

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. 99.

CHICAGO, ILL., JANUARY 26, 1901.

PRICE ONE CENT

A TRIBUTE OF ENVY

Capitalist "Democracy" Alarmed for the Future.

SOCIALISM IS NOW A MENACE.

Its "Intolerant" Adherents Repulse the Political Advances of "Good Democrats."

Perhaps the most accurate measure of the progress made by the Socialist movement within the last few years is to be found in the venomous strictures passed upon its advocates by the Bourgeois capitalist politics, that decaying and disintegrating portion of the robber class, who find that exploitation can no longer be successfully carried on under the old shibboleths, but must perform ever become more naked and unashamed.

Consequently when the decrepit Chicago Chronicle in a lengthy and foolish editorial of January 15th, attempts to refurbish the stale and mildewed political deities of the Democratic party, known as "time-honored principles," and in the process pours out its vials of impotent wrath upon individual Socialists, and a "socialism" evolved entirely out of the ignorance or duplicity of its hired scribe, it unwittingly testifies to the strides made by the working class movement, which can be measured inversely by the amount of vituperation launched against it. As to the futile spite manifested in this production the Socialist can say "Let the galled jade wince."

The Chronicle endeavors to show that Mr. Bryan went much farther than any Democratic candidate should do, to "please the Socialists," and partially ascribes his defeat to this alleged attempt. Then follows an assertion that "democracy" and socialism are utterly antagonistic, a statement, which, keeping in mind the nature of the "democracy" championed by the Chronicle, will be admitted to the full by every Socialist. Then the usual lay figure labeled "socialism" is set up and pelted with chunks of political wisdom of the vintage of 1800. The dummy is then removed and a eulogy of democratic "principles" follows, in which it is asserted that every step in the "wonderful progress of the great republic" was due to a rigid adherence to those "principles." All the evils existing in the republic are to be attributed to socialism, with which an attempt is made to identify the Republican party. Democracy, it is stated, insists upon a return to "first principles, leaving the individual unhampered by laws devised in the interests of others." The dead and gone Democrats who announced these "principles" are stated to have known more of human nature than any Socialist that ever lived. They knew that socialism was an "exploded fallacy" when the foundations of this government were laid, and after examining all its claims rejected them as "at war with the progress of human society." The ignorance and arrogance of the Socialists is then rebuked in scathing terms, the last and heaviest indictment in the count being that no "Democrat" will be accepted in the Socialist ranks unless he becomes a Socialist—which is clear proof of the political narrowness and intolerance of the latter. Taken altogether this ridiculous production is as suggestive of the mental as of the political bankruptcy of the fossilized "democracy" for which the Chronicle stands sponsor.

To state that Mr. Bryan endeavored to "please the Socialists" during his race for the presidency is to do both that gentleman and the Socialists a flagrant injustice. Mr. Bryan, when asked point-blank, if he was a Socialist, answered with an unqualified negative, although the Chronicle did not consider it necessary to dilate upon this matter to any extent in its columns. On the contrary, it preserved silence upon that point, knowing perfectly well that an indistinct impression obtained amongst working class voters that Mr. Bryan was more or less of a Socialist. It would never do to annihilate an impression that might result in a large number of votes. But the Socialist papers, without exception, gave the matter the widest possible circulation, publishing Mr. Bryan's own letter upon the subject, upon every possible occasion.

The Chronicle makes the mistake of supposing that, like the other dupes of capitalism, the Socialists want to be "pleased," and that they hang upon the utterances of capitalist politicians as if political salvation was expected from that source. If Mr. Bryan had been more "radical" he might or might not have secured more votes, but his radicalism or lack of it was and is regarded by Socialists with absolute indifference.

"Democracy" of the Chronicle stripe, is declared to be irreconcilable with "socialism"—also of the Chronicle stripe—which it endeavors to identify with the Republican party. The latter, as is well known, invariably prefer the same charge against the Dem-

ocrats. "Where," says Karl Marx in the "Manifesto," "where is the party in opposition that has not been decried as communistic by the party in power; where the opposition that has not been hurled back the branding reproach of communism, against the more advanced opposition parties, as well as against its reactionary adversaries?" Long ago Socialists have arrived at the conclusion that socialism is antagonistic to both.

The "unhampered individual" which the Chronicle says is a product of "first principles," flourishes at present mostly in the Republican party, and is there known as a great capitalist, financier, magnate, plutocrat, or other term of like significance. When "laws were devised in the interest of others," these parties always took good care to be amongst the "others," just for the reason that they were "unhampered" and could get there. The dummy "Socialist" who figures in the editorial columns of capitalist journals is often represented as saying: "Let us all divide up, and start fair again." It would seem as if the Chronicle type of "democracy" is willing to appropriate the fantastic garb of its own especial "Socialist" marionette. If the Democrats who announced these "first principles" examined every claim that could be put forward in behalf of socialism, and rejected them, as the Chronicle says they did, they certainly overlooked the fact that the operation of the "principles" would develop an "unhampered individual" who would ultimately negate them and become "socialistic" (in the Chronicle sense of the word), just because he was "unhampered."

The authors of these first principles "rejected" socialism for the same reason that they "rejected" the doctrine of evolution, the electric telegraph, the telephone, and the X rays. Their ignorance of socialism acquits them of responsibility—the ignorance of the Chronicle (whether real or pretended), upon the same subject, is nothing short of criminal.

But what the Chronicle does know perfectly well and is too cowardly and cunning to declare openly, is that these "first principles" are based entirely upon the right of private property in the means of production and distribution, and that it was to acquire "property" mainly, that the individual was to be left "unhampered." It knows well enough that laws always were, and are now, not evolved from abstract principles, but from the material and economic interests of a dominant class.

It is by no means wonderful that the Socialist should appear "arrogant" to the advocates of a philosophy which has wrought its own negation, and which the latter are too ignorant to perceive. There is no doubt but that the astrologer referred to his successor the astronomer, as a very overbearing individual, but his complaint was impotent to rehabilitate the lost virtues of the sign, sigil and horoscope, notwithstanding the undoubted fact that astrology had, like capitalism, "a more or less successful existence for centuries," to quote the words of the Chronicle.

As for the intolerance displayed by Socialists in debarring from their movement "good Democrats" who are "willing to please," even though the latter approach the arrogant ones in an "honest, manly, and open" manner, it is probable that this policy will be adhered to, at least until "human nature is changed." But why should not the Democratic party, or rather, that wing of it represented by the Chronicle, set us an example of liberality in this respect? Let them approach the Bryan faction in the same manner, and we will regulate our future political hospitality by the reception accorded them there.

In devoting its editorial columns to the discussion of what it is pleased to term "socialism," the Chronicle unwittingly pays a tribute to the growth of the real movement, and at the same time exposes its dread of the economic future, and the unadmitted capitalism for which it has decided to stand, when the inevitable issue becomes distinct. If the faction it represents is successful in "reorganizing" a few more years of a dummy capitalist party may be expected. If not, a "radical" party will take its place, and the advocates of "first principles" will sneak into the Republican camp, assured that if they are "willing to please," the latter will be less scrupulous about their admission than the Socialists. This they did partially in the last election, and are now preparing in case of failure, to make the exodus complete. In that temple of advanced capitalism they can readily bury their political deities and worn-out "first principles" and go in for whatever exploitation may fall to their share in the general plunder of the working class. The capitalist Non may, perhaps, need the services of a Jackal in the near future.

A German philosopher once cynically referred to an acquaintance as "a young man with a promising past." No better description (youth excluded), could be given of the "democracy" represented by the Chronicle, with its stilted and shop-worn political abstractions and its continual harking back to the discredited and antiquated philoso-

"RIGHTEOUS" WRATH

A "Good Man's" Protest Against the Coming of Socialism.

"TRAMPS AND BUSYBODIES."

Cheering of Socialist Lecturer Moves a Sanctimonious Capitalist to Angry Abuse.

The cheering which greeted Geo. D. Herron's statement in Central Music Hall last Sunday, to the effect that socialism is coming, without regard to our liking, has evidently stirred up the ire of that valiant champion of the sweatshop, John V. Farwell, who thinks that socialism is not coming because he doesn't like it. In a spiteful letter to the Chicago Record of January 21st, he scores the audience for their appreciation of the lecturer's remarks by stating that the communism of the early church didn't extend to "tramps and busybodies," which shows that the scriptural knowledge even of a Sunday school superintendent has its limits.

