

THE WORKERS' CALL

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

THIRD YEAR—WHOLE No. 111

CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, APRIL 0, 1901.

PRICE ONE CENT.

"CIRCULAR NO. 17."

Corporation "Blue Laws" for the Guidance of Employes.

WHERE THEY GET THE POWER.

Authority to Regulate Personal Habits a Gift From Workmen to the Capitalist Class.

Perhaps one of the most valuable services that capitalism must render to its economic successor may be found in the fact that, in its development, the subjection and slavery of the working class becomes always more and more apparent. The old ideas of personal liberty, which must be admitted had some foundation to rest upon prior to the concentration of capital, are being exploded upon all sides by the restrictions and regulations imposed upon the working classes, through the exigencies of capitalist profit-making. As the system develops, the "reserve army of industry" becomes ever larger, the competition for the privilege of working ever keener, and the sifting and sorting of the selected ones is carried on in a manner which every year becomes more humiliating and degrading. Never was the truth brought out more clearly that the laborer, in the eyes of the employing class, is not a man, but a commodity, than at the present.

Applicants for work in most of the large establishments must submit to an inquisition, in which their most private affairs must be exposed for the consideration of the employer, to aid him in selecting the most profitable labor power on the market, and when this test is passed, the slave that has been fortunate enough to secure a master is compelled to submit to a series of rules and regulations of personal conduct, prescribed by his owners, that the fear of want and hunger alone makes bearable.

A few days ago a workman, whose name for good reasons must be withheld from publication, brought to this office, a verbatim copy of a circular, issued by the Chicago and Great Western Railway, which perhaps will show better than anything else how thoroughly the ruling classes realize the power which they possess over their wage slaves. And, paradoxical as it may seem, there can be no question but that many of the employes of this corporation, whose votes were influenced in the recent election by the campaign charges, of "blue laws" brought against one or other of the capitalist candidates, will submit to the "blue laws" prescribed in this document without the slightest idea that they could be voted out of existence by united action on the part of the working class.

We here reprint this evidence of capitalist arrogance and working class servility:

Dubuque, Iowa, March 1, 1901.
CIRCULAR NO. 17.

To All Concerned:
This company has no place in its ranks for men who drink, gamble, or fail to pay their bills promptly, and any such in the service are requested to resign at once.

In future any employe known to drink or whose breath smells of liquor, or who is seen in or around a saloon, a combination saloon and boarding house, or a combination saloon and store, will be immediately dismissed, regardless of record or age in service, and no excuse or explanation will be accepted.

The service letters and references to other roads of such men will state: "Dismissed for Drinking."

This applies to men when off duty as well as when at work.

The terms "drink" and "liquor" mean beer, ale and wine, as well as stronger intoxicants.

The term "employe" means engineers, firemen, conductors, brakemen, yardmasters, switchmen, call boys, agents, operators, clerks and other office employes on this division.

Any employe, garnished or compelled of an account of unpaid debt, will not be retained, unless able to prove to the satisfaction of the superintendent, that delay in payment is unavoidable, and not due to dissolute or extravagant habits.

R. W. EDWARDS,
Supt. C. G. W. Ry.

Our informant states that, while this pronouncement has evoked a considerable amount of carefully concealed "indignation" from the "free men," for whose guidance it was drafted, it will, nevertheless, be universally accepted as a law from which there is no appeal. And this is as it should be. Those who have voted into the hands of another class the power to regulate their personal conduct in this fashion, have no just ground of complaint, when that power is so exercised by those to whom it is given.

Perhaps the most ludicrous aspect of the matter may be seen in the fact that the votes of the workmen can be gathered in thousands as a protest against "blue laws" proposed to be enacted by the community, while those promulgated by a private corporation never seem to impress upon the workers the obvious truth that the latter can be voted out of existence quite as easily as the former.

Many men also, who socialism against the supposed "tyranny of socialism," are utterly unable to see that capitalist rule is even less a reality than socialism.

the very "tyranny" which socialists are idiotically charged with desiring to introduce.

No matter how loudly the company may proclaim the necessity of the strictest temperance amongst its employes, no man who is subject to the rules laid down in "Circular No. 17," but will feel that his individual liberty is being interfered with, and resent such interference, so far as he dares express himself.

That resentment may take form in different ways. It may find expression in "swear words," spoken in the quiet, it may show itself in questioning the "right" of the company to enforce its regulations, or it may be manifested in a desire to show dissatisfaction by indulging in "beer, ale and wine, or stronger intoxicants," when the risk of detection may be safely taken, or it may perhaps be resented through a socialist vote.

It will be readily seen that while "curses, not loud, but deep," may refer to some extent the feelings of the individual who utters them, they are altogether useless, so far as effecting the repeal of the obnoxious regulations are concerned. It is equally true that secret indulgence in the things proscribed is just as useless, while as for questioning the "right" of the company—that is a mere waste of time. The company claims no "right" in the circular. It merely states that it will do so and so if its demands are not complied with. That circular would never have appeared, had the company not been conscious of its POWER to enforce the demands contained therein.

And this power is not inherent in the officials of the company. It belongs to the capitalist system of production solely. It appears when private property in the means of production divides society into two classes, the possessors and the non-possessors. It is upheld by the will of the majority, and as the majority are non-possessors, the whole matter ultimately resolves itself into this—that THE POWER WHICH THE COMPANY POSSESSES TO REGULATE THE PERSONAL HABITS OF ITS EMPLOYEES IS A GIFT FROM THE EMPLOYEES THEMSELVES.

