourn."

It seems necessary to bring the "man" to the attention of the union men, for the blindness which some of them show in the following of Bryan, calls for a reminder to them. Again we can quote Wm. S. with effect, "O judgment, thou art fed to brutish beasts, and men have lost their reason." How do the union men who are going to vote for Bryan, (or for McKinley either, for that matter), reason in regard to persons? Why do they shut their eyes to the fact that a man of their own class, who has been tried and not found wanting, is up for their consideration on election day?

The Great Coal Strike.

At the last reports the miners' strike was still unsettled, but the men seem to be gaining all the time. The operators now stand ready to give them an advance of ten per cent in wages and to grant many of their other demands, but obstinately refuse to recognize the union.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Campaign Ammunition. Comrades:—As the election approaches the activity of the comrades is increasing; meetings are being held everywhere, in cities, towns, and hamlets, and in order to make your work more effective it is necessary for you to distribute suitable literature bearing directly upon the issues of the campaign.

We also have a few hundred campaign buttons with photos of Comrades Debs and Harriman thereon; prices, 1 cent each; in lots of 50 or less, 2 cents each; in lots of 100, 1 1/2 cents each. Every Socialist should have one, and thereby show his colors; so order now before they are all gone.

Comrades:—You saw the parade, didn't you? You attended the mass meeting, didn't you? And the overflow meetings? Well, were they a success? If so, we must have more of such meetings.

Campaign Fund.

For the week ending October, 1900: A. M. Simons, \$1.00, Twenty-fifth ward, 2.00, Fourth ward, 4.30, Dr. B. Holmes, 20.00, St. Paul No. 2, .50, Frank Boersang, .25, Jno. Friemering, .25, Yelto Nevers, .25, J. S., .10, Mrs. Boersma, .10, Bert Stoll, .25, Miss Ab de Abaar, .10, St. Paul, .25, Jno. Collins, .50, Jas. Halbeck, .50, Paul Schubert, .50, Dr. Roberts, 2.00, On list 14, Kenssch, .50, F. Feuchter, .50, Mrs. L. Mittlacher, .25, A. B., .50, C. Conway, .25, Herman Wreduwelf, .25, A. Dodge, .50, Louis Nolan, .50, A. G. Gulberg, 1.00, C. Gustafson, .50, Total, \$37.85.

Naturalization Papers.

FIRST PAPERS:—Declaration of intention. The applicant being 21 years of age or more, applies to the clerk of the Circuit or Superior Courts, second floor, county building, who is authorized to issue the first papers.

SECOND PAPERS:—Citizenship. The applicant having his first papers and having resided in the United States five years, two years having expired since he secured his first papers, must appear again before the clerk of the Superior Court, with his first papers and a witness, who can swear to the five years' residence and to his good character. The clerk will prepare a paper which the applicant and witness will sign and swear to.

A SOLDIER OR MILITIA MAN with a honorable discharge and a residence of one year may, on declaring his intentions to become a citizen, obtain his final papers at once. OTHERS:—One who arrived in the United States under the age of 17, and who has been a resident for five years, and who for two years prior to his application has had the intention of becoming a citizen, may upon proxy of the same by witness obtain his final papers.

The wives and children of naturalized citizens are also citizens. The widow and children of one who having procured his first papers dies before securing the second papers are citizens.

Women, not wives or daughters of citizens may become citizens under the same conditions as men, but in Illinois they can vote only for officers of public schools and public universities.

Registration, October 8th, October 16th.

"Post-office" Socialism.

The most elaborate spy system in the country is being established at the Chicago postoffice. Inspectors will watch every move of the employees from boxes suspended from the ceiling. From there it is possible for the inspectors to see every part of the building and enter at any time without the occupant of the room below knowing of their presence.—Daily paper.

THEIR TRUE COLORS.

A Few Facts Relating to the Alleged Friendship of the Democratic Party for the Workers.

Editor Daily Star: Presidential campaigns bring out many surprises. Thus early in this campaign developments have already come to light which may have an important bearing on the final vote in November.

The Democratic party has for some time professed friendship for direct legislation, proportional representation, public ownership and other vital reforms urged by the Debs party. It now transpires that there was no sincerity in these professions. When it was positively known that Debs would not withdraw in favor of Bryan, and that the Social Democracy is a fixture in future politics then what does the crafty old Democratic party do? Why, it began a savage and unwarranted attack on the Debs party which I hope and believe will cause its defeat this fall. It is now demonstrating that it was coquetting with the Socialists and Populists simply to get their votes, and with no friendly interest or honest purpose.

