

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. 91.

CHICAGO, ILL., DECEMBER 1, 1900.

PRICE ONE CENT

ADDRESS BY GEO. D. HERRON

Delivered at the Unity Mass Meeting Held By the Socialists of Chicago in Brand's Hall, November 18.

Speaker Reviews Present Economic and Political Situation in the United States, Deducing Therefrom the Absolute Necessity of Concerted Action Upon the Part of All Socialist Forces.

(Spoken to a mass meeting of Chicago Socialists, November 18, 1900, and stenographically reported for The International Socialist Review.)

There has never come to socialism so plain an opportunity as that now offered by the American political situation. We have reached the psychological moment when Socialists may define the issues of life and death for the nation. A united and harmonious Socialist movement may now make clear to all the people the lines of conflict between capitalism and socialism; between despotism and liberty. These lines of conflict may be made so definite that no party of compromise or tinkering can enter the political field. Now is the time of Socialist salvation, if we are great enough to respond to the greatness of our opportunity.

Nothing outside of socialism can defeat it; capitalism cannot defeat socialism, any more than it can defeat the law of gravity, or obstruct the progress of the seasons. It lies not in the power of capitalist governments, or capitalist armies, or capitalist religions, to withstand the Socialist evolution and freedom of society. A united and harmonious Socialist movement has the push of all the centuries behind it, and the human future for its own. But Socialists themselves, by their want of noble unity and concerted action, may put off the co-operative commonwealth, and prolong the suffering of the world's disinherited, for a generation, or a century. And only by a factional and divided Socialist movement can socialism be defeated.

A "Reconstructed" Dummy.

Let us look at our political situation, that we may see what we have to prepare for. The break-up of the Democratic party, and its re-organization upon strictly capitalistic lines, is inevitable. The party will be captured by what is called the old-line Democracy, represented by such men as Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Whitney and Mr. Hill. It will become merely an opposition capitalistic party, to alternate with the Republican or constructive capitalistic party in the possession of power. It will then make no sort of difference to capitalists, or to the working class either, whether the Republican or Democratic party be in control of government; for capitalism will be in possession of both parties. The perpetuity of the capitalistic system depends upon its having two political parties, about equally matched, to play off against each other, and to shuttle-cock the proletariat between blind issues. American political campaigns have long been a sort of Punch and Judy show, and it has been all one to the workingman, whether he was looking at Republican Punch or Democratic Judy. The strings of both parties were in capitalist hands. As evidence of this, you will only need to read the recent editorials of representative Republican newspapers, expressing most anxious solicitude as to the reorganization and purity of the Democratic party, with wise prophecies as to its necessity for the development and protection of our institutions.

Two Democratic Factions.

Now what will happen as the result of this organization of the Democratic party upon openly capitalistic lines? A very large portion of Democratic voters supported Mr. Bryan, not because they wanted him, but as a political makeshift. He was really wanted by neither the conservative nor the radical Democracy. His negative position made him unacceptable to old-line Democrats, and his want of economic knowledge or definite purpose made him unacceptable to the more radical and disoriented Democrats. The capitalistic reorganization of the Democratic party means the breaking away of this large element of radical and disoriented Democracy. With it will merge a no inconsiderable element of the Republican party, which voted for Mr. McKinley, not because it wanted him, but because it rightly saw only confusion in turning to Mr. Bryan. The danger of all this reshuffling is the possible formation of a radical or new Democratic party, with semi-socialist propensities and tendencies, to rather up and fuse this untalented and undisciplined American element, which probably represents one-third the nation's voters. This new radical party will certainly appear, and possess the qualities, unless Socialists lay aside all factional differences and enter the na-

tional political field with a unity and dignified action that shall win this discontent, and discipline it for intelligent and constructive effort on the basis of the International Socialist program. And, mind you, the agents of capitalism will secretly encourage this semi-socialist party, in order to withstand the appearance of socialism as a definite and organized proposition to the American people.

Analogous Conditions in England.

The present degradation of England is chiefly due to the tinkering, or so-called Socialist tendencies, of the Liberal party. While English Socialists were divided amongst themselves, the Liberal party deluded the people with factory acts, municipal water works, and the like. It was this English liberalism, under the leadership of that prince of fakirs, Mr. Gladstone, that brought the present moral and political prostitution of England.

Meanwhile, during our reshuffling process, the Republican party will be making steady encroachments upon liberty of speech and of suffrage. In more than one state, legislation has already been proposed that has no other motive than the elimination of the Socialist ticket from the official ballot. The courts of injustice and the subsidized public press, as well as an ignorant and hectoring pulpit, will be turned against that freedom of agitation and action which socialism needs for its progress.

International Action Against Socialism.

And international preparations against socialism will increase. Behind the pomp and swart, the lies and treaties, of international diplomacy is the subtle and far-seeing purpose to unite the world-powers against the International Socialist revolution. Diplomacy is today but the mere shadow cast by the vested interests of the great banking houses. And it is against the dread triumph of socialism that these banking houses are organizing the world's diplomacy. Not long ago, Kaiser Wilhelm frankly and brutally declared socialism to be the coming enemy against which the civilized world should arm itself. And he has had a ridiculous picture painted wherewith to pamphleteer his warning to Europe. Lord Salisbury has recently said that it is time for the nations to come to a mutual understanding, or else the dregs of civilization would overwhelm it in the near future. Lord Salisbury's dregs of civilization are the proletariat, no matter how else he may define his meaning. International understanding has already gone far enough to make sure that the menace of socialism in one nation means its co-operation of all the great world-powers against it. We had just as well understand that American socialism will not only have to meet American capitalism, but it will have to be prepared to meet all Europe at the same time; for American capitalism will have armed Europe as its allies. For not a throne in Europe would stand a year after the triumph of socialism in America.

A Critical Moment.

Comrades, do we see the greatness of our opportunity? Are we great enough to unitedly take up the responsibility which that opportunity puts upon us? I wish we might feel something of the stupendous and century-reaching consequences of what we may decide in this meeting tonight. Who knows but Chicago Socialists may be deciding the fate of the Socialist movement for a generation, not only for America, but for the world? If we strive with each other upon questions of detail, or upon questions of place and power, then the new radical party, of which I have been speaking, will possess the field, and socialism as a distinct issue will be postponed for a generation. And we will perish in the wilderness because we are not worthy of our opportunity. But if we present a solidly united and harmonious comradeship, with an uncompromising Socialist program, then in four years from now we shall have grown strong enough to hold the balance of power in the national political situation. We are able to present this program and harmony, if we will. But in order to meet our opportunity, socialism must pass out of the sectarian stage, out of the stage of mere sectional propaganda, into lines of action that shall win American sympathy, and nobly awaken American labor to that class-consciousness without which we are hopeless. We have come to the moment in which a harmonious and dis-

ciplined Socialist movement may lead the untalented peoples into the co-operative commonwealth.

Lasting Unity Based On Liberty.

Unity and harmony of action depend upon the widest liberty of opinion and detail. We make socialism the betrayer of the people who are crying for liberty of life. If we win them to our program only to menace them at every turn by sheer authority, and drive them from one jealous faction to another, each faction claiming authoritative powers. The principle of authority, of the rule of a single dogma or center of authority, belongs to the capitalistic system and not to socialism. Mere authority is a brute principle at best. And it is upon this brute system of authority that the capitalistic system depends. Liberty of thought and action, under the capitalistic system, means loss of position, daily bread, and even life itself. Socialism cannot make progress by the capitalistic principle of authority upon which the church stands; the principle upon which the old political parties and governments stand; the principle upon which the capitalistic and ecclesiastical education stands. Sheer authority, brute dogmatism, political bossism, factional strife, have no place among Socialists. In so far as we practice these we are traitors one to another, and capitalistic in spirit.