It is not likely that if the latter could reason this matter out for themselves, they would support the system with their votes. But it is just because they cannot or will not do this, that they do support it—just because of this that they are republicans or democrats. The man who sees this and votes against the system—against placing power in the hands of the capitalist class, against putting a whip in the hands of his master so that the lash can be laid on his own back—is a socialist, and cannot be anything else.

When a majority (and the workmen are easily a majority in this country) unite together for the purpose of voting the system out of existence, then, and then only, will this corporation lose the power to enforce obedience to the "thou shalt nots" in "Circular No. 17," and a workman in voting for socialism signifies that he is ready and willing to form one of that majority, to the end that through the economic freedom of his class his personal, individual liberty can no longer be abridged.

For the power to oppress lies only in individual ownership of things which all men must have access to in order to live, and it is only because such access can be denied that compliance to any order, however humiliating and degrading, can be secured. This circular merely states that wage workers are slaves, and that their masters know it and issue their commands accordingly.

Socialism will destroy wage slavery by instituting collective ownership of the means of production. Socialism, however, to be established, must be voted for. A man who votes for socialism votes for freedom as against slavery, of which latter, Circular No. 17, is but a certificate. The men who voted for socialism were the only ones whose protest against this circular and its contents was in any manner whatever effective.

"Engineers, Firemen, Conductors, Brakemen, Yard Masters, Switchmen, Call Boys, Agents, Operators, Clerks and others"—how will you vote in the future?

The special "May-day" number will be a socialist maker. Have you ordered a bundle yet?

Time To Think.

Eighteen union metal polishers and fifteen union machinists were discharged on Monday by the Mills Novelty company at 18 South Jefferson street, in this city. The discharge is said to be due to the opposition that has been developing to union men. There surely must be some mistake here. Opposition to union men sounds curious when the "identical interests of capitalists and laborer" are taken into consideration. But then the labor "problem" is an exceedingly complicated one, and it may be that the object of the discharge was simply to give the thirty-three workmen in question some leisure in which to apply themselves to its solution.

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.

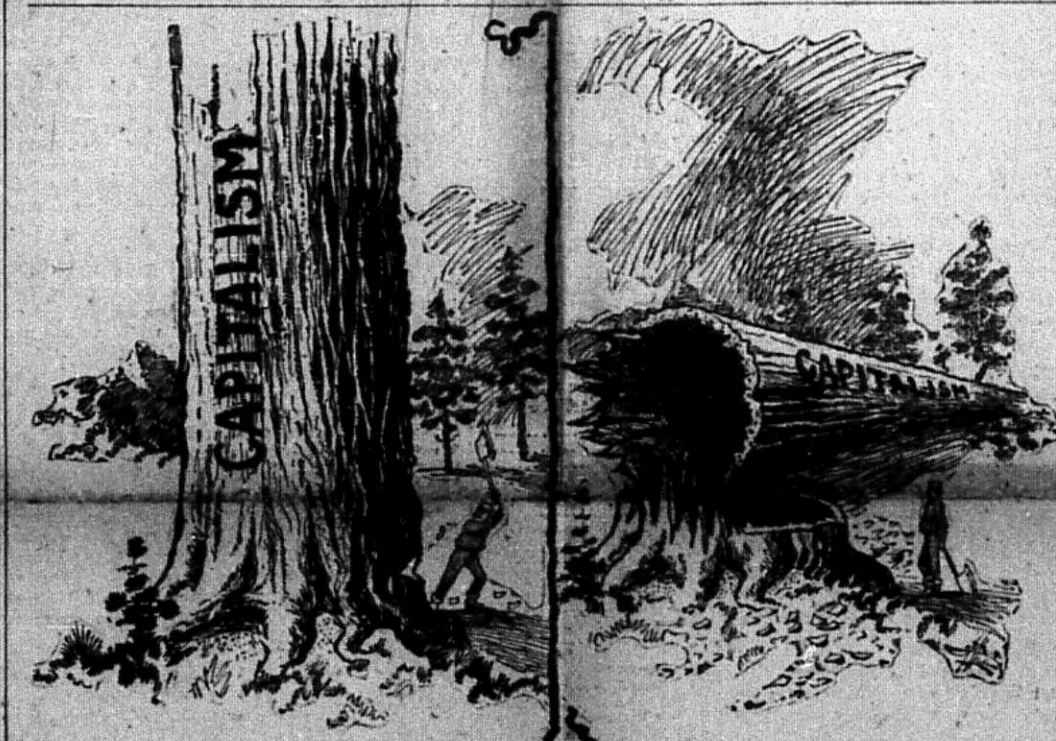
CENTRE OF GRAVITY

Final Adjustment of Society to Its Economic Basis.

MISSION OF THE PROLETARIAE

The Accomplishment of Socialism is the Highest and Noblest Task Imposed Upon Mankind.

The central fact in all societies of man, let them be in families, tribes, states or cities, is the art and industry of maintaining life according to the standards of the time. This fact is always obviously present, always predominant, and always focussing about itself the chief activity of the race. Man may occasionally be a fighter, a speaker, a law-maker, a singer, a writer, a prayer, but he always is an eater of foods, a maker of garments, a builder of houses, a lover of comforts. Upon this center, by whatever crimes and delusions the adjustment may be postponed, the final adjustment of all true and rational government must surely settle. Government will not remain with select men of cunning. It will not remain with a few who hold the keys of Gehenna, because they hold them, it will not remain with the word master, the sword master.