Hearst's Chicago American, that professes so great loyalty for the cause of labor and has published so much in advocacy of the principles of the Social Democracy is now the malicious enemy of this new party. The Washington, D. C., Daily Times is another of these ranting hypocritical papers. These and many other papers in support of Bryan are now showing their true colors—they are giving the proof that it is the offices they are after and reform be hanged. As the Cleveland Citizen has well said:

The old mossback Democrat party now stands upon the political highway the harlot of hypocrisy, luring the workers on to industrial serfdom and ruin. Pretending to oppose the encroachments of aggregated wealth and oppression she applauds every infamous act that aids in demoralizing the spirit of true democracy.

And is not the following from the same paper true to the letter?

Trace the history of that party from the rise of modern capitalism and you find her throwing her protective cloak about the chattel slave power while she was singing songs of liberty. Speak of the progressive reform parties and you will find that this political procreant has decoyed into her trap every new movement that has sprung into life and choked it to death. She has tried to do the same with the Social Democracy, and having failed she now vents her spleen and vomits her venom upon the reforms she has long professed to ignore.

Is it not a fact that the leaders of this party are base pretenders trying to deceive the people? They are begging the votes of workmen in order to "smash the trusts." What are the facts? Croker, VanWyck, Whiting, Gorman and Carroll in the North and East, Chairman Jones and Stone and Mills in the South, Clark, Daily, Thomas and others in the West are owners and sharers in dozens of trusts and combines, and only a fool would expect these men to favor honest anti-trust legislation.

Then again this old reactionary capitalist party and hater of all reforms for labor, prates loudly of "anti-imperialism and anti-militarism"—condemns a proposed standing army—then reveals its true character by urging this plank:

The national guard of the United States should ever be cherished in the patriotic hearts of the free people. Such organization are ever an element of strength and safety.

Workingmen, what force in this country has smashed the most strikes—the militia or the regulars?

The Democratic party denounces imperialism, but is silent in all its party utterances concerning Democratic Steunenburg's Idaho Imperialistic bull-pen. Harrison's rule of clubs in Chicago, and Stephen's posse of labor crushers in St. Louis. There is no doubt as to the position Debs and his party take on these issues.

There is some respect due the plutocratic Republican party for its stand on these questions. It fights in the open. It favors the trusts, the militia and a large standing army. It is silent on the question of direct legislation and public ownership. The workingman need not be in doubt as to voting his interests this fall. Concerning the leadership and record of the Democratic party—its hypocrisy and double-dealing—its treatment of labor and labor reforms—has not the issue with workingmen, and especially with organized labor, practically narrowed to the two candidates—McKinley and Debs? Bryan's party honestly stands for nothing that vitally concerns labor—it is scrambling for the offices that is all. It has shown its true colors too early in the campaign—it is always doing the wrong thing at the right time. As was so ably shown in these columns a few days ago—every Altgeld Democrat who favors direct legislation and public ownership should vote his true sentiments. He can do this only by voting for Debs.—Henry E. Allen, in Peoria Star.

No bill will ever be sent to any subscriber of this paper. If you did not pay for it some one else did. The number with which your subscription expires is on the wrapper. Watch it and when your time is out, if you like the principles the paper teaches send in your renewal.

It costs \$100 an hour to hear Bryan, according to the scale of prices issued by the National Campaign Committee of the Democratic party. Talk about your gas trust!

Campaign Opened.

(Continued from page 1)

must achieve its own liberty, if it is ever to be achieved. Liberty cannot be handed down by a superior class to an inferior class; it has never been so achieved and ought not to be so achieved.

Socialists are not appealing to you for support on the ground that Socialists are better than other men, but on the ground that socialism is better than capitalism, and that socialism will bring forth and educate the best that is in man, while capitalism and competition are bringing forth and educating the worst.

Professor Herron's address, which at times was interrupted by loud applause, was concluded amidst a roar of tumultuous cheering and hand-clapping from the vast audience.

At the conclusion of the presidential candidate's address, the following resolutions were read by Comrade F. G. Strickland, and adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That this ratification meeting of the Socialists of the state of Illinois, hereby ratifies the action of the United Socialist convention held in Chicago, August 26th, 1900, in the following particulars:

1st. We hereby ratify the nomination of Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman as the presidential candidates of the United Socialist Party of the United States.