Imitation of Capitalist Tactics Spells Failure.

The International Socialist program is broad enough for the widest variety of opinion as to detail, and as to the working out of principle. If socialism is to emancipate the world, it must stand for that liberty which the system and institutions of the past have denied. We must remember that Marx' ideal was that of a perpetually fluid and endlessly growing civilization, in which every element of life may find free and full expression. The elemental meaning of socialism is the liberty of each man to take a free look at life, to see truth for himself, and to speak his own mind about what he sees, without let or menace from any source. Socialism is under bonds to see that each man makes his full contribution to the common thought and the common life. If we are Socialists in spirit as well as in name, we shall not only hear one another as comrades, but we shall gladly welcome every comrade into the full expression of thought and feeling, and give due and reverent consideration to even the "weakest" and most seemingly stupid among us. We must not only restrain, but we must encourage and sacredly nourish the utmost individuality of life and thought in each comrade. We are true comrades in so far as we convince every man in the ranks, and every toiler in the street, or in the mine, that he has an inestimable worth, and that he has an invaluable contribution to make to the human whole. If we have so little faith in the elemental meaning of socialism that we must resort to ecclesiastical and capitalistic tactics in order to gain our ends, then we shall fail, and we ought to fail. And the blood of the world's disinherited will be upon our heads, and not at the door of capitalism.

Liberty Realized Through Socialism.

The American nation began with eighteenth century ideas of liberty. It began nobly. But by the time the American revolution had reached the constitutional period, it already distrusted the liberty that was its inspiration. The Hamiltonian constitution of the United States was devised as an instrument for preventing the people from governing themselves. It has most perfectly succeeded in that for which it was devised. The ideals of Thomas Jefferson, of whom the Democratic party is grotesquely ignorant, had small place in the crystallization of our institutions. The old American passion for liberty has thus met with sad and baffling disappointments. Only one disappointment in history equals it; and that is, the monstrous perversion of Jesus by Christianity. The nineteenth century has just gone out in a train of disappointments, beaten hopes, broken ideals, betrayed faiths, and doubted doubts.

Now socialism comes to our American life as the realization of the liberty that has met with sore disappointment; as the fulfillment of the genius and truth of democracy. Socialism points out the economic basis upon which democracy must stand in order to achieve liberty. It proclaims all liberty to rest upon economic liberty, and all individuality to be rooted in economic unity. It affirms that there can be no liberty save through association; no true commonwealth save a co-operative commonwealth. It makes clear that democracy in the state is but a tantalizing and a fiction, unless it be realized through democracy in production and distribution. It witnesses that liberty, order and progress depend now upon the ownership by the people of the means and sources of production. It offers history as the proof that there can be no individual liberty or social harmony in a competitive struggle which makes every man's life a pitched battle with civilization for economic sustenance. It declares that liberty to be a mockery which means merely the survival of the strong and the cunning

(Continued on page 4)

OUR ANNUAL FRAUD

Giving "Thanks" for the Other Fellow's Prosperity.

PARADOXICAL REASONS GIVEN

Bountiful Harvests, Unparalleled Prosperity and — "the Sufferings of the Poor."

Every year according to custom the president of the United States and the respective governors of the several states issue proclamations setting aside a day of Thanksgiving to be observed by all the people for the blessings which they have enjoyed during the year. The last Thursday in November invariably is the day set, and that day is almost upon us for the year 1900. The president's proclamation was given out early and those of the different governors followed, so that all that now remains is the carrying out of the observance. The reasons adduced by the president why we should be especially thankful this year were manifold: the blessings of victory to our armies on land and our navy on sea; the acquisition by those victories of immense tracts of tropical territory, capable of yielding enormous riches for our coffers; the respect and esteem cherished for us by all of the nations of the world; the bountiful harvests gathered from our productive farms, forests and mines; the unparalleled prosperity of our people, etc., etc.

On account of all of which we should rest from our accustomed vocations, assemble in our various places of "worship" and in our homes—not forgetting to distribute freely to charity—remember the widow and the orphan and the old; relieve the sufferings of the poor. Oh, the mockery of it all!

Year after year these messages go forth and year after year the blessings of prosperity for which we are told to be thankful are all on one side, and it is plainly acknowledged in the proclamation, for are we not always asked to relieve the sufferings of the poor? Bountiful harvests, unparalleled prosperity—and the "sufferings of the poor." How easily they are connected! The facts, whose existence these good men deny during the rest of the year, are recorded by their pens each recurring year in the Thanksgiving proclamations. Once a year they give thanks (and their reasons are stated), and the "poor" are asked to give thanks with them. Rulers and subjects, rich and poor, all give thanks because we have rulers and subjects, rich and poor. How could they give thanks if the poor, by whose condition they are made prosperous, did not consent to that form of prosperity? They could not do it, and once a year they plainly acknowledge it—bountiful harvests, unparalleled prosperity and the "sufferings of the poor?"

Then, to the observance of the day. In Chicago the downtown streets will be comparatively quiet. The large wholesale warehouses will be shuttered with windows of iron, tightly locking in the garments made by the workers. The retail stores will be closed, but from their curtainless windows wax figures arrayed in garments of varying value will look out on the window gazers and passers by. The painted smiles on their waxen faces will add a tinge to the mockery going on, unbeknown to their lifeless makeups. But passing by will be living witnesses to the mockery which they simply reflect. Women hurrying from the slums and poor wards, attired, or rather covered with rags, with baskets and boxes in their arms, their forms bent to make the best possible hanger for the meager garments which envelop them; children scurrying at their feet, with blue faces and cracked lips, running noses and bare red hands, stiffening from the cold—all going to places of relief distribution to get enough of the blessings of prosperity to make them thankful for a warm stomach. Such scenes as this will be witnessed during all the morning hours, and after these relief places are closed the "charitable ladies" who have kindly assisted in the good work will ride home in their carriages with hot bricks at their feet and fur robes enfolding their forms. The diners of the "prosperous" will be on the fire in good time. Turkey, geese and various viands will be served up steaming hot by butlers and maids in proper attire, on tables covered with immaculate linen, and glistening with cut glass and gold and silver ware. Costly china will clink with the play of knife and fork as the fat of the fowl is cut and conveyed to the fat-lined belly of the prosperity receiver. Choice wines will flow and witty minds will glow, and the after-dinner speech will "go." Here then you see the prosperity! Why be surprised by the list of deaths from starvation and the suicides the next day appearing? Do we not know the cause of them?

But still we—the workers—have something to be thankful for. The conditions which make possible the horrible spectacles which we witness are

being undermined. The awakening of labor to the cause of its poverty and to the method of applying the remedy is progressing. This year, especially we have cause to be thankful. The largest vote ever recorded in the United States for the abolition of all this rottenness has been cast. Upwards of 200,000 men are fully awake to the situation. Unity of purpose on their parts is the keynote to their onward march. Let not meddlers interfere, lest in that march they be trampled under foot by this mighty army, conscious of its strength. Onward in unity must be the declaration of each and every member of this body of progressors.