Appearances Are Often Deceiving.

or the gold master; it will and must settle with the bread masters. This law points the way to justice and to socialism; this tends to the center.

Let us call these never-absent activities, and the motive to them, by the general name of "production." Now draw a little circle on your paper. I say that all our social institutions should emanate from within that circle in the spirit and in the letter. The public life must be drawn socially, as it is physically, from this ring of useful and necessary labor, and for this we socialists firmly and intelligently agitate.

The world will yet enjoy the abounding blessings of this righteous and final adjustment of its affairs from the economic center and then men will see and smile at the childishness of the time when we suffered our social center of gravity to move with those groups of adventurers now known as capitalists, who have succeeded in setting over against that fixed, natural and eternal center of society a false fugitive point, viz. their own shifting devices, where-by THE MEANS OF CONTROLLING THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION; whether money, charters, laws, swords, or any other temporarily successful lies, became greater than production itself and the producers.

There is no use attempting to understand any age, as the dilettante seek to do it, by the study of its art, its verses and its theologues, for these three will be found upon examination to be unrelated strangers in every age, expressive of some experience a long way behind, or some hopes a long way ahead; as co-temporary criteria they tell nothing.

The confusion of the world in its governmental and social relations has been due to this strange circumstance, that its art, religions and philosophies were never of native growth, were always outside the camp, misplaced, unfixed, unaccommodating, and incompatible with the people's actual way of living.

In fact, civilization, art and the rest of them, came in generally as immigrants or conquerors, out of kilter with those they had left behind and never getting quite into kilter with those they adopted. Thus every civilization power in history that we know of has been a crime and a sin.

The race had always one prevailing experience, namely, its bread getting. And that, its broadest unbroken experience, though ever present to offer itself as the true basis for government art and religion, was nevertheless always missed by the fathers of their countries, and so the children of all countries have waited for one experience so sufficiently clear, strong and extensive as to be the basis of a civilization, so general and so true to its keel as might be wrecked by no local disturbance by no erratic prophets or conquerors, by no fugitive centers of anarchy. That experience is being carefully wrought out for us by capitalism.

The working class, always the basis of society, have been united by the moving iron bands of the modern machine. The world market, which, in looking for purchasers in all lands, all peoples amenable to capitalist methods, is making the one experience the world had long waited for. Having created out of the world's race, creed and color diversities, ONE CLASS—the proletariat—to this, the world's civilization, as I have pointed out, must henceforth gravitate; to this the governments of the world must henceforth accommodate themselves; and the banner of this mighty army of light and leading is held by the hands of the men who agitate for socialism, comrades, by you and I.

If you are a worker who reads this, does it appear to you how grand the destiny is that your triumphant master lifts you to as he falls himself by

FALSE AND FOOLISH.

Chicago American's Definitions of "Socialism."

TELLS ALL THAT IT IS NOT.

For the Confusion of Stupid Persons Who Will Not Inquire for Themselves.

"Every intelligent man must study socialism" is the caption of an editorial which appeared in the Chicago American of April 16th, and which starts out as follows:

"There is nothing more stupid and, of course, more unproductive, than the miscalled socialism which advocates a division of property, equality of reward, and so on."

This sounds well for a beginning, and will be accepted by every socialist as truth, with some reservation. That there may be nothing more stupid than the above may possibly be true, but there are ideas about socialism which are equally stupid and unproductive, and the Chicago American reproduces a dozen or so of them in its editorial. And here are some of them:

"Socialism has existed on the earth for hundreds of centuries."

That paragraph is false from start to finish. The American has never discussed socialism, is not doing so now, and does not propose to do so in the future. Their lucubrations are written especially for stupid persons, for the purpose of adding confusion to stupidity. They have not the slightest intention of writing as "intelligently as they can," and any of their paid writers who would be foolish enough to do so would speedily learn that things are not always what they seem. There will be no writing on socialism for the "information of their readers," as they declare, but there will be writing on things that are not socialism for the confusion of their readers instead.

The changes will be rung upon Louis XI., Oliver Cromwell, the Boston tea party, Sam Jones, Tom Johnson, theosophy, metaphysics, religion, anarchism, class struggle, municipal ownership, the postoffice, trades unions, the "Golden Rule," organized charity, "eternal principles," the "common people," and a thousand and one other miscellaneous oddities of the same nature—but socialism will be avoided as if it were a pestilence. The Chicago American cannot afford to meddle with the genuine article, and will construct a number of counter-facts, all different from each other and all specially designed for the confusion of the individual who attempts to study "socialism" from them.

It is true that all "intelligent men should study socialism," as the American says, but that statement bars out those of its readers who expect an exposition of socialism in its columns. An intelligent man who wants information on that subject will not waste time in looking for it in a capitalist newspaper.

Before concluding, it is perhaps only fair to our readers to give a definition of the central truth from which socialism springs and which is accepted by every political socialist party in the world. We quote from Marx and Engels, two socialists whose writings and views are not likely to be discussed in the columns of the Chicago American:

"In every historical epoch the prevailing mode of economic production and exchange and the social organization necessarily following from it, form the basis upon which is built up, and from which alone can be explained, the political and intellectual history of that epoch; that consequently the whole history of mankind (since the dissolution of primitive tribal society holding land in common ownership) has been a history of class struggles, contests between exploiting and exploited, ruling and oppressed classes; that the history of these class struggles forms a series of evolutions in which, nowadays, the stage has been reached where the exploited and oppressed class—the working class—can not attain its emancipation from the way of the exploiting and ruling class—the capitalists—without at the same time and once for all emancipating society at large from all exploitation, oppression, class distinctions and class struggles."