If we remember rightly the parties that Christ sent out to proclaim his gospel were instructed not to take purse or scrip, more than one pair of shoes or one coat, and go into all the world with their message, relying upon the world for their entertainment and support. It would seem that individuals carrying out these instructions might without any particular straining of language be called "tramps," and doubtless the Farwells of that day did not scruple to designate them as such, or its equivalent, in whatever language they might happen to use. As for the "busybodies," if Mr. Farwell will open his testament at the Acts of the Apostles, he will find the following applied to the communistic Christians even before they had left Jerusalem: "They that have turned the world upside down have also come hither," a clear proof that the respectable, law-abiding citizens of that time did regard Christ's followers as office-mongers and upholders of old-established frauds and superstitions by which they profited, just as Mr. Farwell profits by the maintenance of the present order of things.

There were, however, some who were excluded from the Christian fraternity of those days, and we find them variously described as "Pharisees and hypocrites," highly respectable people who "demurred widow's houses and for a pretence made long prayers," gentlemen who blew trumpets in the market place when they gave "alms," and thanked the Lord that they were not sinners like the other fellow. These early Christians indeed seemed rather particular as to admission into their membership, rigorously excluding all who did not come up to the required specifications. Those who didn't want to assist them in "turning the world upside down" had no business in the community. On the whole, it is questionable if Mr. Farwell himself would not have been blackballed, had he attempted to break into the new society.

It is even related as an instance of the severity of these people, that upon one occasion two converts got themselves into very serious trouble with the community for the trivial offence of returning a false schedule of their property—their "sacred property" remember—and swearing thereto. Even the harmless, necessary capitalist tax-dodger would have fared badly at the hands of these zealots.

Mr. Farwell doesn't like any mention of the class struggle, and fastened the defeat of Bryan as the result of pitting one class of citizens against another. He states further that the victorious candidate proclaimed himself "the representative and servant of all classes, an assertion which if true, demonstrates that William McKinley possesses ability in a certain direction, of which, according to popular tradition, George Washington was deprived.

It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a man of the Farwell type to see anything outside of the material interests of his class, and neither Dr. Herron nor any other Socialist is surprised that this should be so. If Mr. Farwell doesn't like Dr. Herron's new church, he is at perfect liberty to stay outside, where the walling and knocking of teeth will shortly be in full blast. And seeing that Mr. Farwell has already commenced this performance, all Socialists will listen with pleasure to his efforts and never grudge him an encore.

The ticket of the United Socialists of Chicago, headed by John Collins, will go on the ballot this spring under the name SOCIALIST PARTY. Comrades should make it a point to impress this on Socialist voters not affiliated with the party. The Socialist Labor party and the Social Democratic party have nominated tickets, but the United Socialist ticket will be headed by the words SOCIALIST PARTY.

See that your subscription is renewed promptly.

FALSE COMPARISONS

Wages in Siam and in the United States Contrasted.

A CONSUL GENERAL'S REPORT.

Siamese Laborer Is Deprived of Everything That He Could Not Possibly Use.

The consul general at Bangkok, Siam, has been adding his mite to help along the pleasant delusion that the American laborer is vastly better off than the laborer of any other country. He cites the daily wages of Siamese workmen as between 20 and 50 cents per day, and then gives a list of prices of certain articles of food in Siam, which, if considered as "necessaries," would prove that the Siamese laborer was bound to perish of hunger in a week or so. Turkeys, bacon, butter, lard, coffee, canned goods, mutton and sugar, are mentioned at prices absolutely prohibitive to the Siamese laborer. The question then arises, how does the latter manage to exist at all?

The consul tells us further on, the Siamese laborer eats rice, fish, eggs, (which are said to be cheap), and simple vegetables. The other things he never gets, and the reader is left to infer that he wants them badly. We are further asked to commiserate his unhappy lot by learning that his only clothing is a loin cloth, that he has to eat his meals without a knife, fork or spoon, that he must sleep on a grass mat in a rough bamboo house, which does not (and this last is a terrible deprivation in the tropics), contain a stove.

As this stuff appears in the capitalist press, it has all the appearance of truth to the unwary reader. When the whole facts are known, however, the deductions which are left to be inferred from it are entirely false. European or American foods are not consumed by the Siamese laborer, for the reason that he does not require them. His clothing and bamboo house are adapted to his needs and to the climate of the country, and knives, forks and spoons are instruments that he no more needs than we need chop sticks in the United States. Like every other wage worker on the face of the earth, he gets the cost of his production on the average. It is safe to say, however, that he gets a far larger proportion of the wealth which he creates, than does the American laborer, but that comparison the consul, with true capitalist wisdom, does not venture to touch upon.

The "Idle Rich" as a Shield.

It will be consoling to the little capitalist who have been hurled into bankruptcy by the machinations of the Standard Oil company, to know that Mr. Rockefeller's daughter was married unostentatiously and without extravagance, and that his course in so doing has received the hearty commendation of the capitalist press. It would seem that capitalism is looking forward to the time when it may be forced to use the "idle rich" as a buffer against popular discontent, just as Uncle Russell Sage utilized his clerk as a shield to protect himself against the Anarchist's bomb. However, the Socialist knows that it is not so much the idleness of the capitalist parasite as his incurred liability which is responsible for the hellish social conditions that prevail today. They are not so concerned as to how the capitalist disposes of the wealth extracted from labor. The process by which he extracts it is the question in which Socialists are most interested.

A Phantom Umpire.

In presenting the merits of "compulsory arbitration" as practised in New Zealand, its advocate, Mr. Lusk, was careful to set at the recent conference in Steinway Hall, that the conditions existing in New Zealand were favorable to the operation of this law.

In discussing this question with some of the converts to the theory of "compulsory arbitration," it was asked whether similar conditions exist in the United States which would make the application of the "New Zealand plan" possible. To this inquiry we have never yet received an answer; the advocates of "compulsory arbitration" generally preferring to base their argument upon the assertion that this law should be put in operation because the "public" is inconvenienced by the constant disagreements between capitalists and laborers, and that their interests are more worthy of consideration than those of the two parties directly engaged in the dispute.

Let us see now who this "public" is, and whether it can be considered an impartial judge.

Is it not true that as a whole the public must and do take one side or the other? Do not the great and small business men of all kinds and as a rule their direct employes who imagine their interests are the same as their

bosses, take the side of the capitalist in these cases? And do not the laborers, especially those organized in unions and those whose employment is precarious, generally advocate the cause of the strikers, even when they are inconvenienced by the strike?

It is not difficult to see that in reality this "public" must take one side or the other in such controversy.

Let us take, for instance, any particular group of laborers who have a grievance which the employer refuses to redress. They go on strike and defy the man who gives them permission to live. They have wives and families who look to them for bread, meat, clothing, etc. Is it reasonable to suppose that they will resign themselves to inaction because they are told that there is a "public" who must not be inconvenienced, and that they should therefore starve quietly?

This "public" is in reality a bogeyman created by the capitalist press, a mere subterfuge used to excite enthusiasm for any measure which the capitalist class desire, or to destroy it, as the case may be.

The striking laborers correctly consider their wants of more importance than the alleged inconvenience which their action is said to impose upon this fictitious public. Their instincts are as true as those of Vanderbilt, who consigned this phantom to damnation when asked to consider its interests.

No third party labeled "public" exists which stands in an impartial attitude towards the conflicts between laborers and capitalists. The class struggle leaves no residue outside its influence. It involves all society. There is no room for arbitration, compulsory or otherwise, while it rages, as the union men will ultimately discover. If their present demands were conceded it would only stimulate further demands, and just because the capitalist recognizes this, he stubbornly opposes any concession. The militant Socialist knows that there is not and cannot be any permanent middle ground upon which exploiter and exploited can meet in harmony, and never ceases to point out the folly of arbitration in consequence.

The Campaign Fund.

Comrades and Friends:—In response to the call for campaign funds, up to the present, no substantial returns have been received.

The fact is now clear that the coming campaign will be carried on from the capitalist side in a most deceptive manner.

The Republican press, representing the large capitalists, being assured of their certain triumph, now claim that ANY MAN, irrespective of party affiliation, so long as he is the proper candidate—is their candidate—be he Republican or Democrat.

An effort will be made to show that "municipal ownership" is the issue—twenty years from now. We want to discuss the ISSUES OF THE DAY—right now.

To do so properly, that is to carry on a campaign, MONEY IS NEEDED, and YOU WHO BELIEVE IN SOCIALISM must furnish it. Otherwise the campaign cannot be conducted.

Waiting to hear from you promptly, we remain

Fraternally,
The Executive Committee,
Per. R. A. Morris.

Attention, Socialists!

Notice! At the Workers' Call Ball held recently in Brand's hall, a few of the wives and daughters of our Socialist members prepared an excellent supper, which, besides the satisfaction and pleasure it gave to those who partook of it, netted some \$30 for the Workers' Call.