Let every man who reads this paper awake to the situation. Let every man who reads and is not a subscriber, send in his subscription at once, so as to assist in "spreading the light" for whose dawn at no distant day we may be thankful. Let every subscriber hand or mail his paper when read through to a non-subscriber. We want to celebrate a real thanksgiving day, boys, in the near future. You know how that can best be accomplished. Hard work and unity! Unity!

GAINS 150 PER CENT.

Official Returns of the Socialist Vote of Cook County in 1900 Compared With Those of 1899.

The following is the official record of the Socialist vote of the thirty-five wards of the City of Chicago in the presidential election of 1900, as compared with the vote for state treasurer in 1899.

First ward.....	1909	1899
Second ward.....	42	19
Third ward.....	34	18
Fourth ward.....	38	27
Fifth ward.....	65	40
Sixth ward.....	106	70
Seventh ward.....	101	60
Eighth ward.....	145	67
Ninth ward.....	236	68
Tenth ward.....	309	59
Eleventh ward.....	438	151
Twelfth ward.....	179	39
Thirteenth ward.....	147	41
Fourteenth ward.....	174	71
Fifteenth ward.....	549	258
Sixteenth ward.....	522	171
Seventeenth ward.....	237	198
Eighteenth ward.....	98	54
Nineteenth ward.....	82	44
Twentieth ward.....	123	56
Twenty-first ward.....	117	29
Twenty-second ward.....	123	61
Twenty-third ward.....	167	70
Twenty-fourth ward.....	192	85
Twenty-fifth ward.....	96	55
Twenty-sixth ward.....	177	50
Twenty-seventh ward.....	210	98
Twenty-eighth ward.....	227	61
Twenty-ninth ward.....	114	26
Thirtieth ward.....	58	24
Thirty-first ward.....	475	53
Thirty-second ward.....	166	56
Thirty-third ward.....	68	29
Thirty-fourth ward.....	309	46
Thirty-fifth ward.....	651	311
Country towns.....	24	41
Totals.....	6,752	2,744

This represents a gain of nearly 150 per cent in the past two years. This remarkable gain taken with the wonderful work done in ward organization since election, is full of meaning for the members of the Socialist party in Chicago.

In very few of the states has the official count of votes been made. It will probably be some time before the Socialist vote of the United States will be accurately announced. Until such time it is very difficult to make an estimate. There is no doubt however, that when the vote is announced it will show a remarkable increase over the vote of 1899.

"Didn't Do a Thing."

Under the heading, "What They Did Was a Plenty," an exchange has the following:

"Union labor be d-d," said the friends of Judge Klein, at St. Louis. Union labor did not propose to be d-d. It simply went to work and defeated Judge Klein by 10,000. This man, who had received 15,000 majority in a previous election, had made himself obnoxious to all fair-minded workmen, and they asked the party leaders not to nominate him.

Union labor would do well not to hoory until it is out of the woods. From the above it looks as if they had not yet escaped the "damnation" of capitalism, but had merely exchanged the frying pan for the fire. Judge Klein, as an individual, may have been unsated; but what class does the individual represent who supplanted him? And what power have those who elected him to prevent him from following the example of Judge Klein?

All comrades throughout the country are requested to send copies of leaflets, cards, postals, stickers, platforms, and other printed matter used by Socialist organizations during the recent campaign to H. Reich, 184 William street, New York, N. Y.

Hereafter the fellow who refuses to vote his sentiments for fear of "throwing his vote away" should be classed with the idiot who says, "I didn't know it was loaded."—Gainsburg Labor News.

Socialist Pointers

Persons who do not want Socialist unity only think that they want socialism.

When you help to extend the circulation of the Workers' Call you help also to extend the party.

Isn't it about time Mayor Jones was starting another party to take in all of the reformers of earth?

The holdup industry at night is the product of the holdup industry during the day in workshop and factory.

Possibly people with something to be thankful for would know enough to give thanks without any proclamation.

Each year the American Federation of Labor sits down on socialism with much less energy than the year before.

Oom Paul will not make much of an impression on the Socialists, because workingmen have troubles of their own.

The charity organizations wish to share also in prosperity. They are asking for larger amounts than ever before.

The Socialists can make votes for the spring campaign now while the other parties are quarreling over the nominations.

The man or men who stand in the way of Socialist union are billed to get crushed. The steam roller is headed for them.

The Socialist party is not looking for new leaders or new issues. It has no need of the former and no use for the latter.

The Socialist party has no use for "men of destiny." One member of society is the equal of every other member in its eyes.

The capitalists have dollars to spend in Haverhill where the Socialists have pennies, so a slight contribution would not go amiss.

The great thing the politician likes about the municipal ownership idea is that it appears to be popular with the people just now.

There is nothing in the land that needs reorganization quite as bad as the Democratic party, and the leaders seem to recognize the fact.

The fact that he thought Hanna would insure him a job does not count as a defense in a police court when a man is run in for vagrancy.

President McKinley cannot answer the arguments of his Methodist brethren, but the ruling class never answers argument. It ignores the questioner.

Citizens of Chicago will soon be obliged to go to the expense of hiring detectives to watch the "good men" they recently elected to the legislature.

Mr. Hearst will continue to be a Socialist from time to time in order to keep in line those radicals who are inclined to kick over the Democratic traces.

Carter Harrison thinks that the signs of the times clearly indicate that the only platform on which he has a chance of re-election is one favoring municipal ownership.

The striking members of the building trades organizations are once more up against the policeman's club on the order of their great and good friend Carter Harrison.

It is safe to say that the Socialist party—the one that stands for union—is the only party, great or small, which can show a greatly increased membership since election.

George Fred Williams' new party should be a comfortable place for people who want to call themselves Socialists without believing in the doctrines of the party.

Congress will meet next Monday to make laws in the interest of the class that sent its members to Washington. As the working class was too busy helping out another class to look out for itself, it will not be represented.

Notice.

A grand ball for the benefit of the Workers' Call will be held on January 5th at Brand's Hall, corner Erie and Clark streets. Ad will appear in next issue. Branches are requested to make no conflicting dates.

When you hear the workers call for socialism during the coming election, it may remind you that this paper is still on deck.

THE WORKERS' CALL.

Entered every Saturday at 54 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 \$1.50, Three months \$0.75, 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.

Contributions and items of news concerning the labor movement are requested from our readers.

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afterwards not only the truth of his remark, but also the underlying cause for the passing of chivalry.

The "U" referred to, is the domination of the bourgeoisie, the regime of commercialism, or in one word, capitalism.

Just at present an illustration of the above is being worked out under the eyes of the civilized world.

Paul Kruger is testing the truth of Burke's observation. He seeks assistance and is offered "moral support."

The Campaign Fund. Comrades and Friends. It might practically be said that the spring campaign is open.

Printing must be done. Petitions got out. Literature must be had, must be got out before the working class voters.

Now can YOU, WILL you help? Will you be the first to respond? Remember socialism cannot progress without your aid.

Premium Offer. For each two dollars worth of subscriptions sent to or postals purchased, one copy of Lisagary's "Commune."

These are books that no Socialist can afford to be without. The anniversary of the Commune will soon be here, and all Socialists will want to be placed on the history of that first great proletarian struggle.

The Campaign Book is perhaps the best piece of Socialist literature ever put out in this country. It was especially made of such a character as to have a permanent value.

It remained for a more powerful thinker than Burke to show many years

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

The proposed reduction of the war revenue tax may be expected to prove an immense boon to the wage workers.