2nd. We hereby ratify the nomination of the Socialist candidates made and endorsed by the United Socialist Party of the State of Illinois.

3rd. We hereby ratify the unification of the Socialist Labor Party, Social Democratic Party and Independent Socialist organizations of Illinois, under the general name of Social Democratic Party, and.

Resolved, That this meeting hereby declares for the maintenance of this union of Socialist forces in this state, and for the unification of all the Socialist organizations in the United States as part of the united Socialist party of the world.

It was after midnight when the crowd finally dispersed to their homes, and there was not one among the thousands who listened to the speeches in the hall or on the street or who saw the parade or meetings, who did not at once realize that whatever they might think of the philosophy preached, there was no longer any doubt that socialism was now a power in the city of Chicago, with which the forces of capitalism must reckon from this time on.

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

A mass meeting will take place at Excelsior park, Irving Park boulevard and Elston avenue, Saturday, October 6th, p. m., sharp. All attend. Good speakers. Every economic subject discussed.

On Sunday evening, at the corner of North and California avenues, a most successful open air meeting, at which over 300 persons were present, was held. Comrades Robbins and Becker were the speakers of the evening, and an interesting and spirited discussion took place upon the subjects that had been handled by them. A considerable amount of Socialist literature was sold, and judging from the eagerness displayed by the crowd to secure it there is little doubt that it will be carefully studied. This corner is an especially good one for the propagation of socialism, and large audiences are generally the rule when the Socialist speaker mounts the stand.

During an open air meeting held last week at the corner of Paulina and Eighteenth street, by the Ninth Ward club, a host of Democratic hoodlums made an attempt to break up the meeting, by assaulting Comrade Barkowski, who was addressing the audience. The speaker was thrown from the stand, and Comrade Jasinski, who preceded him, was also assaulted and struck several times by the cowardly thugs before mentioned. This business has gone about far enough, and steps will be taken to see that the legal protection to which all speakers are entitled will be provided in the future. It would be well if some English-speaking Socialists would volunteer to help out the Polish comrades.

Not only has the wages of the employees of the Deering company been reduced, as was stated in these columns last week, but a new scheme has been introduced to whip them on to greater efforts while at work. Prizes are offered in the "piece work" department to the laborer performing the greatest amount of labor in a given day. These prizes are from ten to fifteen dollars, and by the hope of gaining them the workers are spurred on to a speed that means several hundred dollars a day additional profit to the company. It must be that Wm. Deering is thinking of giving another hundred thousand to Northwestern university. Wonder if the same kind of prosperity By the way, there is nothing in any of Bryan's speeches bearing on this point either.

On the evening of September 30th a very successful open air meeting was held at the corner of Wentworth and Thirty-first street, at which Comrade Alfred B. Andrews filled the role of speaker of the evening. A large audience was present, and Comrade Andrews was entirely successful in holding their attention for over an hour, although it was but his second attempt at an open air address. If Comrade Andrews persists he will ultimately develop into a powerful speaker, as he is possessed of a strong and clear voice and the unlimited zeal and enthusiasm natural to a young man who has grasped the fundamental principles of socialism. We want young men in the movement, not that the veterans may relax their efforts, but for the reason that the burden of Socialist propaganda is rapidly settling upon the shoulders of the young American men, who must be its principal exponents in the near future.

Make a Distinction.

The following from the Trenton, N. J., Trades Union Advocate, shows that the unions have learned the distinguishing features of DeLeonism and socialism:

John P. Weigel, who is stumping the state for the Social Democratic party, spoke to a fair-sized crowd near the Battle Monument on Monday evening. The Trenton Socialists have no connection with the DeLeon Socialists, who while claiming to be a social labor party, are fighting trades unions. Every one carrying the Social Democratic ticket carries a union card.

Are you still hustling for subscribers? Yes, and fool laborers will think this prosperity somehow hit them.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Glimpses of the World-wide Struggle of the Proletarian Army for Its Liberty.

ITALY.