These lady comrades now propose to arrange an entertainment for the purpose of affording the Socialists a pleasant gathering, and again rendering financial assistance to the Workers' Call.

For this purpose a meeting of all wives, daughters, sisters, mothers and friends of Socialists will be held at 52 N. Wells street, on January 29th at 8 p. m.

In publishing this announcement, the management of the Workers' Call take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of the money above mentioned as the proceeds of the supper at Brand's hall, and wish to thank heartily each and every one who assisted there, in any manner whatever. Our cooperation in the future efforts of our lady comrades to aid this paper and the Socialist movement, is assured.

Knew What He Was After.

"Your majesty," said the right-hand man of the native king, "there is a missionary working his way along the coast."

"Well, we don't want any trouble," said the king. "Ask him if his people won't be satisfied with a coaling station."—Ex.

The General Committee of the Socialist party meets Saturday, February 2nd, 8 p. m., at Koch's Hall, 104 E. Randolph street. All delegates are urged to be present.

More subscribers are always wanted.

Socialist Pointers

Don't worry about union; as the rank and file favor union, it is only a question of time.

Do not answer a fool according to his folly. Send him some literature and he may get over it.

If you have not sent in a subscriber this week turn over a new leaf and send in two next week.

Why should you expect anything of the legislature? The gas trust nominated it; you only elected it.

Wouldn't it be a refreshing change if you could elect a Socialist alderman from your ward this spring?

If the workmen do not vote and work for John Collins it is a cinch that the bankers and lawyers will not.

If the workmen can be induced to read the Socialist doctrine we can elect the next president of the United States.

Strangers who visit Chicago with money in their pockets will find that vice is still doing business at the old stand.

The way the New Jersey comrades are doing business it looks as if the octopus was to be given a run in his home county.

The thing for Chicago to do this spring is roll up a Socialist vote that will make the other cities ashamed of themselves.

Eternal truth is bound to win if you keep shoving it under a man's nose. It is the constant pounding away that makes Socialists.

It doesn't look quite fair to increase the pay of congressmen at a time when the wages of all other trust employes are being cut down.

The capitalists ought to be pointing out about this time that no workingman has a right to kick as long as he can get a job cutting ice.

You can just bet your old hat that Carnegie will not die rich if he postpones his dying until after the Socialists are in control of the world.

It would certainly be ungrateful on the part of the children of workingmen to cry for bread while their fathers were out working for municipal ownership.

California and Florida winter resorts are crowded as never before, but who can blame the workingmen for taking advantage of prosperity for a winter jaunt?

The banker who has a fit every time he thinks about the single tax theories probably would not be able to sleep nights if someone should tell him about socialism.

Does the workingman realize that it is as important that his candidate should bear the union label as that his cigars and his shoes should be so adorned?

A ticket to the Dunning insane asylum will be given as a premium for the best reason why a workingman should vote for a business-man's candidate for mayor.

Of course you cannot legislate brains into the heads of the workingman, but if he would only use those he has you could no longer legislate dollars out of his pockets.

When workingmen understand socialism it is not necessary to bribe them with cigars or beer to vote for it, neither can they be bought with money to vote against it.

If 1,000 Socialists would resolve to send in one subscriber a week, they could double the usefulness of the Workers' Call in a few weeks. Will you be one of the thousand?

The fact that a new Socialist paper is started somewhere about every week probably means that socialism is an idle dream and that the present order of things will continue forever.

Probably the reason the Belgian Hare receives better treatment than the average workingman's children, is that the hare uses his brains and takes advantage of his opportunities.

The real campaign against vice, which has for its object the complete overthrow of the capitalist system, is not receiving any considerable amount of aid from loud-voiced reformers.

Does it tire you to think? If so, don't read this paper—it will surely make you tired.

(Continued on page 4.)

THE WORKERS' CALL.

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ADVERTISEMENTS. A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted.

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. To secure the return of unneeded manuscripts postage should be enclosed.



THESE BE THY GODS, O ISRAEL.

No opportunity is ever neglected by the capitalist press to inculcate the idea that human progress depends upon the existence of a few individuals who are either, to slightly alter a well-known phrase, "born great, achieved greatness or have had greatness thrust upon them."

With the character of any particular individual the Socialist is not specially concerned. For the aged lady who has just passed away he has neither praise nor blame.

During the illness of Victoria, we were informed that her death would mean an "incomparable disaster" to Great Britain.

In order to bolster up this false impression of individual importance another must be invented which will serve as a complement to the first.

It is not, however, our intention to deny that no significance whatever is to be attached to the death of individuals.

tion is by the death of the Queen, will, we think, be universally admitted. The assassinated president took vastly more part in national affairs than Victoria.

The ostensible "ruler" of Britain was not responsible to any particular extent for either the good or evil which befel the country during her reign.

The capitalist class understand thoroughly that when society no longer considers them indispensable, their rule draws to a close.

THE TWO "DEMOCRACIES."

Not so long ago the henchmen of the capitalist political parties were wont to allude to socialism as a foreign importation which could never take root upon American soil.

But as was inevitable, this period was destined to pass away, when the home market no longer afforded sufficient scope for the growth of capitalist enterprise.

Our "captains of industry" were forced by economic necessity to mingle in the great world-wide commercial struggle, the economic and political institutions of our possible rivals and customers at once became an object worthy of study.

A survey of things political in Europe showed them that an idea of "democracy" existed in many European countries, which was by no means based upon phrases and abstractions.

So serious appears the outlook that the would-be reorganizers of capitalist "democracy" at least confess that the question of whether the Democratic party will return to so-called "first principles" or become avowedly "socialist" like the democracy of Europe.

On looking over the situation one thing is at least certain, viz.: that the ostrich-like policy of ignoring socialism is no longer possible, and is in fact

natural, the weaker wing of political capitalism has been first to make the avowal. As it still asserts, however, that the "principles" upon which capitalist "democracy" relies are invincible as against socialism, we await with confidence their appearance in the intellectual arena.

Another "Trust" Remedy.

It seems that the theatrical trust is still in its preliminary stages and is yet amenable to discipline when properly applied.

"I have invariably been silent with regard to my MOST ABHORRENT PERSONAL EXPERIENCES with the trust and with those New York newspapers which are devoted exclusively to the interests of the trust."

But the cub is still growing, and shows no sign of reform. Those "low and vulgar acts" which annoy Mrs. Fisk so much, are necessary to secure adequate returns for the capital invested in "art" by the "six little Hebrews" and Mrs. Fisk may rest assured that she will hear more regularly and more often from them in the future.

A Trained Performer.

It is said that the late P. D. Armour knew the value of an animal as well, if not better, than any other man in Chicago.

"Seeds of ANARCHY are sown in the saloons. As long as there is no meeting-place provided for the masses they will meet in the saloons. We will never meet these people until we meet them in the large hall of the schoolhouse. There democracy will strangle SOCIALISM."

The "ass knoweth his master's crib" and that is about the limit of his knowledge, but the well-trained spaniel often develops an intelligence that is positively startling.

Irish Socialist Organ.

We learn that the newly formed "Workers' Publishing Company" have taken over the business of printing and publishing the Workers' Republic, the official organ of the Irish Socialist Republican party.

It will be a twelve-page paper, and each issue will contain besides its usual features, a complete work on socialism which will afterwards be published in pamphlet form.

A Blessed Vision.

There were two of them, says the Record of January 22, and this is what brought them there:

There were two great audiences at the Illinois theatre last night. Society, composing one, gathered to see Sarah Bernhardt at the opening of her two weeks' engagement.

Another plan for the regeneration of humanity has come to grief. The Citizens' League of Chicago, organized in 1877, for the purpose of straightening out some of the ungainly kinks in our social system by the suppression of the sale of liquor to minors.

Some of the ward branches have established a regular system of selling Workers' Call postals. This is the most important work a branch can do.

Get your neighbor to read the Call.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

Andrew Carnegie is out with another of his usual screeds upon the "disgrace of dying rich." Whether Andrew divests himself of his property or not, before departing this life, he will at least have the consolation of knowing that his efforts have been fruitful in preventing many of his competitors from dying "disgraced."

Amongst the many wondrous stories of Roosevelt's hunting tour in Colorado, the latest to hand is that a pack of wolves compelled Teddy to shin up a tree and remain there for several hours.

We cannot truthfully say that we have noticed any perceptible improvement in the lot of the working class since John R. Tanner yielded the governorship of this state to his successor.

A clever cartoon appears in the Tribune of the 19th inst., in which the two ex-presidents, Harrison and Cleveland, are represented as weeping copiously over the future outlook for the republic.