The work of disenfranchisement seems to be proceeding merrily and Maryland is the latest state to come forward with proposals for eliminating the negro and illiterate vote.

The great mail order house of Montgomery Ward and company have, according to the daily press, just purchased land in Chicago Heights for the purpose of building factories thereon.

The Chinese trouble which just at present seems interminable must nevertheless reach its climax shortly.

Old Oan Paul is at present receiving the homage of the populace in the country through which he is passing on his way to Holland.

From their point of view, the wiping out of the South African republics is a necessary prelude to the exploitation of the Dark Continent.

In the near future the "Cape of Good Hope" will become a reality, and the murder of the native population will keep pace with the profits of the capitalist class.

In giving an account of the oratorical contest between Comrade Bebel and Baron von Gossler in the German Reichstag, the capitalist press dispatches inform us that the latter although "clumsy is no mean antagonist."

While the prospects for Socialist unity are very satisfactory, it would be well that the rank and file of the party get to work and unite in making converts to the principles of socialism.

There is a certain analogy existing between present political conditions in Great Britain and the United States which may be worthy of more than a passing mention.

What is the cause of this solidarity for the "enemy"? The question is not difficult to answer. They feel instinctively that if the "opposition" is not quickly built up to proportions that will attract attention, it might possibly occur that a real "opposition" might arise which would convert the sham contest into a genuine one.

The unanimity with which the capitalist press of both parties are trying to brush away every evidence of the late presidential election is a sufficient proof of the insincerity of Republican and Democratic campaigns.

ist, the campaign is still on, and will remain so until capitalism has been overthrown.

But the Socialist campaign is still on as stated above. Why? Because the class struggle upon the economic field never ceases.

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Carter Harrison, political fakir, has been gradually developing his "platform" for the coming municipal campaign.

It might be well to remind Messrs. Pomeroy, Flower, and Parsons, the "Socialists" who sent a letter to Eugene V. Debs, urging his withdrawal from the political field in favor of Bryan.

The growth of socialism in southern Illinois during the past year is one of the remarkable features furnished by the campaign just closed.

BREAKING NEW GROUND.

Socialism in Southern Illinois—New Burnside Organizes a Large and Promising Branch.

New Burnside is situated in the beautiful foothills of the Ozark mountains, which stretch across the extreme southern end of Illinois.

The seed of socialism was first planted there about a year ago by Rev. R. P. McKinley, of Manchester, Tenn.

In view of the fact that Comrade Peter Curran of England is coming as a fraternal delegate to the A. F. of L. convention in December, it was ordered that he be requested to speak on socialism and Trade Unionism in the principal cities of the country.

On Saturday night, November 17, a number of the New Burnside-Socialists got together and organized a local of the party with a charter membership of sixteen.

At Herrin there are a few comrades who keep eternally at it. Since election five new members have been admitted into Section Herrin.

What have you done to help spread the news of socialism? Have you sent in a club of ten to The Workers' Call? If not, why not?

REPORT OF THE N. E. C.

Socialism Everywhere Making Good Progress—New Branches Coming Into Existence.

The Provisional National Executive committee met at Springfield last Saturday. Comrades Chase, Fenner, Hillquit, Jones, Phillips, Slobodin, and Sweetland were present.

Communications were received as follows: Local Cambridge, Mass., applies for charter; Lynn asks for a speaker for the city campaign; Santiago Iglesias writes that conditions in Puerto Rico make it impossible for him to remain there.

Further communications were received from Keokuk, Ill., on organization; Brockton, Mass., in regard to city campaign and asking for list of locals, which was supplied; from Leon Greenbaum, on organization and propaganda; from convention in Boston, a resolution favoring an early convention; from Illinois State committee, reporting that A. Klafke has been appointed state organizer; from William Madly on Haverhill city campaign; from Eichburg, Mass., Milwaukee, Wis., P. J. Cooney, Butte, Mont., applying for admission as member at large; Victor, Cal., on propaganda; Tennessee State committee; New York "Tribune"; Comrade Johnson; Comrade Robinson of Kentucky; James P. Carey; J. P. Sullivan, with contribution; Reading, Mass.; Chicago; Linton, Ind.; Illinois State and County Campaign committee; Brilliant, Wis.; Mopett, Mo.; Columbia University, N. Y., asking for copies of leaflets, etc.

The following comrades reported on agitation tours: J. Spring, in Oregon and Washington, expenses, \$118.21; N. Geiger, in Pennsylvania; C. R. Martin, in Kentucky, Alabama and Tennessee, expenses, \$39.19; E. R. LaMonte, in Kentucky and Pennsylvania, expenses \$64.34; Fischer, among Polish workers in Pennsylvania, expenses \$25; Max Hayes in the East, expenses \$42.22; L. R. Talbot, among the French workers in Connecticut and Massachusetts, expenses \$38.75.

National Secretary reported: Income, aside from regular sale of stamps; Contributions, \$319.90; buttons, \$69.65; literature, \$372.81; lithographs, \$35.14; International Congress stamps, \$123.25. Total receipts, all sources, since September 29, \$1,111.93; expenses, \$1,120.17; balance, \$10.91. Bills ordered paid: Phillips, \$5; Sweetland, \$1.90.

Chapters granted: Holyoke, Mass.; Springfield, Mass.; Italian and Jewish; Webster, Taunton, and Beverly, Mass.; Stonington, Conn.; Green Island, Williamsburg, Hornellsville, and Ogdensburg, N. Y.; York and Boyertown, Pa.; Baltimore, Md.; Xenia, and Fremont, O.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Blacktown, Ala.; Peoria and Monmouth, Ill.; St. Louis, Harrisonville, Monett, Greenfield, Avilla, Warrensburg, Sedalia, and Pleasant Hill, Mo.; Rosburg, Granite Falls, Redmond, and Buckley, Wash.

Committee on literature was ordered to issue a call to the party members for the nomination and election by general vote of two secretaries to the International Bureau.

In view of the fact that Comrade Peter Curran of England is coming as a fraternal delegate to the A. F. of L. convention in December, it was ordered that he be requested to speak on socialism and Trade Unionism in the principal cities of the country.

Decided to employ an agitator for the Massachusetts cities during the municipal campaign; also to request Comrade Talbot to make a tour of the state. Silvio Origo submitted an agitation leaflet in Italian; ordered that 10,000 be printed. Committee on literature ordered to prepare a card for agitation and information about the S. D. P.

After discussion of Boston resolution, Hillquit, Phillips and Slobodin were elected as committee to draw up a reply defining the position of the N. E. C. in view of the approaching expiration of the term of the Provisional N. E. C., state organizations are instructed to elect one member each to the National Council which is to organize itself during the month of January.

Secretary instructed to issue call for funds for Haverhill campaign. The committee then adjourned, to meet December 29. Henry Slobodin, Rec. Sec'y.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie is an earnest and consistent advocate of universal peace, but as the secretary of the navy has awarded his steel company some \$3,000,000 worth of armor plate contracts he will choke down his sobe at the cruelty of war and rake in the profits on the contract. Mr. Carnegie never has allowed merely sentimental considerations to interfere with his material interests.—Chicago Chronicle.

And in this respect Mr. Carnegie is in no way different from his fellow capitalist exploiters. "Sentimental considerations" may perhaps influence the wage slaves whose labor enables Andrew to "rake in the profits" but the latter is too wise to allow them to affect him that way.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Minnesota Calls for Unity.