A recent issue of "Le Peuple" of Brussels, reports the congress of Italian Socialists just held. Space permits us only a brief summary. The chief issue before the congress was between the "old uncompromising party," led by Enrico Ferri of Ravenna, who advocated a rigid prohibition of any political alliances, and the party, led by comrades Trives and Modigliani, which held that the question should be settled separately for each legislative district, by the comrades of the district, independently of any central body. After a warm debate the following resolutions were adopted by a vote of 106 to 69, two members declining to vote:

The congress, reaffirming its faith in the fundamental principles of the party, the class struggle and the socialization of the means of production and exchange, declaring that in electoral contests, without neglecting the special issues that may be up, we must always and everywhere carry on the Socialist propaganda by explaining the two principles above stated; yet considering the diversity of the political, economic and moral conditions of the Italian proletariat.

Resolved, That there be complete autonomy of the electoral districts in the matter of alliances with the parties of the extreme left. The executive of the party will oppose the organizing of campaigns at variance with the principles and with the local conditions of the party.

The decision of the majority has been frankly accepted by all, and the Italian Socialist party is more firmly united than ever.

FRANCE.

A Socialist evening paper, "Le Petit Sou," has been published in Paris since September 4th. The editor of the paper is Alfred Edwards, a wealthy man who has but recently become a Socialist. He was formerly editor of the "Matin," and also took control of the "Soir," which had been in the possession of the Nationalists. With the exception of Jaures, all the foremost Socialists of the different factions will write the leading articles for "Le Petit Sou." Guesde, Lafargue, Allemane, Brouffe, Vaillant, Fourniere, and Viviani, are a few of those who will contribute. The board of directors think in this way to make it an "Organ of Socialist Union."

The general policy of the paper is in the hands of the Guesdists, who have maintained a systematic anti-ministerial position. No very accurate news has as yet been received from the International Congress at Paris. It is only known that 240 delegates carrying credentials from over 4,000,000 Socialists were present, making one of the largest representative bodies ever gathered together. One of the most important steps taken was the organizing of a permanent international Socialist bureau, with headquarters at Brussels.

GERMANY.

Mainz, Sept. 18.—The report of the condition of the party was laid before the congress today. The report shows that since September, 1899, comrades of the party have received sentences and fines amounting in all to 6 years and 8 months in the penitentiary, 64 years, 7 months and 3 weeks and 2 days in prison, and \$4,106 in fines.

The party press has made great advance. Two new papers have been founded, in Berlin the "Fackel," and in Augsburg, the "Volkszeitung." Singer announced in the congress that a stormy session of the Reichstag is to be expected, for the Social-Democrats will not rest until the law against lese majesty goes into the waste paper basket.

AUSTRIA.

A good example of the international solidarity of the class-conscious laborers was shown when it was stated that the Austrian miners had been assisted with \$15,000 in their strike, and the Danish comrades with the sum of \$54,503.

The congress of the German Social-Democrats of Austria, met at Graz, September 2nd. A resolution was passed to the effect that the party should take up anew the agitation for universal equal suffrage.

The congress took the position, that although the capitalist industry of Austria is far behind that of other countries, and therefore the work of organization more difficult, that nevertheless it is their policy to spread as much as possible the principles of socialism among the agricultural population.

ENGLAND.

The yearly congress of the English labor unions met at Huddersfield, (Yorkshire), from September 3rd to the 8th. The 390 delegates making up the congress, represented a million and a quarter of organized laborers.

The speech of the president of the convention was throughout of a Socialist character, in fact it was a Socialist lecture. He opened with a glance at the early history of society—the communist stage, and ended after a sharp criticism of capitalist industry, with the conclusion that the whole present development of industry leads to collectivism.

Gauged by Dividends.

Spelbinders who are looking for illustrations to prove their claims concerning the prosperity of the country during the present Republican administration will notice that the dividends have more than doubled since McKinley was inaugurated.—Daily paper.

Yes, and fool laborers will think this prosperity somehow hit them.

LABOR ITEMS

And Notes From Trades Union Journals and Exchanges, Throughout the United States.

The "Roosevelt" cigar is scab-made. Skagway, Alaska, printers organized. Painters issued thirteen charters last month.

Marshall Field & company have secured a permit for the erection of a twelve-story building to cost \$1,500,000 for their department store. Will Bryan "bust this trust?"

A recently invented and ingenious mechanical device pastes paper labels on 100,000 cans in ten hours. The cans are carried on an endless belt and each one picks up a label as it passes.

Chinese labor unions are said to exist in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and principal cities along the Pacific coast. In the midst of the class struggle the "heathen" Chinese has realized that through organization he is able to resist capitalistic oppression.

William J. Bryan's route was suddenly changed last week so as to include a trip to Ft. Wayne in order to "save the country." Three Socialist branches were formed there in one day and more to follow. The "saviours" became so panic stricken that it was necessary to send for the chief saviours of them all. The world do move!—The Toller.