Will the American start with this proposition as a basis? No, it will not even mention it, although it contains the key to the whole philosophy of socialism, and is accepted by every socialist party on earth.

Beware of fraudulent imitations.

Now the writer who got this stuff together is not necessarily a stupid person himself. He is merely writing for stupid persons, which is an altogether different thing. If he were ignorant enough to really believe that these things that he mentions were socialism, his job on the American would not be worth two minutes' purchase. If he knows enough about socialism to brand the "dividing up" theory as stupid, he also knows enough to know that it is not what he represents it to be.

And he knows enough also to understand that if he really did give a correct definition of what socialism is, he could not get one line of it into the Chicago American, and he is not stupid enough to waste his time in trying. The sort of job that he holds demands that men write things that they know to be both false and stupid, so no blame attaches to him. The policy of the paper is his guide, and that policy demands that socialism be misrepresented.

The editorial states further that the greatest political party in Germany is the Socialist party. Although its members are poor men, their enthusiasm makes up for their poverty, and the fund which they raise annually in their political campaign vastly exceeds any other in the empire.

This statement is in the main correct, the only doubtful part being that relating to the annual fund—but that is not a matter of importance. There are probably over three mil-

ION SOCIALISTS IN GERMANY.

Three years ago they polled with a limited franchise nearly two and a quarter million votes. They have a platform stating the aims and objects of the socialist movement, which has been drawn up as clearly and distinctly as the best ability in the party could devise. That platform would be accepted by every socialist in the world. It is procurable everywhere and the Chicago American would not experience the slightest difficulty in procuring it. It is even highly probable that there are copies of it at this moment in their office. But will they publish it in their columns and inform their readers editorially that it defines socialism according to the ideas of the greatest political party in Germany? No. They would not entertain the idea for one moment.

Every civilized country in the world has a socialist movement, with party platforms and definitions of socialism which are practically identical with each other. You could not get the Chicago American to notice one of them, except perhaps to mutilate and falsify it.

But nevertheless the American is going to discuss socialism in future issues, as may be learned from the concluding paragraph of the editorial:

"For the information of our readers we have tried and will try in the editorial columns of the American occasionally to review as intelligently as we can, and without any prejudice, the various movements of the world that come appropriately under the heading of socialism."

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IN GENTLE ACCENTS

How "Social Riots" in "Best Circles" Are to be Rebuked.

NO "VICE CRUSADE" REQUIRED

Conditions Which Produce "Easter Offerings" From Gambling Tables Must Not be Disturbed.

A New York clergyman complains that the "holy clerk" has been marked by "social riots" in that city and asserts that a goodly proportion of the so-called "Easter offerings" came from winnings at the gambling tables. He gives the following incident as an illustration:

Two young men came to New York from Pittsburgh to spend Easter vacation. They brought little with them except social credentials, which took them into the BEST CIRCLES. Luck went their way, and a game played on Good Friday night, so the minister relating it said, netted them such a largess that they left one hotel and went to another more expensive. On Saturday they were called upon by a woman, not the hostess, who remonstrated with them mildly for keeping so much of their winnings. Presently it developed that the woman was not so much exercised over the sin of gambling as she was to obtain an Easter offering for a certain charity. So, when the young men suggested giving \$100 out of their winnings to the charity in question, she consented at once, but asked that the money be put on a plate in a certain church on Easter Sunday morning. This was done and has been reported in that church's Easter offerings. It was not, however, put on the plate by the young winners, but by some one hired by them to perform the act, the same one in question reporting the matter to the clergyman, who reported it to the conference expressing surprise at the generosity of the young givers, because he did not know whence the money came.

The same clergyman reports further: Two unmarried women officers in a West Side congregation charity, have been making a practice of attending receptions, noting the winners and calling upon them later for contributions. Easter vacation proved a harvest, and, while the clergyman, reporting the case did not know the amount they had raised, since it was not put on the collection plate, he said the charity in question had recently announced the receipt of considerable sums of money from the young women interested in it.

It is impossible, of course, that this very reprehensible method of soliciting should pass without the censure of the shepherds of New York city. This is how they intend to ease their alleged consciences in dealing with the matter: Further conferences are to be held, the ministers say, most of them SMALL AND INFORMAL, and probably attended by ministers of different denominations. The aim is, if possible, to counteract present conditions without STIRRING UP AND ADVERTISING THE SINS OF THOSE CONDITIONS.

Verily, the clergy are "wise in their generation," and display a remarkable perception in safeguarding their material interests in circumstances like the above. No "vice crusade," inaugurated with blowing of trumpets and beating of drums, is needed to deal with the peccadilloes indulged in by the "best circles." No talk of "suppression" by the power of the law, no "scolding" and "lashing" from the coward's caste known as the pulpit, no flood of "denunciations" such as is meted out to the vulgar Tammany protected faro joints and gambling dens, just before election, no mighty "moral wave" of regeneration—none of these "drastic" measures are applicable in this case. All that is required is a few "small and informal meetings" where "sin" can be rebuked in a whisper, "without stirring up and advertising" the "conditions" which produce it.

The "conditions" must on no account be interfered with. It is better to "make friends of the mammon of unrighteousness," better to become hypocrites and cowards, than venture to expose "conditions" which create "sin"—and ministerial salaries.