Editor Workers' Call:—As the great national campaign of 1901 now opens it seems to me the first step to assist the advance of socialism in these United States (of monopoly) is the perfection of a union of all the Socialist forces, under one banner, and it well to keep in mind that "it is very significant to the Socialist what that banner may be."

I am not only voicing my own convictions but the convictions of all the comrades hereabouts, with whom I have talked. It seems to me that some feasible plan could be suggested to the rank and file of the Socialist organizations and approved or disapproved of in one short month.

The rank and file of the Socialists of this country are disgusted with the divisions which have been made in the lines of the Socialist parties and are anxious to throw off such tyrants of De Leon type as exist in the two parties of this country, the S. D. P. and the S. L. P.; and as soon as the issue can be put before the members in a clear light they will settle forever these little differences.

Let it be understood that any Socialist paper which is afraid to launch upon the sea of journalism without forcing the combined subscription of some Socialist organization is not worthy of the support of any Socialist. Any good Socialist paper with a reputation already established can easily increase its subscribers every day for the coming four years of campaign work as the Socialist forces will grow to be the greatest and only permanently organized party in America in the next four years if we only UNITE. It seems easy to do and will be done before the dawn of the new year.

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party. It is every comrade's duty to agitate the question of union at once, and the duty of every branch and local to adopt resolutions of union at once.

NOW during the re-organization of the Democrats is also our time for re-organization. "STRIKE WHILE THE IRON IS HOT." Fraternally yours, Warren W. Morse, Granite Falls, Minn.

What Iowa Socialists Want. Dear Comrade Editor:—I enclose you a copy of a series of resolutions passed unanimously by the state committee of the Iowa Social Democratic party. Just at this time, when the question of union so seriously confronts us, the widest publication of matter of this nature is very desirable.

I trust you will find space in your paper for the enclosed. We have twenty-one active branches in Iowa, organized under a separate state board. Our vote in the state exceeds three thousand. Our organization is strong and harmonious. Until such a time as we can organize under one national executive, separate existence under state board will prove our only salvation. Fraternally yours, A. W. Ricker, Lone Tree, Ia., Nov. 23, 1900.

Resolved, By the state committee of the S. D. P. of the state of Iowa, in Executive session at Davenport, Ia., November 18th, 1900: First, That we congratulate the Socialists of Iowa upon the unity and harmony which has prevailed in their ranks throughout the campaign just closed, and that we are gratified at the results thereupon in the election.

Second, That we approve the action of the state convention at Okaloosa in severing connection with discordant national executive boards, and recommend a continuance of that policy until one national committee shall be organized by a representative national convention to which we then pledge our zealous and undivided support.

Third, To this end we most earnestly request all the representative branches of the state of Iowa to further such final victory by completing the severance with the two rival boards and acknowledging allegiance and paying dues only to the state committee, being convinced that such action will be the more speedily bring about the desired unity.

Fourth, Recognizing that "in unity there is strength" we earnestly recommend that such action be taken by each of the forty-five states of the Union, to the end that the unity so much desired will be brought about.

Fifth, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished to every Socialistic publication in the United States. (Adopted.)

Branch Secretaries Please Take Notice. When sending in subscriptions to party organs, as called for by the constitution, please state in each case whether the subscriptions are renewals or new.

By so doing a great deal of labor will be spared looking over the entire list at the newspaper office. Wm. Butcher, Nat. Sec'y.

Commercial Marriages.

The Sunday Tribune devotes two columns to a list of 172 American heiresses who have married titled foreigners. The aggregated fortune thus transplanted to foreign soil is estimated at \$200,253,000. This is interesting in more ways than one. Many people will lament that so much American wealth has gone to support old world aristocracy.

Looked at in that way it is indeed rather deplorable. But to the Socialist the question of what is done with the fortunes of American capitalists' daughters is not nearly so important as the question of how such fortunes can be accumulated in the first place. That 200,253,000 represents the unpaid labor of America's proletariat. Give us an industrial system under which every man shall enjoy the fruit of his own labor and there will no more American heiresses with marriageable fortunes.

Until such a system is inaugurated it matters little to the American wage slave whether his masters' ill-gotten wealth be invested in foreign dikes or in a collection of African monkeys.

If you are not a regular subscriber to this paper look it over and see if it is not treating a subject in which you are interested. If so send in your subscription at once.

What Communities Lose by the Competitive System

By JACK LONDON

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Man's primacy in the animal kingdom was made possible, first, by his manifestation of the gregarious instinct, and second, by his becoming conscious of this instinct and the power within it which worked for his own good and permitted him to endure. Natural selection, undeviating, pitiless, careless of the individual, destroyed or allowed to perpetuate, as the case might be, such breeds as were unfittest or fittest to survive. In this sternest of struggles man developed the greatest variability, the highest capacity for adaptation; thus he became the favored child of the keenest competition ever waged on the planet. Drawing his strength and knowledge from the dregs of competition, he early learned the great lesson: that he stood alone, unaided, in a mighty battle wherein all the natural forces and the myriad forms of organic life seethed in one vast, precarious turmoil. From this he drew the corollary, that his strength lay in numbers, in unity of interests, in solidarity of effort—in short, in combination against the hostile elements of his environment. His history substantiates it. From the family to the tribe, to the federation of tribes, to the nation, to the (today) growing consciousness of the interdependence of nations, he has obeyed it; by his successes, his mistakes and his failures, he has proved it. There is much to condemn, much which might have been better, but in the very nature of things, not one jot or tittle could have been otherwise than it has. And today, while he may felicitate himself on his past, none the less vigilant must be his scrutiny of the future. He cannot stop. He must go on.

But of the various forms of combination or co-operation which have marked the progress of man, none has been perfect: yet have they, possessed, in a gradually ascending scale, less and less of imperfection. Every working political and social organism has maintained, during the period of its usefulness and in accordance with time and place, an equilibrium between the claims of the individual and the claims of society. When the balance was destroyed, either by too harsh an assertion of the right of the single life or the right of the type, the social organism has passed away, and another, adjusted to the changed conditions, replaced it. While the individual has made apparent sacrifices in the maintenance of this equilibrium, and likewise society, the result has been identity of interest, and good, both for the single life, and the type. And in pursuance of this principle of the co-operation of man against the hostile elements of his environment, social compacts or laws have been formulated and observed. By the surrender of certain rights, the friction between the units of the social organism has been reduced, so that the organism might continue to operate. The future and inevitable rise of the type and the social organism, must necessitate a still further reduction in the friction of its units. Internal competition must be minimized, or turned into channels other than those along which it works today. This brings us to a discussion of the present: What the community loses by the competitive system.

Division of Land.

All things being equal, ten thousand acres of arable land, under one executive, worked en bloc, say for the purpose of growing wheat, utilizing the most improved methods of plowing, sowing and harvesting, will produce greater returns at less expense than an equal number of acres, divided into one hundred plots, and worked individually by one hundred men. If the community, believing this friction of its units to be logical, farms in the latter manner, it must suffer a distinct pecuniary loss. And the effects of this loss—call it lack of gain if you will—though apparently borne by the agrarian population, are equally felt by the urban population. Of the many items which at once suggest themselves, consider the simple one of fences. For the division of land in the state of Indiana, alone, their cost is computed at two hundred million dollars, and if placed in single file at the equator, they would encircle the globe fourteen times. Under a scientific system of agriculture they would be almost wholly dispensed with. As it is, they represent just so much waste of energy, just so much real loss of wealth. And these losses, of which the preceding is but one of a host, may be attributed to a certain asserted right of the individual to private ownership in land.