An invention of the utmost importance, and one which promises to revolutionize the manufacture of brass castings, has been perfected by a Detroit man. The importance of this invention may be judged from the fact that two men are able to do the work of 27, and an average saving of 50 per cent. of \$9 per ton, or about 75 per cent.—The Toller.

The North Carolina legislature issued over \$100,000 in bonds to maintain the state workshops where the victims of competitive commercialism are sold to exploiting capitalists. A great success is the competitive system where the free laborer is taxed to maintain institutions in which convicts are held to compete with them? Don't do anything to change this condition of affairs: it is so edifying.

What a spectacle to see so-called labor papers exhausting the vocabulary of their editors in exhorting wage workers to support the candidates of the labor-crushing Republican and Democratic parties. Shame upon these stool-pigeons of the capitalist class, who maintain that labor should be a unit upon the industrial field, and then politically try to deliver them into the hands of the labor skinning class. Is it not about time that organized labor repudiated such harlots?

There was a time when this country was overrun by men out of a job—a time when the foreign market failed to absorb our surplus production and thus business stagnation resulted. The old parties then told us that THESE MEN WOULD NOT WORK IF THEY HAD A CHANCE. Now the McKinley administration informs us that it has wrought such prosperity that there is work for all and ALL ARE AT WORK. Possibly even "tramps" change their minds with opportunity.—The Advance.

A committee of the International Wood-Workers' union will attend the convention of the Brotherhood of Carpenters at Scranton with a view of effecting an agreement whereby contentions of jurisdiction can be prevented in the future. The only way to overcome this clashing of interests is to amalgamate all the workers in the wood working industries in one international union. The nucleus of such organization exists in the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, which has branches in every civilized country of the world, and a financial system, that places the weakest union on an equal basis with the strongest. The strength of organized labor lies in solidarity, and this is never found where trades are contending for supremacy.—Cleveland Citizen.

For Lack of Evidence.

The United States Court of Appeals has just released the ten Idaho strikers who were sentenced to the penitentiary by the packed juries of the Cour d'Alene. Up to the present every case that has been appealed to a higher court has been decided in favor of the men. Not a shadow of evidence has ever been produced that would stand the light of even a capitalist court; not directly owned by the miners against these men. Nevertheless military law still prevails in the entire district, and new outrages are committed almost daily. And this is being done under the direct supervision of the Bryan Democrat, Governor Steunenburg, through the agency of the Federal troops of which McKinley is the commander in chief. That is a trust which it would be a good idea to bust. Still Bryan has not said anything against it up to date, and Hanna would probably deny its existence.

The Social Democrats of the Massachusetts Sixth Congressional district have issued a neat folder for propaganda purposes, containing a portrait of the candidate Albert L. Gillen, whom they are talking of electing this year. By the way, if anyone does not believe that socialism is booming this year, he should see the mass of literature that is pouring out from every state and city throughout the land.

Even the full dinner pail fails considerably short of the full product of your labor.

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 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 reducing it to a condition of dependence, economically exploited and oppressed, intellectually and physically crippled and degraded, and its political equality rendered a bitter mockery; and the gulf 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 reducing 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 consent 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

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 on all citizens in sympathy with the historic mission of the working class, to organize under the banner of the Social Democratic party, as 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, class, race or color.

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.

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

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DEPEW'S "PROSPERITY."

How the Workers Are Robbed of Fifty Per Cent of Their Total Product Under Capitalism.

Chauncey M. Depew tells the American workingmen that they produce annually (\$2,000,000,000) two billion dollars more in products than they consume, and that they produce cheaper products than any other workingmen in the world. Do you hear that, Mr. Worker? With the political ballot in your fist, you work cheaper than any other wage slave in the old despotisms of Europe, and that your abundance of food, clothing, fuel, and shelter is two billion dollars annually more than you consume.

Did sixty million American workingmen authorize Mr. Depew to make this statement to their capitalist masters, who composed the Republican national convention at Philadelphia? If they did not, and Mr. Depew assumed to speak in their behalf, he forgot to mention one important item which is of great concern to the American workingmen, and that item is the first count in the indictment socialism has drawn against the capitalist system of production, namely, the stealing of 83 per cent of every dollar's worth of products produced by the working class.