This "sin" against which the New York ministers are preparing to "rear you as gently as any sucking dove" is a peculiar thing. The "Easter offerings" derived from the "best circles" are quite acceptable when they are the direct result of the unpaid labor of the working class, when they represent the blood, sweat and toll wrung from those who produce all our wealth. But when the "best circles" gamble with each other for what has been extracted from the laborer, and present the results to religious "charities" under the same of "Easter offerings," the action at once becomes—say it softly, so that "socialists" may not be disturbed—"sinful," but the gift will be accepted just the same.

Direct capitalist robbery of the working class is in the highest degree "moral." But the robbery of one capitalist by another (except, of course, in "legitimate business," or stock exchange operations), is a matter for condemnation—in "small and informal meetings," so that the errand-riders may not be unduly offended. For, although "man does not live by bread alone," it is nevertheless undeniable that great inconvenience would result from a possible deprivation of that very essential article, and as the "best circles" are the masters of the bread, and

(Continued on page 4.)

BUNDLES OF THE WORKERS' CALL

100 copies 50 cents.
25 copies 25 cents.
5 copies 5 cents.
This offer is for bundles mailed to one address.

A large five-column cartoon, specially devised for the "May-day" number, will appear in the "May-day" number.

THE WORKERS CALL

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Advertisements: A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted. Rates will be made known upon application. No return will be made upon application.

Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unreturned manuscripts should be enclosed. Contributions must reach the office by Monday evening unless otherwise stated in which case they will be accepted.

Contributions and items of news concerning the labor movement are received from our readers. Every contribution must be accompanied by the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.



A "patriotic" American whose "business" takes him occasionally to the British government offices in London (and this sort as a rule are extremely "patriotic") is indignant because the term "subject" instead of "citizen" has been applied to Americans in a British foreign office document. It seems that this office in announcing the receipt of some gold medals awarded by McKinley to certain officers and seamen of a British steamship who had saved human life in the recent hurricane at Galveston, stated that the awards were given "for saving the lives of American subjects." Probably our "patriot" has been a trifle hasty. He should have made sure the rescued ones didn't belong to the working class, before giving vent to his indignation.

It has been decided by a judge of the United States supreme court at New Orleans, that there is no law to prevent the shipment of mules from the United States to South Africa, and the suit brought by the Boer, Samuel Pearson, was in consequence dismissed. The judge actually quoted from Thomas Jefferson to sustain his opinion, and Democrats who have mules to sell will no doubt feel more at ease when they learn that they can appeal to the founder of their political faith to justify their business transactions with the British government. On the other hand Democrats who have "sympathy" for the Boers, will have to content themselves with an effort to arouse "public sentiment" against this portion of "Jeffersonian" doctrine which has been used to assist in the destruction of two republics by a monarchy.

Press dispatches state that a number of German military officers have been examining the army recruits, and discovered that "gross ignorance regarding public personages and events" prevailed among the majority of those examined. This will no doubt be satisfactory news to the Kaiser, as it will afford him a favorable field for incultating his pet doctrine, that the soldiers should turn their weapons upon their own class, in defense of his "sacred person." The more ignorant the recruit is, the more likely he is to accept without question the murderous policy of the ruling class, but it is not altogether certain that the average German recruit is quite as ignorant as his masters would wish to have him. There are between two and three million Socialists there whose mission it is to dispel "gross ignorance" of this sort.

The occasion of a banquet at the Iroquois club in this city last Saturday furnished an opportunity for several political fossils to again affirm their hostility to social progress and their veneration of the ancient, discredited past. A return to the worship of that abstract fetish labeled "Jeffersonian ideals" was recommended as the only possible salvation for the republic. But the idealism of these reactionaries was speedily translated into the material by a denunciation of monopolies and trusts, which they asserted were destroying "republican simplicity and virtue," or in other words, the freedom of the little capitalist to exploit labor, in taking the name of an extinct Indian tribe the club certainly displayed a remarkable sense of the appropriate. The political ideas represented by its members will play about as prominent a part in future economic history as the dead and gone savages whose name they have adopted.

A Baltimore clergyman has created a "sedition" in ecclesiastical circles by declaring that a "deadly repentance" does not assure salvation, and that the last effort of the minister over a departing sinner is merely a

"useless puff of prayer." Naturally enough, as such a declaration tends to belittle the usefulness of the clerical fraternity, it is promptly resented by them, and one indignant minister quotes the case of the penitent thief on the cross as an argument in favor of the "eleventh hour" view of the case. Come to think of it, he is in all probability correct. If a common, ordinary, disreputable thief, whose methods of business were clearly illegal, can enter the kingdom by a profession of repentance at the last moment, surely a respectable thief, whose life has been spent in robbing the workers according to law, is at least fully as eligible, if penitent. That Baltimore man doesn't know his business, or he would never have made a break of this sort.

A PRESSING NECESSITY. It may be well to call the attention of party members and readers of the Worker's Call to the fact, that as is usual after elections have been decided, the energy of the comrades in circulating party literature relaxes to some extent. This condition of affairs is clearly discernible in the diminished amount of subscriptions reaching this office since April 2, and it is imperative that the activity of the comrades should be renewed as soon as possible to insure the continuance of the party organ. Some time, must yet elapse before the open air meetings are in full swing, and it cannot be better utilized than in increasing the power and scope of the party press. With over 1,200 party members this task should be light if the work can be properly apportioned and every member take hold to the best of his ability. The securing of only one subscriber per week by each party member does not appear a very formidable undertaking, and yet were it put in operation the financial difficulties which have intermittently beset the publication of the party organ would quickly vanish. Open air propaganda when extensively conducted always creates an increased demand for party literature, and preparations are being made to make it a marked feature during the coming summer. In the meantime our comrades are urgently requested to put forth their best efforts in behalf of this paper, by securing as many new subscribers as possible, as the need at this particular time is most pressing and cannot be neglected without serious danger.