To this division of land among individuals, whether in the country, in the city, or in franchises, may be traced numerous other losses and grotesque features of the community. Lack of combination in the country causes expensive crops. In the city, expensive public utilities and service, and frightful architectural monstrosities. If a street railway corporation can issue an annual dividend of ten per cent to its shareholders, the community, through lack of the co-operation necessary to run that railway for itself, has lost the ten per cent, which otherwise it might have enjoyed in bettering its transit service, by the building of recreative parks, by the founding of libraries, or by increasing the efficiency of its schools. With regard to architecture, the presence of co-operation among individuals is most notable where it occurs, most noticeable where it is absent.

Some few of the public buildings, and many tasteful portions of the select residential districts, are examples of the one: sky-scrapers and rattle-trap tenements, of the other. A pumpkin between two planks, unable to obtain a proper rotundity, will lengthen out. Want of combination among adjacent property owners, and the sky-scraper arises. A pumpkin is denied rotundity; man is not. The pumpkin cannot help itself; man may remove the planks. There is a certain identity in the reason d'être of the pumpkin and the sky-scraper. Man may remedy either, for to him is given the power of reacting against his environment.

Loss of Effort.

If one were to hire two men to do his gardening when there was no more work than could be reasonably be done by one, how quickly his neighbor would decrie his extravagance! Yet in the course of the day, with the greatest equanimity, that same farmer will fare forth and pay his quota for a score of services each performed by two or more men where only one is required. But he is dense to this loss to the community, which he, as a member, must pay. On his street from two to a dozen milkmen deliver their wares, likewise as many butchers, bakers and grocers; yet one policeman patrols and one postman serves the whole district. Down town are a dozen groceries, each paying rent, maintaining fixtures and staffs of employees, and doing business within half as many blocks. One big store could operate the distributing function performed by these dozen small ones, and operate it more efficiently and at far less cost and labor. The success of the great department stores is a striking proof of this. The department store, in wiping out competition, gets greater returns out of less effort. And having destroyed competition, there is no longer any reason that it should exist, save as the common property of the community to be operated for the community's common good. It cannot be denied that the community would gain by so operating it, and not only in this but in all similar enterprises.

Take, for instance, because of this prerogative of friction the units of society maintain as their right, another series of burdens borne by the community. To make it concrete, let the drummer class serve as an illustration. Certainly fifty thousand is a conservative estimate for the drummers or traveling men of the United States. And it is very conservative to place their hotel bills, traveling expenses, commissions and salaries at five dollars a day per man. Since the producer must sell his wares at a profit or else go out of business, the consumer must pay the actual cost of the articles—whether it be the legitimate cost or not—plus the percent increment necessary for the continued existence of the producer's capital. Therefore the community, being the consumer, must support these fifty thousand five-dollar-a-day drummers; this, aggregated, forms a daily loss to the community of a quarter of a million, or an annual loss of upward of a hundred million of dollars. Nor from the economic view, is this the sum total of the community's loss. These drummers are not legitimate creators of wealth. The cost they add to the articles they sell is an unnecessary one. The function they carry on in society is absolutely useless. Their labor is illegitimately expended. Not only have they done nothing, but they have been paid as though they had done something. Assuming eight hours to be the normal working day, they have, in the course of a year, taking Sundays and holidays into consideration, thrown away one hundred and twenty millions of working hours. The community has paid for this and lost it. It possesses nothing to show for their labor, save a heavy item in its expense account. But what a gain there would have been had they devoted their time to the planting of potatoes or the building of public highways! And it must be borne in mind that this is but one of a long series of similar burdens which may be assembled under the head of "commercial waste." Consider the one item of advertisement. To make the advertisements which litter the streets, desecrate the air, pollute the country, and invade the sanctity of the family circle, a host of people are employed, such as draftsmen, paper-makers, printers, bill-posters, painters, carpenters, gliders, mechanics, et cetera. Soap and patent-medicine firms have been known to expend as high as half a million dollars a year for their advertising. All this appalling commercial waste is drained from the community. Commercial waste exists in many forms, one of which is the article made to sell, not use, such as adulterated foods and shoddy goods; or, to travesty Matthew Arnold, razors which do not shave, clothing which does not wear, watches which will not run.

Let one example of the loss of effort suffice: that of competing corporations. Again to be concrete, let the example be a public municipal utility. A water company has the necessary water supply, the necessary facilities for distributing it, and the necessary capital with which to operate the plant. It happens to be a monopoly, and the community bleeds for competition. A group of predatory capitalists invades the established company's territory, tears up the streets, parallels the older company's mains, and digs, tunnels and dams in the hills to get the necessary commod-

ity. In view of the fact that the other company is fully capacitated to supply the community, this is just so much waste of effort; and equally so, some one must pay for it. Who? Let us see. A rate war ensues. Water becomes a drug on the market. Both companies are operating at ruinous losses, which must ultimately destroy them. There are three ways by which the struggle may be concluded. First, the company with the smallest capital may go under. In this case the capitalists have lost the money invested, the community the labor. But this rarely happens. Second, the wealthier company may buy out the poorer one. In this case it has been forced to double its invested capital. Since it is now become a monopoly, and since capital requires a certain definite rate of interest, the community's water bills must rise to satisfy it. Third, both companies being of equal strength, and a Kilkenny-cat conclusion being impossible, they combine, with doubled capital which demands a double return. In one of these three ways the competition of corporations must inevitably result; nor can the community escape the consequent loss, save by the co-operative operation of all such industries.

Costliness of Effort.

Because of the individual performance of many tasks which may be done collectively, effort entails a corresponding costliness. Since much that might have been included under this head has been previously discussed, such labors as may be purely individual shall be here handled. In the field of household economics there are numerous losses of this nature. Of these, choose one. Contemplate that humble but essentially necessary item, the family wash. In a hundred houses, on washing-day, are one hundred toiling housewives, one hundred homes for the time being thrown out of joint, one hundred fires, one hundred tubs being filled and emptied, and so forth and so on—soap, powder, bluing, fuel, and fixtures, all bought at expensive retail prices. Two men, in a well-appointed small steam-laundry, could do their washing for them, year in and year out, at a tithe the expense and toil. Disregarding the saving gained by the wholesale purchase of supplies, by system, and by division of labor, these two men, by machinery alone, could increase their power tenfold. By means of a proper domestic co-operation, if not municipal, each of these housewives would save a sum of money which would go far in purchasing little luxuries and recreations.

Again, consider the example of the poorer families of a large town, who buy their food and other necessities from at least one hundred shops of one sort and another. Here, the costliness of effort for which they pay is not theirs, but that of the people they deal with. Instead of one large distributing depot, these one hundred petty merchants each order and handle separate parcels of goods, write separate letters, and checks, and keep separate books, all of which is practically unnecessary. Somebody pays for all this, for the useless letters, checks, parcels, clerks, bookkeepers and porters, and assuredly it is not the shopkeeper. And aside from all this, suppose each shop clears for its owner ten dollars a week—a very modest sum—or five hundred dollars a year. For the one hundred shops this would equal fifty thousand dollars. And this the poorer members of the community must pay.

The people have come partially to recognize this, however. Today no man dreams of keeping his own fire-fighting or street lighting apparatus, of maintaining his own policeman, keeping his street in repair, or seeing to the proper disposition of his sewage. Somewhere in the past his ancestors did all this for themselves, or else it was not done at all; that is to say, there was greater friction or less co-operation among the units of society then than now.