Mr. Depew and his capitalist cronies can chuckle at the fool workers buying back a dollar's worth of their stolen products on the installment plan with 17 cents. By the way, workers, Mr. Depew knows that the working class will never consume what they never get. He also knows that those invisible threads of capitalism which binds the workers to their capitalist masters are like the spider webs—seen to both victims.

However, science and genius is casting light upon the invisible threads, and the long dark night of slavery and poverty suffered by the working class in the midst of the greatest abundance ever known on this earth is nearing its end. Their freedom is foreshadowed in the concentration of the means of existence in the hands of a few persons, called capitalists, and the development of the trust is a signal warning to the intelligent workers to organize themselves under the banner of international socialism, capture the political powers and emancipate themselves from wage slavery. Then the products produced by the workers will be theirs instead of the idle capitalists. Hurray for the trusts! They are clearing and paving the way to establish the workingmen's co-operative commonwealth.

J. W. A.

State Organizer's Work.

Comrade Klenke is stirring things up in good shape throughout the state. He was at Galesburg on September 29th and every capitalist paper contains evidence of the strength of the blows he dealt. At Pekin he had a debate with a local Democrat, who made a most excellent "chopping block." The comrades on his route for the next few weeks are doing some excellent advertising and hustling, and when election comes you can follow his trail through the state by the increase in Socialist votes.

HUMAN RAW MATERIAL.

The Capitalist Law of "Natural Selection" in Its Relation to the Labor Market.

The Pueblo Courier in speaking of the condition of railroad employes in Colorado, has the following:

The examination of railroad employes is becoming so severe as to arouse a good deal of complaint and discontent. So rigid are the rules now that many men who have given their lives to the railroad service are finding themselves out of a job, and being unfitted for any other avocation, are drifting dangerously near the poor house.

Within this short paragraph we may find a complete illustration in one particular industry of the conditions which exist essentially in all, and which are certainly forcing, as the paragraph says, "many to think about changing the competitive system to one of co-operation."

"It is necessary to look to the safety of the traveling public." Why, certainly. That is the source from which dividends materialize. But the same necessity also compels the company to supersede their old employes, by younger, stronger and more efficient ones for exactly the same reason.

Consequently the old employe finds himself "drifting dangerously near the poor house," just as the old locomotive gravitates towards its final resting place on the scrap heap.

Yes, conditions, and conditions alone move the masses of men to think, and that thinking always has for its object the material interests of the thinker.

Starvation under the competitive system, helps wonderfully to see an assured "decent livelihood" under co-operation. That is what, according to the Pueblo Courier, the Colorado railroad employes have at last perceived.

They can even now begin the struggle in real earnest. A fully organized Socialist party is in the field, a party which aims at securing opportunity to labor, and a decent livelihood to all human beings.

SOME ANCIENT HISTORY.

Interesting Incidents in the Career of the Late John M. Palmer on the Question of "Militarism."

John M. Palmer, ex-governor and ex-senator of the state of Illinois, died on the 25th of last month. This occurrence, coming as it does, during the activity of a presidential campaign, when "friends of labor" become abnormally plentiful, and when the question of "militarism" is being widely discussed, may serve to bring to the remembrance of our readers some events in the career of the deceased which may perhaps be applicable to the present occasion.

On this very question of militarism Palmer displayed his abilities as a demagogue in a manner that has been seldom paralleled in this country. At the Chicago fair, when that calamity threatened to throw the city into a state of anarchy, a company of U. S. troops were detailed to assist in the establishment of order.

Ninth Anniversary CONCERT AND BALL

GIVEN BY THE

Socialist Saengerbund

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1900, at 8 P. M.

AT BRAND'S HALL, Cor. Clark and Erie Sts

Tickets in advance, 15c. admitting Gent and Lady At the door 25c. a person.

Tickets can be secured at Workers' Call office, 35 N. Clark St.

community who are always haunted by the spectre of militarism. In '92 when in the U. S. senate, the Homestead affair came up for discussion, Palmer took the radical ground that the workers had an absolute interest in the works in which they were employed.

In '94, however, during a Democratic administration, the great A. R. U. strike broke out. Cleveland poured the national troops into the state of Illinois against the protest of the then governor, John P. Algeid. What action did Palmer, who was then in the U. S. senate take upon this matter? Did he as in '71 and '92 denounce this exhibition of "militarism" on the part of Grover Cleveland? Not at all.

THE "ARBITRATION" FRAUD.