THE INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY. While little is yet known regarding the "Independent Labor Party" which is said to be forming in New York, it will be interesting to Socialists to watch the development of the idea. If newspaper reports are to be trusted the nucleus from which the party is to spring into being, is sufficiently large to warrant the belief that a new phase in the labor movement is about to make its appearance. Twenty-one of the largest labor organizations connected with the United Council of the building trades of Greater New York, and claiming to represent 60,000 men, are, it is said, to inaugurate the new departure—if new departure it be. The value of this movement will depend entirely upon the meaning to be given to the word "independent" by the general sense of the body forming it. If by "independent" it is meant that the association shall hold religiously aloof from the politics of either of the capitalist parties, and rely upon their own strength to enforce measures beneficial to the interests of labor, there is a future for it in working along the same lines as the Socialists and ultimately merging with them. If, on the other hand, by "independent" is meant acting as a "balance of power" with either the Republicans or Democrats in order to secure "concessions," it may be confidently asserted that failure is inevitable. The capitalist politicians have always proved more than a match for the workmen when the latter have been duped into playing this game. It requires only a superficial glance at the history of the labor movement to understand that in the numerous cases in which this policy has been adopted the workmen instead of acting as a "balance of power" became merely a shuttlecock to be batted to and fro between the expert political players, representing capitalistic interests. These remarks are necessary because it is not yet quite clear with the meager information at hand as to which policy is to be adopted. It is stated that the party is to "fight their enemies who have dealt them a terrible blow by the annulment of the prevailing rate of wages and the stone dressing laws." It is not at all difficult to secure the promises of capitalist politicians regarding "labor legislation" to be enacted, and it is admitted that in vari-

ous instances such laws have been passed. But in almost every case the enforcement of these laws has been neglected, and when an attempt has been made to secure their enforcement, a compliant body of legislators have always been found to declare them "unconstitutional," and the entire farce has necessarily to be acted over and over again without securing any tangible result.

The capitalist politicians are never the first to cry quits at this game. It does not weary them, they being specially trained to play it. The workmen, on the other hand, should have learned by this time that their efforts must inevitably be neutralized in the attempt to play two sham opponents against each other, just for the reason that their attitude of mutual opposition is only necessary to render the struggle of the workers for better material conditions impotent and abortive.

If the Independent Labor party is to accomplish any change for the better in the lot of the workers, it must read into the word "independent" the only possible meaning it can bear, and determine that it shall hold no parity whatever with the political tools of the capitalist parties. They should be able to see that the path of the labor movement in all lands is strewn with the wrecks of organizations which started out with sanguine hopes of success, but perished through becoming mere adjuncts to the tail of the capitalist kite. In short they must recognize the truth which Socialists long have declared that the emancipation of the working class must be the act of the working class itself. The question is now before them—"How?"

PUBLIC EDUCATION. One of the fundamental demands of the socialists in all countries has been for an educational system that will provide for a complete and adequate education for every member of the community. One of the strongest complaints that they lodge against the present system is that the vast fund of knowledge which is already at the disposal of man is monopolized by a few, and that therefore its possible benefits to mankind are restricted to a very small minority of the population. The socialists demand that this knowledge shall be diffused throughout the entire community and used to lighten the burdens of all the people, instead of being confined to laboratories and libraries and used simply as a means to maintain the rule of the few and the exploitation of the mass. Hence it is that the socialists demand that provision be made for the education of every child in the community. They demand that all possible obstacles shall be removed to the attainment of such an education, and finally that the education itself shall be of a character to develop the entire personality, and not a mere process of stuffing and preparation for future submissive slavery.

As has always been the case with all measures advocated by the socialists, bourgeois reformers and politicians have pretended to champion these educational measures. And as is also invariably the case, whenever an opportunity is offered for any positive action along these lines the socialists are left to fight the battle alone. Thus it has happened that while the Social Settlement, Teachers' Federation, Kindergarten Associations, Civic Federation and reformers in general have always advocated such measures, now that legislation is actually proposed to secure them, all these various bodies are discreetly silent and it remains for the socialist laborers to alone agitate to the end that the introduction of such bills shall not become wholly a farce.

Indeed so little has been said by these friends of education that few people are even aware that bills have been introduced into the Illinois legislature, which if enacted into law would go a long way toward giving every child in this state an opportunity to fit himself for manhood and citizenship. These bills provide for the maintenance of kindergartens in all the public schools of the state, for the establishment of libraries in the larger villages and cities, for the transportation of children to and from the school, where their homes are too far distant to permit walking, for free text-books to be owned by the state and loaned to the pupils, and for a system of high schools which would make it possible for a much larger proportion of the children to obtain an advanced education. To be sure these bills fall far short of the socialist demands, especially in that no provision is made for the feeding of the children which is demanded by any rational system of education. Moreover the socialists are fully aware that

these bills are not introduced with any intention that they should ever be enacted into law. Nevertheless we feel that we would be neglecting our duty as socialists if we did not do all in our power to place the movers of these bills in a position where their insincerity might be apparent.