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

The membership of the Fifteenth Ward club has now passed the fifty mark, and before the spring election things in that section will be pretty well stirred up. At the business meeting November 22, Comrade Robbins was elected ward organizer, and his labors have already begun to bear fruit in the form of precinct clubs. The agitation meetings at Center Hall, 1906 Milwaukee avenue, every Sunday evening, are a grand success. Comrade Simons preached a masterly sermon to a fully packed hall last Sunday evening, telling his attentive listeners what the Socialists will do when they get in power in Chicago. Comrades Mills and Klein created fresh nutriment for the mind with short addresses.

The opening meeting of the Twenty-fifth Ward's indoor agitation, last Sunday, November 25th, was a thorough success. Every seat was taken and many were turned away on account of not having chairs enough to seat them. The speakers, Comrades Collins, Mrs. May W. Kerr and Knox, were well received, as well as Miss Cleveland's song. Holmberg's orchestra furnished appropriate music, and all in all, the meeting was a great success. A collection of almost \$5 was taken up. The branch now having permanent quarters will hold indoor agitation meetings regularly during the winter, Sunday evenings at 7 p. m., and Thursday nights at 8 p. m. Next Sunday Walter Thomas, Mills will speak. Every body invited.

BUNDLES OF THE WORKERS' CALL.

100 copies 50 cents.
50 copies 25 cents.
25 copies 15 cents.
This offer is for bundles mailed to one address.

FOREIGN NEWS.

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

AUSTRIA.

The "Arbeiter Zeitung," the Socialist paper of Vienna, is indefatigable in calling attention to the importance of the elections now going on in Austria. The power of the Catholic clergy is very great, and so is their wealth. It is increasing, for since 1880 it is estimated that their possessions have increased from 224 millions (\$27,000,000), to 388 million dollars (\$39,000,000). This is not bad for people who only think of this world as a "dim vale of tears."

FRANCE.

Some time ago the minister of war sent back to their regiments some reactionary teachers at the French military school of St. Cyr. This seems to have opened the eyes of some of the generals, for the general in command of St. Cyr has actually told the officers there that France is a republic, and that officers should not ignore this fact. It is about time that they should realize that truth.

ENGLAND.

Keir Hardie, the Socialist who was recently elected to the British parliament, points out that the returns prove that socialism is making rapid progress in England. In ten constituencies the Socialist candidates at the recent elections polled an average vote of 3,729 against 1,527 votes each in the last general elections. This showing, in the face of the tremendous wave of jingoism, patriotism and imperialism worked up by the capitalists, is certainly remarkable, and indicates that the Britishers are well grounded in the faith.

ITALY.

The Socialists are the opponents of secret societies and attack especially in the south of Italy the Camorra and the Mafia. At Naples the local Socialist organ, the "Propaganda," accused a deputy Casale of pecculation, etc. He was supported by the Camorra and brought an action for libel against the paper, but after a sensational trial the judges—civil cases are in Italy not tried before a jury—have acquitted the editor. This shows that Socialists are increasing in power, for formerly the judges would not have dared to act against one of its chiefs.

The Italian government has prohibited the circulation of "El Socialista," the Spanish Socialist-paper in Italy.

SWITZERLAND.

In 1889 E. Bernstein was editing at Zurich a Socialist paper, as at that time it could not be edited in Germany. The German government would have liked to have had the paper suppressed, but as it could not do that it got the Federal Council to expel Bernstein from Switzerland. The Federal Council has now, however, cancelled that decree, and Bernstein can now go back to Switzerland if he likes—Jacques Bonhomme, in London "Justice."

FINDS A MARE'S NEST.

Chicago Tribune Makes a Discovery of An Exceedingly Common Type of "Anarchist"

The Chicago Tribune has at last discovered an Anarchist. One George De Leon, a wealthy property owner in the Klondike region is, according to that paper, about to start an Anarchist colony somewhere in California, and intends to devote his fortune to the carrying out of this scheme. In the recounting of his method of acquiring "property" George brings sufficient evidence of his right to the title of Anarchist. Here is what he says:

"I had just one nickel when I landed in Dawson, and that was not mine," he says. "It was given to me by a man on Stewart river to buy a postage stamp for the posting of a letter to his folks in Los Angeles. I started out to prospect for gold, but although I am a mineralogist by profession, I did not make a cent. IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT THE MINERS THEMSELVES WERE A PRETTY GOOD GOLD MINE. I RESOLVED TO LET THEM DO THE DIGGING, WHILE I PROFITED THROUGH BUSINESS CHANNELS."

There is no doubt but that the Tribune has got hold of the genuine article this time. And there are quite a number of the same type lying around loose in places much nearer than Dawson City.

It is not unlikely that if George's plan materializes it may "occur" to him, as it did in Dawson, that his colonists possess the same qualities which he found so advantageous in the miners. This suspicion is strengthened by a perusal of George's declaration in which he sets forth the qualifications necessary for admission to his prospective paradise. He wants co-operation to be "perfectly voluntary," and this is how he intends to get it:

"To insure a true solidarity it will be necessary to get only those families that will be congenial. To this end I shall employ expert phrenologists and physiologists to examine all applicants for admission to the colony."

There is to be not the "least sign of government," George tells us, but the applicants must depend for admission upon the verdict of George's board of examiners. If you are not "congenial" in the opinion of George and his hired employes you don't get in. This sort of thing sounds suspiciously like the "freedom of contract" we hear so much about in quarters where "anarchy" is distinctly repudiated.

We congratulate the Tribune on its discovery. It has unearthed a sure-enough "Anarchist" this time. But there are others.

LABOR ITEMS

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

Reports from various parts of the country state that the growth of trade unions continues steady, although business is somewhat slack.

Fifty new unions and thirty-five branches have been organized by the United Brewery Workmen during the last seventeen months. Others are organizing.

Fifteen hundred journeymen plumbers, employed by 115 firms in Pittsburgh, recently struck for uniform wages and a revision of the scale governing the trade.

Socialism will take your mother away from the wash-tub, your sister out of some other man's kitchen, and make her queen of her own home. Is it worth voting for?—Public Ownership.

Socialism is no longer the idle dream of a few cranks—it has taken a front seat in the political arena and from henceforth is a force that must be reckoned with. Where are you at, brother?

Now is it not about time for us to stop making political jackasses of ourselves? If we cannot be loyal to the principles of unionism at the polls can we be depended on in the lodge room? Galesburg Labor News.

New York Typographical union has abandoned its widely advertised co-operative farm, secured to make its unemployed members self-supporting, at Bound Brook, N. J. The experiment did not come up to expectations.

Gil Shanksin, the well-known Democratic leader of Indiana, rises to remark, after crawling from under the wreck, that "socialism seems to be the coming policy of government. If the Democratic party does not take it up, I believe there will be a new party."

"The American Economist, a Republican organ devoted to the protection of American labor and industries," figures out that it would take 20 cents to fill the "full dinner pail." That's rather a bare-faced acknowledgment of the sort of wages the Republican party believes American labor ought to get, says the Haverhill Social Democrat.

A western newspaper figures it out that the increase of wages in the hard coal region of Pennsylvania amounts to \$4,200,000 a year, while the increase in the price of coal, due to the advance of 50 cents a ton, further enriches the barons to the extent of \$7,000,000. So the coal barons are nearly \$23,000,000 in pocket at the end of the game. Who was the strike for, and who against?