The Moving Finger writes, and, having writ, Moves on; nor all your Piety nor Wit Shall lure it back to cancel half a line, Nor all your Tears wash out a Word of it.

All of which is quite true, but nevertheless the time is rapidly coming when the interests of which the Tribune is an exponent will, figuratively speaking, weep as impotently as the two reactionaries which they now hold up to ridicule.

"Municipal ownership" has been made plain by the mayor of Chicago and the business men. The city waterworks which, in spite of the corruption connected with its management, has at least been an illustration of how a public utility can be served at cost it is now proposed to bond for \$3,000,000, in order to provide funds for lowering the tunnels and improving the harbor.

The National Building Trades Council at its recent convention voted to send a committee to Chicago for the purpose of settling the lockout. The contractors insist that there is nothing to settle, nor if the members of the building trades would do themselves justice let them elect John Collins as mayor of Chicago, and see how quickly the contractors would reconsider the matter.

The death of Queen Victoria gives her successor a good job, but it is not probable that he will hold it as long as she did. The British workmen may in the meantime come to their senses and abolish the office.

The indignation of the Czar of Russia against Germany and England for cruelty practised on the Chinese is a sign that another massacre of Celestials upon the Russian border is about due, leading to the annexation of another slice of Chinese territory to the dominions of the Czar. The Chinese are up against it for certain.

The fact that the Bible trust has been organized doesn't dismay us to any extent as we secured a copy some time ago and feel safe in consequence, but alas! how will it fare with the Chinese and other races who are yet to be "saved."

Alderman Raymer is in favor of city ownership of the rails and the leasing of the privilege of operating the cars to private enterprise. He fears the corrupting influence of city operation, which is a candid confession from a city alderman.

In the discussion of "vice" which occurred at the recent meeting of the Sunset club, Mr. C. S. Darrow very properly stated that "if everybody had work at living wages vice would disappear. He forgot to add, however, that living wages never will be paid while the instruments of production remain private property and are operated for profit."

CIRCULATION NOTES.

Comrade Knox, of Richmond, Va., sends us a sub and says: "The party is blessed in having such a journal, invariably sound in scientific socialism."

Comrade O'Neal, of Terre Haute, Ind., writes: "Enclosed find 50 cents for one year's sub to the Workers' Call for a comrade who, on seeing a copy, was pleased with its style."

Comrade Max Blank, of Salt Lake City, Utah, sends us a club of seven half-yearly and one yearly subscriptions, and adds: "Four years ago in Utah we polled 60 votes. Last election we polled 730 votes."

The secretary of the Fourth Ward branch, (may his tribe increase), sends us a check for \$5.50 to pay for six yearly and ten half-yearly subscriptions—this the result of only a few hours' hustling. It is to be hoped that other comrades will follow the example of the secretary of the Fourth Ward branch, and do similar yeoman service for the cause.

The circulation editor has his eyes wide open and does not intend to be surprised any more. The mail from Rock Island Tuesday morning brought in a perfect shower of Call postals. We know all about it. The comrades down at Rock Island have been agitating again, and Comrade Nary has been at his nefarious work of roping in the innocent. But that is all right. We have our eyes on the comrade from Rock Island, and if he sends in another order for Call postals we will see that he meets with a warm reception.

The comrades at Muscatine, Ia., are still campaigning. Comrade Charles L. Breckon, late candidate for congress in the second district of Iowa writes: "The many readers of The Call may be interested in what we are doing in Iowa, and I enclose you two pages of the Journal giving my article and the reply thereto by the proprietor, who seems to have been hit, but cannot succeed in hitting anything back. The cause is moving on. Our candidate for congress in this district (the second), polled nearly 1,000 votes, and the work is going on nicely. The Workers' Call is much appreciated here, and we are full of enthusiasm for the cause."

A committee consisting of Comrades Gilbert, Allen, Strickland, Anderson and Brennan, were appointed to see that petitions were distributed and use their best efforts to get the collection of signatures. A motion by Comrade Smith that a collection be taken up and the proceeds in excess of the hall rent be donated to the Workers' Call, was carried unanimously, and in the collection which followed \$8 was realized, which, after deducting \$1 for hall rent, left the proceeds \$7 for The Call.

For Supervisor—Geo. D. Evans, 17 Fowler street, 17th ward. For Clerk—Chas. E. Chibborn, 170 Johnson avenue, 15th ward. For Collector—Geo. J. Sindelar, 1133 S. Albany avenue, 16th ward.

BOOK REVIEWS.

SCIENCE AND THE WORKINGMEN. by Ferdinand Lassalle. Translated by Thorstein Veblen, of the University of Chicago. Paper, 25 cents. International Library Publishing Co., 23 Duane St., New York.

The contents of this work form the defence of Ferdinand Lassalle against a prosecution undertaken by the Prussian government, who arrested the famous agitator on the charge of seditiously inciting the unpropertied classes to contempt and hatred of the wealthy. The occasion of the offense was an address delivered by Lassalle before a working class audience, the address in question being the well-known "Workmen's Programme." The trial took place on January 16th, 1863, and the defendant, to the everlasting shame of the Prussian government, was found guilty and sentenced to four months' imprisonment, although Lassalle in his defense literally tore the fabricated indictment to shreds. The wonderful genius of the celebrated agitator is fully brought out in the published account of the speech made by him on this occasion which forms the contents of this work. Those who wish to get a comprehension of the extraordinary talent of Lassalle in oratory, debate, satire, and depth of knowledge, cannot do better than purchase it.

THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO, by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels.

International Publishing Co., 38 Turk St., San Francisco, Cal. Paper, 10 cents; red cloth, gold lettering, 25 cents.

We are well satisfied to see another edition of this, the most powerful document in the entire range of Socialist literature, make its appearance. The "Manifesto" we have always contended, was not sufficiently known and appreciated amongst American Socialists generally, and we are glad to see that another opportunity is afforded, by the merits of this famous pamphlet may become more widely known. The International Publishing Company have done their work well, as the pamphlet, both in appearance and typography, is all that could be desired. The work is in every sense complete and the remarkable preface written by Engels forty years after the first appearance of the "Manifesto" is included. Its sale should be vigorously pushed everywhere.

Not So Ignorant.

It is thought that Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan may have the entire output of the Anthracite coal region, handled through a single agency. And yet Mr. Morgan does not know that he is a Socialist.—Chicago American.

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.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Minnesota Victory.

Editor the Workers' Call.—At the local election held here on January 8th, Warren W. Morse, who was candidate for presidential elector on the S. D. ticket from this state in the late campaign, was nominated for alderman by the Socialists of the Second Ward, and elected by a majority of 21 votes, there being 43 votes cast all told.

Let us take an example for other towns. Nominate your men on the Socialist ticket, and elect them if possible and do something for workmen of your town every time you get a chance. A city board of officers has many opportunities to help the laboring men in their fight for a sustenance under this capitalist system, and if those officers are Socialists they will do so, and if not, they will not do so.

In every town legislation is carried on in the interest of the capitalists or property owners at the expense of the proletarian, just the same as in the higher tribunals, such as legislatures, etc.

Workingmen should unite with the Social Democratic party, which is the only party declaring for class legislation in his favor.

Warren W. Morse. Granite Falls, Minn., Jan. 18, 1901.

West Town Convention.

Chicago, January 26, 1901. Dear Comrade:—As secretary of the West Town convention, held at Aqua Pura hall, 186 W. Jackson street, on Wednesday eve, January 16th, I have been instructed to submit a report to you for publication, which follows:

Comrade F. G. Strickland was unanimously elected to act as chairman. A committee on credentials composed of Comrades Smiley, Brennan and Gilbert was appointed, and reported delegates present representing nine wards, as follows: 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 18th, 28th, (about 35 delegates in all). The following comrades were nominated by acclamation as candidates for the West Town offices:

For Supervisor—Geo. D. Evans, 17 Fowler street, 17th ward.

For Clerk—Chas. E. Chibborn, 170 Johnson avenue, 15th ward.

For Collector—Geo. J. Sindelar, 1133 S. Albany avenue, 16th ward.

A committee consisting of Comrades Gilbert, Allen, Strickland, Anderson and Brennan, were appointed to see that petitions were distributed and use their best efforts to get the collection of signatures. A motion by Comrade Smith that a collection be taken up and the proceeds in excess of the hall rent be donated to the Workers' Call, was carried unanimously, and in the collection which followed \$8 was realized, which, after deducting \$1 for hall rent, left the proceeds \$7 for The Call.

Yours fraternally, John H. Gillespie, Editor the Workers' Call.

From Springfield, Mass.