At the same time we wish to seize this opportunity to impress upon the workers of Chicago and of Illinois the necessity of uniting with the only party that has the courage to demand that the children of the workers of this state shall not be shut out from the opportunity to gain an education. As to the merits of the bills there is absolutely no question. The premise that an adequate education should be guaranteed to every individual is so thoroughly demonstrated as to admit of no denial. That such an education can be secured without all these measures and many additional, is equally certain.

The opposition to them comes wholly from two sources,—one open, the other concealed. The first is from the parochial schools which see their material interests threatened by the appearance of efficient public schools. These are raising a great hue and cry, but as their motive is so apparent they need no further notice. The other source of opposition is the general hostility on the part of capitalism to the growing intelligence of its slaves. This hostility does not show itself in the newspapers nor cry from the house-tops when it uses the religious bodies as mouth-pieces. It works quietly and gains its ends by a policy of suppression. This is what is threatened in the present instance. The bills will be quietly smothered in committee and nothing more will be heard of them, save when at some future time it is necessary to throw dust in the eyes of some branch of the workers by telling them how hard Mr. So-and-so worked to secure better educational "privileges for the masses."

Official Election Returns.
The official returns of the socialist vote in the recent municipal elections show that the candidate of the Socialist party, John Collins, received 5,254, Hoyt (Social Democratic party) 2,045, and Peplin (Socialist Labor Party) 679, making a combined total of 8,106 votes. The returns for the Socialist Party ticket, by wards, are as follows:

Ward 1	..... 25 votes
Ward 2	..... 42 votes
Ward 3	..... 65 votes
Ward 4	..... 87 votes
Ward 5	..... 63 votes
Ward 6	..... 62 votes
Ward 7	..... 122 votes
Ward 8	..... 364 votes
Ward 9	..... 191 votes
Ward 10	..... 83 votes
Ward 11	..... 135 votes
Ward 12	..... 164 votes
Ward 13	..... 144 votes
Ward 14	..... 173 votes
Ward 15	..... 247 votes
Ward 16	..... 188 votes
Ward 17	..... 312 votes
Ward 18	..... 113 votes
Ward 19	..... 93 votes
Ward 20	..... 35 votes
Ward 21	..... 296 votes
Ward 22	..... 290 votes
Ward 23	..... 153 votes
Ward 24	..... 102 votes
Ward 25	..... 132 votes
Ward 26	..... 111 votes
Ward 27	..... 296 votes
Ward 28	..... 262 votes
Ward 29	..... 64 votes
Ward 30	..... 54 votes
Ward 31	..... 122 votes
Ward 32	..... 150 votes
Ward 33	..... 470 votes
Ward 34	..... 66 votes
Ward 35	..... 182 votes
Total	..... 5,254 votes

Open-air Meetings.
Saturday—Paulina and Milwaukee, 8 p. m. Speakers, John Collins and Eug. Klenke.
Sunday—3 p. m., California and North avenue. Speakers, M. Caplan, John Collins.
Sunday—3 p. m., State street and Van Buren. Speakers, W. Huggins, F. W. Knox.
Sunday—8 p. m., State street. Speakers, M. Caplan, J. W. Saunders, G. D. Evans.
Sunday—8 p. m., Peoria and Madison streets. Speakers, Ang. Klenke, J. H. Bard.
Sunday—3 p. m., 43th avenue and Ohio street. Speakers, E. M. Stangland, J. S. Brennan.
Hall meetings:
Sunday—8 p. m., Educational hall, Walter Thomas Mills lectures on the religious wars of the middle ages, the political revolutions of England, Germany and France, and the great Socialist movement of today. Illustrated by 150 stereoscopic pictures by E. Warmbold. Admission, 25 cents.
Sunday—8 p. m., 534 W. North avenue. Speaker, A. Eisenman.
Sunday—8 p. m., 3335 State street. Speaker, F. W. Knox.

The "intelligent" man who calls himself a Socialist, but who votes the ticket of a capitalist party because he is waiting until the Socialist vote grows bigger, no doubt expects that ignorance will lead wisdom into the Socialist ranks by force of numbers in the same manner that ignorance by force of numbers holds him in the capitalist voting ranks. It might be well to inform him that it will be necessary for him to brush up his "intelligence" before voting the Socialist ticket and in that way only can the Socialist vote grow bigger.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

A cartoon in the Inter Ocean of April 13, represents "Cuba Libre" as a crying infant in a bath tub, stretching forth his hand to grasp a cake marked "Cuban Treasury," which lies just out of his reach. The picture bears the legend: "He Won't Be Happy Till He Gets It." and is doubtless intended to portray the greedy, grasping nature of the Cuban in wanting things that belong to him. Just as if the American politician wouldn't raise him if any foreigner stood between him and the object for which he was elected, the possession and control of the treasury.

Of course the Cuban, not being "capable of self-government," could not be safely trusted with control of the treasury. He would proceed to loot it instantly, say those who prevent him from getting it. They do not see that if the charge is true, they virtually admit that the Cuban is "capable of self-government" for the looting of the treasury is the chief evidence nowadays that the political crackman who performs the job is strictly up to date with present ideas of government, as Neely, the first American politician to hold office in the island, proved in less than two months.