According to the great English statistician, Mulhall, every worker in the United States adds \$7 to the wealth fund every day he works, says the Minneapolis union. The last census gives the wages of the workers \$275 per year, or about 90 cents per day. Now every attempt to insure the worker more than a 90-cent share of the \$7 he produces daily will be a shock to "business ability," and those who are pining for a greater share should take warning.

TRUTH LEAKS OUT.

How the "Civilized" Powers Avenge the Imaginary "Boxer" Atrocities.

If the people that read the capitalist press really had any brains or power of reasoning, or even memory, they would be in a pretty bad muddle over the Chinese situation. This is really so good an illustration of the continuous and systematic lying of the organs of capitalism that it is worth while taking a second look at. Several months ago the daily papers were filled with fearful photographs "taken on the spot" of the "horrible tortures" the Chinese were inflicting on the tortured, massacred, butchered, exterminated and generally wiped out missionaries and foreign representatives. Finally, when the troops had all been landed in China, and Pekin was captured it was found that all these many times killed individuals were still in pretty good health. Then the troops that had been sent to carry the torch of civilization to these benighted heathen proceeded to illustrate what their home newspapers meant by torture. They outraged women, killed old men and women and children, pillaged non-combatants and inflicted horrible sufferings upon those who did not at once yield to their will. Rivers were choked with dead, whole villages wiped off the map; long rows of peaceful citizens were stood up before their open graves and shot to death, and in general an exhibition was given, on a colossal scale, of what occasionally breaks out in this country in a "nigger hunt." But meantime all the riptile press of America was telling how this was being done to preserve the integrity of the Chinese empire, while now and then some servile religious organ would send forth a lot of cant about carrying the gospel into new fields. But all the time we were assured that the United States would never be a party to any division of China. Now all at once comes the word that our capitalist rulers had all along selected Amoy and the surrounding territory as the portion they proposed to have. It might be pointed out that this is nice and handy to the Philippines, and if it was not for the high moral character of the war to free Cuba we might suggest that perhaps Amoy was in sight when Admiral Dewey was sent to Manila to "free Cuba."

Send in a club of ten this week

AS 'TIS WITH US TODAY.

One hundred happy families Sailed out from Boston Bay, To form a colony upon An island far away. They called themselves good Christian men, Especially the ten Who knew the tricks of politics; The rest were workmen.

Arrived at last, they shout for joy, For, lying far and nigh, A very paradise, indeed For them to occupy. The preacher knelt upon the shore And thanked the Lord in prayer; For more than all could use, he saw Profusely growing there.

The lawyer urged a government Be formed with care and speed; Protecting industry and thrift From avarice and greed. That early prejudice might keep The workmen contented; Proposed the form of that at home, To which they all consented.

For president and congressmen The banker found a way To nominate the men himself, As bankers do today. A man that he could use he planned For presidential shelf; For congressmen, he named the judge, The lawyer and himself.

The vote is cast, and, strange to say, His scheme is not suspected; As 'tis with us, the banker's friends Were speedily elected. No one was sent to represent The ninety workmen; Whose votes would indicate that they Preferred to serve the ten.

When congress met, the lawyer rose, With features smooth and bland, Presenting laws which he himself Could never understand. The terms and phrases he employed, As he could well foresee, Were good for many a legal fight And many a legal fee.

The judge admitted them the best The mind of man could frame; For he could see the point himself, And reasoned much the same. Five strong and healthy men were called From useful occupation, To form an army, it was said, To guard against invasion.

The banker next proposed a law To aid the workmen; And this is how he reasoned out The great financial plan: "Please, gentlemen, through gold alone, Can they receive their due; 'Tis well worth its weight in gold, And good in Europe, too."

But, being scarce, we'll split it out With notes; and I'll consent On good security to loan The same at ten per cent. His will is law; and then they pass His next by acclamation, Which bids the colony to build Some roads for transportation.

Three-fourths of all the land they give The banker for his own; For use of notes at ten per cent, They printed him to loan. The roads were built by workmen, And they receive as pay— Enough to buy their food and clothes, As workmen do today.

To use the roads they build themselves The workmen must borrow The banker's note at ten per cent, And pay it back tomorrow. As 'tis with us, the crafty ten Was fat, yet naught produced; By stealing from the workmen Their toll, through law's abuse.

Grown desperate, when nearly starved, They rose, demanding bread; As 'tis with us, the army came And left a dozen dead. "Dear friends, repent, and be content,"

The well-fed preacher said: "God wills it so, but you may be Rewarded when you're dead." But they began to think themselves, And next election day Protested at the ballot box And swept the gang away. The vicious laws are all repealed, The army then disbanded, New laws are passed which give to all Free use of roads and land.

All means of distribution, now, Production, too, they speed, To own collectively, that none Be robbed through private greed. Bank notes and gold are worthless trash; The currency is labor; And none go naked now, or starve, Through schemes of some rich neighbor.

Together they will plan and toil, Together stand or fall; And, like the early Christian saints, There's plenty there for all. All strife and rivalry has ceased, All useless occupation; And all have ample leisure now, And bliss co-operation.

No one is dreading future want, Or destitute condition; Nor e'en the banker now would wish To vote for competition. The priest alone will not admit His early dogmatism; Because the name, the horrid name He hates, is Socialism.

MORAL.

Behold, ye honest workmen, Yourselves, as in a glass; As ye elect the banker's gang, Who grind the working class. And ye may gain your freedom, too; May crush them like a feather; When ye begin to think yourselves And learn to vote together. —J. E. Nash.

A Recurring Swindle.

With tire some iteration there has just appeared the regular annual "exposure" of the fact that the coal delivered by the county agent to the poor is under weight and of inferior quality. Some newspaper will sell a few more copies, a few kindhearted individuals will feel a "throb of sorrow" and the coal contractor will keep right on with his ghouliah work of robbing the starving and freezing. But why complain about giving the finishing touch to the victim? The Socialist would stop the robbing further up the line where the laborers are being deprived of the wealth they produce.

That offer of ten three months subs for a dollar is still good.

Address by G. D. Herron

through the devouring of the weak, or through the devouring of those who are too noble to strike down their brothers.

Socialism must work out, in its propaganda, the needed synthesis between unity of program and individual liberty of thought and action.

As a Socialist, I believe I can be true to my comrades only by taking the position that I will let no man under the skies make me his personal enemy.

Socialists are not asking that old leaders get out of the way; for they recognize the long hardships which these leaders have undergone, and their noble pioneer service in the great cause.

Socialism as a Religion. Socialism needs no religion imposed upon it from without, and the less it has of such, the safer will be its course.

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struggle of man for liberty, an opportunity like unto that which the American political and religious situation now presents.

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- First Ward—Unity Building, 79 Dearborn street, Wednesday, December 3rd, 8 p. m.
- Second Ward—2212 Wabash Ave., Friday, December 7th, 8 p. m.
- Third Ward—251 Westworth Ave., Monday, December 9th, 8 p. m.

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Bricklayers Attention. All Socialist bricklayers are urged to attend the meeting at Bricklayers' Hall.

Peter Sissman Attorney at Law. Telephone Main 378. Suite 507, 100 Washington St.

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- CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF LOCAL CHICAGO, 59 N. Clark St., 1st and 3rd Tuesday; Sec. A. W. Lindgren, 1477 Roscoe St.