To All Socialists of the United States:—Comrades:—For your information, I inform you that vote blanks on unity proposition have been sent out to all locals of our party, branches affiliated with the N. E. S. sections of the S. L. P., and all neutral organizations of which I had addresses. A copy was also sent to the convention held last week, in order to get the opinion of all Socialists on this question of union. I request all who have received copies of the above to bring same before the meeting of their respective organizations and have same acted upon.

At this time I take pleasure in acknowledging receipt of all such communications, in the party press, in order to save time and correspondence.

Any unaffiliated comrade or independent organization can have blanks by writing to me for them.

In behalf of Socialist unity I request all comrades to take upon themselves the duty of seeing to it that Socialist organizations of either of the other parties in the city or town are informed that a communication on unity has been sent to each of their members, to be submitted to the organization at its next meeting, and in the event of any such organization failing to receive a copy, please notify me and I will send blanks at once.

Now for one grand effort to secure complete unity of all Socialists of this country. Wm. Butcher, Nat'l. Sec'y. —January 18th, 1901.

Wants the Name "Socialist."

Editor Workers' Call:—The action which the Socialists of Chicago and Oklahoma have taken in regard to a party name appears to me to be a very sensible one. Simplicity is a virtue in every avenue of human activity and in no place could it render better results than in the Socialist movement. Furthermore, the word "Democratic," as used among the workers of this country virtually includes the principles and policy of the Democratic party of this country, which is as much of an enemy to our cause as the Republican party, and I am sure no Socialist would be willing to adopt the name "Socialist Republican party." I think that the Socialists of Chicago and Oklahoma have set a good example by reducing the name to a minimum, and if followed by other Socialist organizations the result would be more than satisfactory. The word Democratic connected with the Socialist movement causes confusion among the illiterate than the ordinary Socialist is aware of. Personally, I am willing to abide by any name given to the movement, but I do not think that we should cease agitating the subject until the name "Socialist party" is adopted by our national organization.

Yours fraternally, Albert Strout, —Davenport, Wash., January 16, 1901.

The Workers' Call is the organ of the SOCIALIST PARTY.

Get your neighbor to read the Call.

Conservation of Ignorance

Some Popular Objections to Socialism Analysed, Considered and, Refuted.

Appropos Father McGrady's letter of recent appearance in the Workers' Call on the attitude which the Catholic church must take on socialism sooner or later, it might be well to consider some of the objections, real or fancied, which people engaged in modern religious work urge against the Socialist theory.

Back in the old days when education was in its infancy, or rather education, so far as masses were concerned, and only a few people in each community were able to read and write. It must have been the custom to coin phrases to serve the interests of the educated as against the ignorant, for even to this day some of these phrases are in use, and served up to good purpose by cunning ones who know the tenacity with which the ignorant cling to old traditions. One of these sayings from the Latin, "mundus vult decipi," (the world wishes to be deceived), illustrates the fact of the possibility of coining a phrase which is itself deceptive to its authors but which nevertheless serves their purpose. The same principle which underlies the successful working of that deception works today under an unwritten phrase, which, if written, would read: "the world wishes to be enlightened." Before that which was supposed to be a desire for deception, but which was in reality a desire for enlightenment, was taken advantage of to deceive, and today that which is known to be a desire for enlightenment is taken advantage of to deceive. Thus, while the presence of the masses here and their needs constitutes a field in which the inventor, the magician, the priest, the politician, the author, etc., can profitably engage, they also constitute, on account of their curiosity for knowledge, a field in which the newspapers can ply their trade of deception and falsification in the interests of their owners' class. As we know, this opportunity is taken advantage of fully, and the falsification carried to such an extent that the majority of the masses is in such ignorance of its true interest, that when such interests are clearly explained to them, they cannot realize that they have gotten the truth elsewhere than from the moulders of public ignorance—the daily press of capitalism. It is not strange then that men sufficiently educated to belong to the ministry are imbued with the popular ignorance, and raise objections, which are groundless, against socialism.

And just here we can bring up a phrase from the French which peculiarly fits the Socialist movement, "ce n'est que le premier pas qui compte." (It is only the first step which is difficult.) This first step includes the clearing away from the minds of the masses all the accumulated deception of the past and nourishing that yearning for truth, which has been prostituted to greed by false teachings, with the teachings of truth. Then, now, while we are in this first step, is our need for those who are fitted to enlighten the great masses of the ignorant, greater. And as this ignorance is cleared away the difficulties will lessen, for among the masses who acquire the truth, numerous geniuses will spring up and guide that truth to perfection in application. Therefore, those who stay out simply because of the idea that a movement should first of all give assurance definitely as to how and where it is to be consummated, are held in the meshes of acquiescence to false traditions, whose refutation should quickly teach them that the same thing is true of the masses, and that it is the very thing which is the chief obstacle to the progress of the race.

Most of the objections that are essayed are against an imaginary socialism which is exploited eagerly by the capitalist press and pulpit, to spread a false theory in harmony with the deceptive purposes of those who profit by its spread. Ignorant preachers, who are anxious to toady to capitalism, quoting from the knowledge they gain of this false theory of socialism, are given the widest hearing by the press, from which they draw their inspirations, and their objections are commented upon favorably, no matter how foolish they may be. Altogether they form a cycle of falsehoods within which truth cannot enter, but from which every element of truth finding itself out of harmony, drops out. This dropping out process, however, is proceeding at such a rate that most of what is left is composed of the most ignorant and disgusting of the pulpit fraternity.

But there are some objections which are prompted by a desire to be enlightened, and to some of these it will be the endeavor now to make clear replies.

First, there is the statement that if private ownership of property is denied it would amount to public slavery. Then there is the belief that under socialism, as now, the smart and cunning ones would dupe the ignorant. Again, the well-known fact that most men now work better when employed by others than when working for themselves is urged. The fear that we purpose going too far, not taking the weaknesses of human nature into consideration, is expressed. Our demand that children be fed and provided with clothing so that there may be no bar to compulsory education, is criticized as

leading to the point of taking babies from their mothers.

To take up the first objection: we may say that instead of amounting to slavery, the disappearance of private property would have the effect of abolishing the slavery which now exists. The mistaken notion is prevalent that property of all kinds is included, when the demand for the abolition of private property is spoken of, but it will be well for those who have this idea of the matter, to exercise a little common sense, for no man would be in favor of relegating his clothing, comb, pipe and tooth brush to the state, and as these are about all the great majority now possess, it can be depended upon that they will not let even these go out of their possession. No, it is private property in capital, in the means of producing and distributing all of the things which all mankind need, that is to be abolished. It will be admitted that these means are now in the hands of an insignificant number of people, and if anyone is so ready to cry out, "slavery," why, now is the time to speak of it, for the property of the countless has been confiscated by the few by the present system, and the countless are slaves! Socialists are for bettering conditions, and the better conditions are, the less of slavery there can be. The present system of slavery began when the machine displaced the artisan. Owning his tools, no man could take his product. But the competition of the machine confiscated his tools and he became a slave to the owners of the machine, for the conditions under which he was hired were that he give up part of his product as profit for his employer. The only way to have averted slavery, was for the workers then to demand common ownership in the machines which displaced their tools, so that they could still be masters of their product, but they were too powerless and ignorant to accomplish such ownership, and the bitter experience which all workers have passed through in that slavery is teaching them that now, as at the beginning, the only remedy for that slavery is common ownership. In order that this common ownership may come, a majority must be in favor of it, and when it comes, the fact that a majority have the intelligence to bring it about, precludes the probability of their being duped by the cunning. They will have disposed of the cunning ones' chief instrument, and they will have to learn to work and live honestly.

The fact that men work best when employed by others, is a point in favor of socialism, for it shows that most men, even now, are in favor of doing their share of work when the work is systematized. Men working for themselves in an age of association of efforts constitute anomalies, and that they fall is proof that organization is best. The fact that now the organizations are in the hands of individual proprietors, while the employe has no voice in the establishment, is not the reason of the workman working better, as most people giving the matter superficial thought imagine, but the reason is simply because the work is systematized. Workmen preferring systematized labor and having a voice in the arrangement would be most likely to see to it that the system was the best possible, and that is what they will do under socialism. Now, the credit for the benefits of organization is given to the individual owners, while the principle itself is the cause of the benefits, and the fear is expressed that the principle will wane because it is proposed to apply it unburdened of its chief drawback, the individual owner, who applies it only as it serves his immediate interests. Socialists give the credit to the principle, which they will keep advancing because it is always to their interests to advance a principle which benefits each and every one in the common ownership.