Capitalists Turn Their Attention to Touting the Latest Device for Plundering Labor Quietly.

The Chicago Civic Federation is now on the subject of compulsory arbitration to be held sometime in December. This organization is so delicately attuned to the capitalist consciousness of this country that its movements may almost be looked upon as a pulse from which to determine the attitude of that class upon any question under consideration.

At the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, which meets in a few weeks, several national trade unions will urge an agitation for the passage of laws providing for the compulsory arbitration of labor disputes and a specially constituted court.

The present strike of coal miners is pointed to by the advocates of compulsory arbitration as an example of the necessity of this plan.

An appeal will also be made to the various associations of employers to assist in procuring the necessary legislation, on the ground that the adoption of such a system would have the effect of establishing standard rates of wages, hours, and factory conditions in all trades.

It is hoped that some of the members of the A. F. of L. will have sufficient understanding of economic conditions to promptly veto any such move as this, until the labor class themselves possess the power of government.

Will Bear Watching!

The G. O. P. is rounding up some well-known labor skates, such as Bill Pomeroy, to stump the mining camps surrounding Eugene V. Debs' home, in order to try and stem the tide in favor of Debs. The miners should be on the lookout for these men (?) and boldly face them with the question: "What labor organization do you represent, and who pays you for your speech?"

Bryan's Railroad.

Aberdeen, S. D., Sept. 23.—A feature of Mr. Bryan's campaign yesterday was the building of a small railroad especially for him. From Sioux City, to Wolsey the train ran over the Milwaukee road, and from there to Aberdeen on the Northwestern. There was no way of getting the train from the Northwestern to the Great Northern tracks at Aberdeen, and it was planned to run the train to Duluth, while Bryan would travel by regular trains to that

READY OCTOBER 10.

The Socialist Campaign Book of 1900.

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This book will consist of facts and statistics concerning the present society, showing the relation of existing political parties to the capitalist system and the wage-earning class. It makes a clear-cut presentation of the issues actually at stake in the present campaign, with none of the deceit and trickery by which the Republican and Democratic politicians seek to confuse the voter.

The work will contain chapters on "The Wealth of Society and Social Classes," giving elaborate statistics as to the distribution of wealth; "Wages and Living Expenses of the Worker," based on extensive personal investigation as well as careful compilation from all accessible sources of information.

The book will contain about 125 pages, and will be handsomely printed on extra book paper. The price after publication will be 25 cents a copy, but if a large edition can be sold, the cost per copy will be proportionately reduced.

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HELP WANTED

A good shoemaker wanted on repairing or new work. Erik J. Pihlala, 345 E. 43d St.

In the afternoon James C. Dahlgren, who has charge of the special received word from the Great Northern management that a "Y" would be laid at Aberdeen, by which his train could be transferred to the tracks of that road, and this was done.

Yet we are told that all the trusts and corporations are against Bryan. Wonder if there have been any railroads built for the Socialist candidate?

If a majority of the people were to throw away their votes they would not be thrown away. See?

A new Socialist co-operative restaurant and bakery of great size and modern equipment has just been established in Paris. At its dedication Socialist speakers from Belgium and the French provinces were present.

In the province of Lombardy, Belgium, the condition of the cigarmakers has long been deplorable, and many efforts have been made to improve it. Last week a great co-operative cigar factory was organized by the Belgian Socialist party, with higher wages than those paid in surrounding shops, which was made possible by the economy in management secured through its great size, coupled with the certainty of a market in the regular co-operative stores of the party.

The Best Socialistic Literature

- 1. History of the Commune of 1871. Translated from the French of Lissagaray, by ELEANOR MARX AVELING. 8vo., 515 pp.; clear and large type. Cloth, \$1.00.
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6. The Silver Cross, or the Carpenter of Nazareth. A translation from the French of EUGENE SCE. Price: paper, 25 cents; cloth, 50 cents.
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8. Socialism and Slavery. By H. M. HYNDMAN. Price, 5 cents.
9. Socialism. A reply to the Pope's Encyclical. By ROBERT BLANCHFORD. Price, 5 cents.
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SIXTH WARD. Business meetings at 3900 Honore St., 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 8 p. m. Geo. Mitchell, Sec., 1233 1/2 St.

SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINETEENTH WARDS meet at Schwartz's Hall, cor. Jefferson and Fourteenth Sts., 1st and 3rd Monday each month. H. Redoninski, Sec., 106 Gilpin Pl.

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