We believe that the weaknesses of human nature lie in the difficulty now experienced in getting the necessities of life. This difficulty breeds avarice, greed, theft, lying, murder and lust. Make the obtaining of the necessities of life easy, and human nature will not have to expend all of its strength in meeting the demands of the stomach and worrying for the morrow, and will have time to look after its weak places. So that we do take the weaknesses of human nature into account and in the only practical way, for we are for removing the chief obstacle to its becoming strong.

And, lastly, our demand that the children be treated humanely and not like beasts, is the last that ought to be found fault with by any human being having the bump of philanthropyness. In the first place, a child has to be of the age beyond babyhood before it is sent to school, and the possibility of taking babies from their mothers would not have to await the fulfillment of the Socialists' demands, for this practice is common now. Mothers are forced, by want to neglect their own babies to become wet nurses for the scions of weak or fashionable mothers of the capitalist class. Others leave their babies in day sanitariums while they go out washing or scrubbing or doing what-not mental drudgery, which is a disgrace to civilization should be done by the "weaker" sex, when it really has no place at all in an en-

LABOR ITEMS

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

Trade unionists of Oklahoma City organized to take political action independent of old parties.

Atlanta Constitution, leading Democratic paper in the South, says John D. Rockefeller's wealth can only be measured with \$2,000,000,000.

The Belgian glass workers won their recent strike, and the fact that they did not buckle to capitalist politicians gives the victory a real value.

A new apparatus to turn out electro-engraving is being put on the market. One man can do work in fifteen hours that formerly required a month, and the most delicate details created by the hand of the artist are preserved.

A. G. Fisk, formerly one of the largest real estate dealers in Denver, recently failed, and now writes a four-column article to a daily paper to show that socialism is inevitable, its astorishing how they learn when they burn their fingers.

Henry Clews says Rockefeller has so much money his operations on Wall street involve no chance. Well, what of it? Does Clews think a good Baptist brother like Rockefeller would engage in "a game of chance"?—Southern Socialist.

The American Cigar company was incorporated at Trenton, N. J., last Saturday, with \$10,000,000 capital. J. B. Duke is one of the incorporators. The object of the company is to take charge of the cigar manufacturing department of the American Tobacco company's business.—The People.

Statistics gathered from 131 railway and industrial centers, not including New England, North and South Carolina, and Georgia, show that men now idle and formerly employed on railroads, of ages ranging from 39 to 55, constitute 20 per cent, or one-fifth of the total number of unemployed.

While the efforts of the trades union are directed, and properly so, toward the immediate improvement of the material condition of its membership, yet it must be apparent to the thinking unionist that the mere regulation of hours and wages is but a prelude to the final struggle to be waged between capital and labor.—Saginaw Exponent.

In Camden, N. J., a local capitalist put up a \$2,000,000 sugar refinery. The trust came along, paid \$3,000,000 for the plant, which was never put in operation, and today it stands as a huge monument to the waste of capitalism, while the sugar trust is sandbagging the people out of the money to pay for it, and more, too. That's what the people vote for.

Something of a sensation has been created in Hamburg, Germany. Pastor Killman, an eloquent divine, took the bull by the horns by preaching socialism to his aristocratic congregation of the Reformed Church. He was dismissed, of course, and now the working people are talking of running him for parliament. Strains how people who dare to believe in justice are martyred.

Of course, to some minds, a life without a master seems like a hell without a devil. Socialism will abolish hell, devil and boss. Then life will be life, and men will be men; and the world will be home—not a way station to hell. Under socialism there will be no such thing as dangerous candidates or men. Fact is, Mr. Philosopher, you will hardly know yourself at first, but as your neck gets wet you will like the change.—Public Ownership.

"Fast train wrecked and thirteen passengers injured in Wyoming" is the latest. Not a day passes without items of a similar character. Running railroads for private profit is incompatible with public safety. If a few thousand railroad men strike and ever-zealous sympathizers like a Pinkerton and burn a few freight cars, the capitalist railroad magnates howl for "protection to life and property." But if, in their profit-making, they destroy "life and property" every day in the year it's all right. That's business, you know.—Missouri Socialist.

General Secretary, George Preston, of the International Association of Machinists, reports 105 new unions formed during the last year, and 14 unions tapped; gain in membership, 12,000. When 24 strikes, comprising nine and lost five; number of persons involved, 12,000; number of persons benefited, 12,000. A general increase in wages during the year has been secured. Reduction in hours of labor: 9 1/2-hour day, November 29, 1900; 9-hour day, May 19, 1901; that of strikes, 25,278.25; forty-five shops were unionized without strikes.

Holy smoke! Do our eyes deceive us, or is it actually true? A Youngstown report says the Mahoning Valley Electric Railway company conferred with the C. L. U. officials in the foregoing city relative to "unionizing the employes of the road." It is added that "there is no trouble, but the company has come to the conclusion that it would be better served by having its help organized. The road, it was thought, would be more popular, and as a consequence more profitable." So, it is not the millennium that has come, but only a neat little scheme on the part of Bro. Capitalist to love Bro. Laborer more ardently and thus increase his profits. O, be joyful!—Cleveland Citizen.

The Campaign Fund.
Campaign Fund for week ending January 22nd:
Previously reported \$36.50
Aug. Langs 1.00
H. Phillips25
Aug. B. Crameska25
Total \$38.00

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

Is your branch hustling for The Call?

The Thirty-fifth Ward branch holds agitation meetings every first and third Friday evening of each month, in Masonic Hall, Park avenue, Austin.

The Eighteenth Ward branch at its last business meeting decided to take a new supply of 50 Workers' Call postals. It is to be hoped that every branch in the city will see to it that the business of hustling for the Call is not neglected.

A convention of the Socialists of the Town of Lake View was held last Friday, January 18, at Proletarian Hall, 588 Sheffield avenue. The following ticket was nominated: For Collector—Max Fisher; for Supervisor—A. F. Johnson; for Clerk—B. A. Webster.

Comrades who have not yet made returns of Workers' Call bill tickets are requested to do so immediately. This is desired by the city council. Notifications for aldermen will have to be made in the near future. Particulars of the registering will be published in these columns as soon as the information is compiled by the city organizer.

The regular Thirty-third Ward branch of the Socialist party has arranged for agitation meetings at Sherman Hall, 8140 Commercial avenue every Saturday night. Last Saturday evening Comrade Klenke spoke to an audience of about seventy-five people. The speaker for Saturday, January 26, will be Comrade Thos. J. Morgan.

Branches should hold themselves in readiness to reorganize in accordance with the new ward redistricting ordinance passed by the city council. Notifications for aldermen will have to be made in the near future. Particulars of the registering will be published in these columns as soon as the information is compiled by the city organizer.

The comrades of the Twenty-sixth Ward branch held a very successful and largely attended business meeting at their headquarters, northwest corner of Belmont and Southport avenues, Wednesday night, January 16. It was decided to take 50 Workers' Call postals and do their utmost to push the circulation of the party organ. An agitation meeting was arranged for Wednesday night, January 20; Comrade Walter Thomas Mills will speak.

The German branch of the Thirty-third ward, recently organized, are preparing for active work among the German employees of the Illinois Steel works. At their regular business meeting last Saturday night it was decided to hold an agitation meeting Friday evening, February 1, at their quarters, 9190 South Chicago avenue. The speaker will be Albert Eisenmann. Arrangements will be made for regular agitation meetings in the future.

The comrades of the Fourth Ward branch held a very successful meeting quarters, 335 S. State street. There was a good sized audience present, who listened to a debate on "Anarchy vs. Socialism." Comrade Becker defended socialism. The Fourth Ward branch has secured commodious quarters at No. 400 W. 12th street, and are preparing for active work in the coming municipal campaign. Agitation meetings will be held every Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

Comrade Robt. Plotter, who has been for some time actively engaged in getting subscribers for the Workers' Call, has succeeded in drumming up enough Call subscribers in his neighborhood to form a club of the Socialist party. A meeting will be held Sunday, January 27, at 8 o'clock, at M. Gittelson's Hall, southeast corner of Washburne and Wood street, one block south of Twelfth street. It is requested that all comrades in the north end of the Tenth ward be present and help make the meeting a success. City Organizer August Klenke will speak.

Sunday afternoon, January 13, a new branch, number five, was formed in the Twenty-seventh ward. About 100 persons gathered at number 2168 N. Whipple street and listened to an eloquent address by Comrade E. H. Bard and City Organizer A. Klenke. After an interesting discussion an organization was formed with a membership of thirteen. Jas. Charbonniou, of 2168 N. Whipple street was elected secretary, and given authority to call a meeting of the branch at his discretion. Meetings will be announced in The Call as soon as a definite program is arranged.

The comrades of the Seventh and Eighth wards held a joint meeting last Monday night at Forges' Hall, and completed arrangements whereby joint agitation meetings will be held during the coming campaign. The following officers were elected: B. Schlesinger, recording secretary; A. Sochatoff, financial secretary; B. Sochatoff, treasurer; delegates to General Committee, B. Schlesinger and B. Sochatoff; organizer, S. P. Levenberg, of 316 E. Union street. It was also decided to give a concert at Hull House for the benefit of the Workers' Call. The following committee on arrangements was appointed: Comrades Hechtman, A. Gruder, S. P. Levenberg, I. V. Levinson, H. Levenberg, B. Schlesinger and B. Sochatoff. The next meeting will be held at Workmen's Hall, Wabler and Twelfth streets, Monday evening, January 28.

A new branch was formed in the Twenty-seventh ward last Sunday afternoon. This ward now has six active branches. The organization of this last branch was effected at Hanson park, corner of Fifty-seventh avenue and Grand. An audience of about 200 persons listened to a splendid address by Organizer A. Klenke. After the address there was an interesting discussion, in which many of the audience took part. The organization was effected with a membership of twenty-four. This is a splendid beginning, and it will not be long before the new branch will be in shape to do some good propaganda work at Hanson park. This new organization will be known as the Twenty-seventh Ward Branch Number Six. Time and place of meeting have not been decided upon yet, and will be announced in these columns when the branch takes action. The first business meeting will take place next Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at 2361 Grand avenue, corner of Fifty-seventh avenue.

During the city campaign there will not be much opportunity for open-air agitation on account of the season. However, the comrades still have the Workers' Call. Pushing the circulation of the party organ is the best way to work for socialism. Are you selling any Call postals?

The local Socialist vote keeps pace with the circulation of the Workers' Call. Get subscribers and you make Socialists.

Poisoning "With Impunity."

England is said to be in the grasp of the brewers' trust, and it is actually asserted that the brewers even poison the people by putting arsenic in the beer, and stranger still "no great amount of public indignation is shown over the disclosures." Let us rejoice that we are not living in England, but in a free country where the fiery breath of "public indignation" is ever ready to annihilate any greedy rascal who would dare to adulterate our food and drink. Were the English people intelligent enough to make such an example of their brewers as we made of our packers during the "embalmed beef" period, these "notorious practices" would be terminated at once, as they happily have been with us.

But how do the brewers manage to escape unpunished, some workman may ask? The press report tells us how, as follows:

Our drink monopolists have elaborated the deadly system of proprietary drink houses and sustained by the help of unpaid justices of the peace, often members of their own body, and by FILLING PARLIAMENT WITH THEIR NOMINEES in a manner that sets the reformers at defiance.

That is how the trick is done. They simply "fill Parliament with their nominees," and the rest is easy. Parliament controls the law-making power, and as the interests of the brewer are largely represented there, he can in consequence poison with impunity being in control of law. The workmen elect these fellows to Parliament and are poisoned in consequence of their own action, which would go to show that they rather like being poisoned, from which it might in turn be inferred that they in reality commit suicide. "Adulteration is a form of competition," according to John Bright—competition is "the life of trade," according to Innumerable authorities—the "life of trade" means the death of the workmen and the enrichment of the brewers according to statistics.

Will They Refuse? Hardly.

A notorious usurer named Lewis has just died in London, leaving an enormous fortune, of which \$5,000,000 is bequeathed to "charity." This successful business man "earned" his living by lending sums of money at huge interest to the spendthrift sons of plutocrats and aristocrats. The press reports are eloquent on the amount of "domestic misery" which the accumulation of this vast fortune involved. But the "misery" spoken of is not that of the working class, whose labor, product was mortgaged in advance to pay the interest demanded. The sympathy shown is all for the families of the parasites who fell into the money-lender's clutches. Now that he is gone, the bequest to "charity" seems to have redeemed his character somewhat in "public opinion," although some hypocritical objections have been raised as to the propriety of accepting the bequests. The correspondent who sends the news seems to understand the matter pretty thoroughly. He says: "Much Pharaonic speculation is being indulged in by the press as to whether the legacies should be accepted," and then adds, "As if there were the slightest doubts about it." This gentleman probably remembers how the officials of St. Paul's Cathedral jumped at the offer of a gold communion service from the swindling promoter Hooley, a few years ago.

THE INTERNATIONAL.

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Arise, ye prisoners of starvation!
Arise, ye wretched of the earth,
For justice thunders condemnation,
A better world's in birth.
No more tradition's chains shall bind
The earth,
Arise, ye slaves! no more in thrall!
The earth shall rise on new foundations
We have been naught, we shall be all.

Refrain:
'Tis the final conflict,
Let each stand in his place,
The International Party
Shall be the human race.

We want no condescending saviors,
To rule us from a judgment hall;
We workers ask not for their favors;
Let us consult for all.
To make the thief disgorge his booty,
To free the spirit from its cell,
We must ourselves decide our duty,
We must decide and do it well.

The law oppresses us and tricks us,
Taxation drains the victim's blood;
The rich are free from obligations,
The laws the poor delude.
Too long we've languished in subjection,
Equality has other laws:
"No rights," says eke, "without their duties,"
No claims on equals without cause."

Behold them seated in their glory
The kings of mine and rail and soil
What have you read in all their story,
But how they plundered toil?
Fruits of the people's work are buried
In the strong coffers of a few;
In voting for their restitution
The men will only ask their due.

Toilers from shops and fields united,
The party we are all who work,
The earth belongs to us the people,
No room here for the shirk.
How many on our flesh have fattened
But if the noisome birds of prey
Shall vanish from the sky some morn-
ing,
The blessed sunlight still will stay
'Tis the final conflict,
Let each stand in his place,
The International Party
Shall be the human race.

If you are a workman, you make no mistake in subscribing for this paper. It deals directly with your interests and those of the class to which you belong.

OWE HIM NOTHING.

The Rank and File of Organized Labor Are Not Indebted to the Present Mayor.

The following appeared in the Tribune of the 14th inst.:

Under instructions from Robert E. Burke to get organized labor in line for Mayor Harrison in connection with the work of the spring campaign, practically all the City Hall employees belonging to labor organizations had a quiet meeting on Saturday afternoon at the Democratic county headquarters and organized "The Carter H. Harrison Workingmen's Club." The following officers were elected:

President—James E. Daley. Secretary—John Mitchell. Mr. Daley was elected County Commissioner on the Democratic ticket last fall, while Mitchell is one of the plumbing inspectors of the city. Among those present who assisted in the organization of this "Workingmen's" club were: P. F. Doyle, chairman of the Board of Examining Trainers; Martin B. Madden, steamfitter who is inspector of vehicles; John F. Kelly, plumber and engineer; member of the Board of Examining Engineers; P. F. Dalton, bridge and structural iron worker, inspector of ironwork; Frank Kennedy, plumber, Board of Examining Plumbers; John Mangano, steamfitter, Inspector of Steamfitting; Patrick Maloney, steamfitter, Board of Examining Engineers; T. J. Eiderkin, Seamen's union; Vessel Inspector.

All these representatives of labor made speeches in praise of Mayor Harrison's consideration for the laboring man, and resolutions were adopted calling on all members of organized labor to rally to the support of Mayor Harrison, both at the primaries and on election day.

The gratitude displayed by the office-holders, who owe their places to Carter Harrison, is exceedingly natural. They call attention to the fact that Mr. Harrison has given them good jobs, and they hope, through his re-election, to retain them. They are so much easier than the jobs attainable by the rank and file of labor.

But for what are the latter indebted to Harrison? How much has he done for them that they should "get in line" for him in the spring campaign? Is it not through the corrupting influence of the patronage at his disposal that the distrust has been created which wrought havoc in the Building Trades Council? What do the rank and file of the building trades think of the man who has done even more than the contractors, to destroy the shield which they had constructed for their defence? By whose orders were the union men clubbed away from the Adams and Clark street building, owned by Marshall Field—the place where the struggle first openly materialized? Who was it that announced his candidacy at the banquet given by the Iroquois club, where Edward Mandel sat at the same table, a member of the same firm who are now having their building constructed by scab labor?

It is well that these deeds should be recalled to the memory of the woodworkers and metalworkers, so that when they go to the polls in April, they will vote for their own interests, as represented by the Socialist party ticket headed by John Collins, a union machinist, a man who is and always has been ready to assist in organizing the working class for the development of class solidarity; a man who will not for a moment claim the votes cast for his name as his own property, a man who has no need to bribe a few "leaders" to get the rank and file "in line."

The progress of the working class towards freedom is measured solely by the growth of the Socialist vote. There is no other way. There may be some individuals who will benefit by the election of a capitalist candidate, but they do so at the expense of the working class. The price of their degradation is comprised in the reward which they receive from the enemies of labor for their Judas-like betrayal of their class.

Workingmen, the capitalist, whether he be Republican or Democrat, is always your enemy. His fair promises to your class always prove Dead Sea fruit.

B. Berlin.

A TRIBUTE OF ENVY

(Continued from page 1)

phy of the eighteenth century.

This "democracy" has no claim to meet socialism in the political arena of the future. It has outlived whatever "reputation" it might once have possessed, and cannot possibly acquire a new one. The only position which it can fill is to act as a second for the capitalist giant, known as Republican party, in the coming conflict, and all political signs point to its eager and grateful acceptance of the job.

Meetings for the Week.

The following meetings have been arranged for the coming week:

- Sunday, 3 p. m., Central Music Hall. Speaker, Prof. Geo. D. Herron. Subject: "The Kingdom of Heaven."
Sunday, January 27, 3 p. m., Socialist Educational Club, 1122 Milwaukee avenue. Speaker, Miss Jane Adams.
Sunday, January 27, 3 p. m., Twenty-third Ward, 308 N. Franklin street. Speaker, F. G. Strickland.
Sunday, January 27, 3 p. m., Twenty-fifth Ward, 889 Sheffield avenue, near Belmont avenue. Speaker, J. Wanhope. Subject: "Expansion."
Sunday, January 27, 3 p. m., Twenty-fourth Ward, 52 Wells street. Speaker, John Collins.
Sunday, January 27th, 8 p. m., Fifteenth Ward, Socialist Hall, Armitage avenue, four doors east of Milwaukee avenue. Speaker, Miss Mary Collier. Singing Society, 10 a. m., Children's Sunday School, 11a. m.
Sunday, January 27th, 3 p. m., Thirty-first Ward, 608 S. Halsted. Speaker, B. Berlin.
Sunday, January 27, 3 p. m., Fourth Ward, 335 State street. Speaker, W. T. Mills.
Sunday, January 27, 3 p. m., N. Gittel-

son's Hall, southeast corner Washburne avenue and Wood street. Speaker, A. J. Kienka.
Sunday, January 27, 10 p. m., Twelfth Ward, 1965 W. Madison street. Speaker, I. Stitt Wilson.
Monday, January 28, Twentieth Ward, northwest corner Clybourn and Halsted. Speaker, A. Blano.
Tuesday, January 28, 8 p. m., 1633 W. Madison. Speaker, G. D. Evans.
Tuesday, February 2, 8 p. m., Mills' Night School of Social Economy, 1122 Milwaukee avenue.
Wednesday, January 28th, 8 p. m., Twenty-sixth Ward, northwest corner Southport and Belmont avenues. Speaker, W. T. Mills.
Thursday, January 27, 4 p. m., Thirtieth Ward, 608 S. Halsted street. Speaker, F. J. Gary.
Thursday, February 1, 8 p. m., Mills' Night School of Social Economy, Scribner building, 165 Randolph street.
Friday, February 1, 8 p. m., Fifteenth Ward, Socialist Hall, Armitage and Milwaukee avenues. Speaker, A. M. Simons.
Friday, February 1, 8 p. m., Fourteenth Ward, Hinchman's Hall, 284 W. Division street. Speaker, A. Blano.
Friday, February 1, Second Ward, Freiberg's Hall, Twenty-second near State. Speaker, W. T. Mills.
Friday, February 1, 8 p. m., Twenty-first Ward, Garfield Turner Hall, Laramie and Garfield. Speaker, G. D. Evans.
Friday, February 1, Thirty-fifth Ward, Masonic Hall, Park avenue, Austin. Speaker, John Collins.
Saturday, February 2, 8 p. m., Mills' Night School of Social Economy, 608 S. Halsted street.

Low Wages As a Cause.

The Chicago Federation of Labor has recently declared in a series of resolutions, that low wages and want are the causes of vice and degradation, and further, that if opportunity were offered to these vicious ones to gain a livelihood in a respectable way they would prefer to lead respectable lives.

All of which is certainly true and certainly superficial. In finding a "brine cause" for vice and degradation in low wages the Federation might now inquire into the prime cause for low wages. After this question was properly sifted, the reason why opportunity cannot be given to gain a decent livelihood would become apparent at once. The employer is not in business for the purpose of affording this opportunity—that is only incidental to it. He is in business for profits alone, notwithstanding the popular impression, that his chief function is to "give employment."

Vice and degradation are inseparable from the profit system, and will only disappear with its disappearance, a fact which labor organizations will yet learn, however reluctant they may be to admit it at present.

The Socialist Chorus

every Sunday, 10:30 a. m., 1003 W. Madison street, corner Western avenue. All the original members of the Schubert String Quartette were with us again last Sunday. Their playing was most heartily enjoyed. Comrade Jacker furnished a diversion in the way of a graphophone.

Comrade Strickland spoke on "The New Politics," noting as some of its characteristics, class-consciousness, unity and idealism.

The capacity of the hall is now taxed, and the comrades are looking for more commodious quarters.

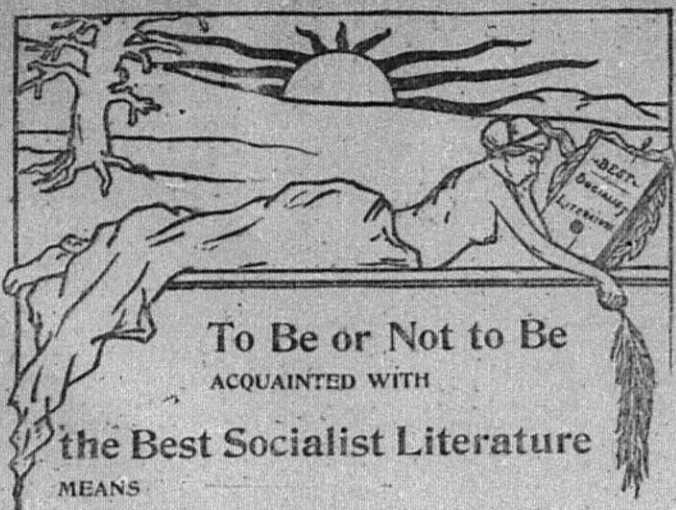
Comrade J. Stitt Wilson will address this meeting next Sunday on "The Way Out of Bondage." Come and enjoy a good time.

National Hold-ups.

A few years ago Great Britain was anxious to "assimilate" some gold-bearing land claimed by the government of Venezuela. The United States interfered and insisted upon arbitration, which was ultimately adopted. Now the United States government and that of Venezuela are at loggerheads over the operation of an asphalt lake which was leased to American capitalists, and the seizure of two vessels owned by the Orinoco company, whose owners are also American capitalists. "Business" is at a standstill, and it is stated that unless the Washington authorities take steps to protect American citizens, all foreigners may as well leave the country. A warship is being sent to the scene and an ultimatum is expected to follow shortly. It is most probable that a decision will be reached that there is "nothing to arbitrate" this time, and the Venezuelans may look in vain for a deliverer.

In a recent lecture Professor Howarth of the University of Chicago proved very conclusively to himself that atheism is not inconsistent with religion. It would be interesting if Professor Howarth in some future lecture would try to prove that capitalism is not inconsistent with religion, or morals, or progress, or anything not altogether bad. He could do it—to the satisfaction of John D. Rockefeller and a few more benevolent gentlemen. The range and versatility of the modern college professor are limited only by the needs of the millionaire class by whom these institutions are supported. It is not expected that Professor Howarth will take to this suggestion, because a discussion of capitalism versus religion might lead people to think, and that would not suit John D. Rockefeller and the class to which he belongs.

A combine between British and American capitalists for the manufacture of steel tubes is announced. The concern is capitalized at \$20,000,000 and will proceed with the latest patents and most approved machinery. The American firms in the combine will transfer their patent rights to the English companies to complete the deal. Wherever a proprietor exists which can be profitably exploited, no national sentiment is allowed to interfere with the unity of the capitalist class.



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The Haverhill Social Democrat, remarks on The People's Marx as The Bible of the working class, a Bible whose study is as beneficial to the workman as is the orthodox Bible to the average Christian.

OTHER OPINIONS OF THE PRESS

The New York People on The People's Marx: Deville, in this abridgement and popularization of one of the most difficult economic works ever undertaken, has succeeded admirably in this respect. That he has held close to the outlines of the original work, has preserved its essentials of form as well as of matter, but has considerably reduced its size, and to a very great extent has simplified it and brought it within the understanding of the ordinary reader.

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