The question is not whether the treasury is to be looted, but rather who will do the looting. And it apparently seems that if the Cuban really "won't be happy till he gets it," he may make up his mind to accept his pilgrimage here below as a progress through a "vale of tears." There are quite a number of boys "too strong to work," as Mr. Dooley would say, who stand ready to perpetuate the unhappiness of the Cuban so far as the treasury is concerned. All looting and other "rights" in Cuba are reserved for the "boss."

And this looks all the more certain because of the action of the Cuban convention in rejecting the so-called Platt amendment. It has given the capitalist press of this country an opportunity to declare that Cuba has forfeited all its "rights" and that congress must now assume a "protectorate" over the island in the interest of "good government" and unrestricted capitalist exploitation. And so the dream of "Cuba Libre" vanishes into thin air, to await realization when capitalism gives place to socialism.

In affairs relating to Porto Rico, however, Washington officialdom has had an opportunity to pose as a friend of the "lower classes," which it has not neglected to make the most of. A deputation of Porto Ricans, who came to the capital to protest against the Hollander tax law, which was passed by the local legislature, have been turned down on the ground that they represented the rich land owners of the island, who were endeavoring to shift taxation of their property and throw the burden upon the lower classes. With righteous indignation the United States government rejected the plea of the representatives of the propertied classes and insisted that the tax must stand.

This stinging rebuke to greed is not quite so disinterested as might be supposed at first glance. Here is the reason as given by the correspondent of the Chicago Tribune at Washington: "It appears that the planters are opposing the Hollander law, because it requires payment of taxes on land. This will make it unprofitable to hold large tracts of unoccupied land. The planters wish to hold their plantations out of the market until times improve, when they HOPE TO SELL under the stimulus of the boom American occupation is expected to bring sooner or later." All of which merely signifies that the American capitalist class doesn't propose to boom things for the benefit of the Porto Rican land owners. And as to how all this concerns the laborers of Porto Rico—well there is a growing socialist movement in the island, to the members of which may be safely left the burden of explaining this latest capitalist move.

Three suicides and three attempted suicides were recorded as occurring on last Friday in this city. Five of the tragedies are attributed to poverty and despondency through lack of employment, which is a pretty fair endorsement of the competitive system, which "brings out the best that is in us." One of the cases was that of a boy of 17, the sole support of his family, who had vainly tried for months to secure work, and, becoming desperate, sent a bullet through his head. It really looks as if the most correct measure of capitalist "prosperity" will in the future be found in the statistics of suicides amongst the workers.

The test of strength which seems to be impending between the workers and the iron and steel trust is important for the possibilities that may follow. The trust for stock jobbing reasons may yield for the time being, but the struggle cannot be deferred permanently and the lesson must ultimately be learned. All the efforts of Socialists are not half so potent upon organized labor as the disintegrating influence exercised upon them by the organization of capital expressed in the trust. From the outlook it seems probable that the workmen in the steel and iron industry will have an excellent chance to learn just how Schwab "earns" his \$1,000,000 per annum.

Don't run out of Socialist ammunition. Call postals can always be obtained at this office.

PROFESSIONAL BEGGARS.

Why the Mendicant Who Plies His Trade on the Streets is Hated to Capitalism.

According to the Tribune of April 14 the pastor and congregation of the Avondale Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, O., are at their wits' end because there are no "poor" in the parish, and consequently the church members are deprived of the opportunity to exercise the virtue of "charity." They have gone into the highways and byways seeking in vain for some one in want of "relief," but have found none such. To such straits have they been reduced in consequence that the "Ladies Aid Society" of the parish has determined to borrow some "poor" from neighboring parishes or even to kidnap them in order to justify their existence as an "aid" society. The prospect of living in a "beggars' parish" is so repugnant to these "good" ladies that they must have recourse to unusual methods to procure what the "good" people of other cities consider a nuisance.

In the same paper an article appears in which Chicago is said to be the "mecca of professional beggars," and proposes methods for getting relief from, instead of giving relief to, the beggars in question. This is how the superintendent of Associated Charities would proceed, according to the report: "The remedy for these impositions?" repeated Superintendent Bicknell. "It is in the hands of the people. Between now and sunrise tomorrow morning the people of Chicago could break up street begging past all hope of resurrection. Simply for each citizen to resolve to give nothing to the street alms-seeker under any consideration would be the end of it."

So it seems that the "charitable" people of Cincinnati are suffering from a lack of the things that the "charitable" people of Chicago consider a nuisance. How can these things be? Is it possible that "human nature" is different in these cities? If a limited supply of beggars is a desirable thing, why should an attempt be made to get rid of all of them in Chicago? Suppose it should succeed, would not the "good" people of Chicago be reduced to the lamentable condition of their Cincinnati neighbors?

But there is after all no contradiction involved. The "Ladies Aid Society" wants beggars all right, but not street beggars. The "charitable" people of Chicago do not object to beggars as such, but to the form it takes when outside of their control. It is the street beggar that is objectionable, the fellow who advertises his condition to all and sundry, instead of applying for relief from the "proper channels," to-wit—the "Ladies Aid Societies" and other organized bodies of the same nature.

And this individual is just as objectionable in Cincinnati as he is in Chicago. He is objectionable from various points of view. He refuses to be exploited, preferring rather to exploit others, which is good capitalistic doctrine. He regards all efforts to discover whether he is "deserving" or not, as unwarrantable interference with his "business"—which it is—in from his standpoint. He is in some sort a visible contradiction to the alleged prosperity of the community, a thing which cannot stand too much exposure. He is soliciting alms from the general public who don't know anything about him, rather than apply to those who insist upon getting every detail of his inside history as a preliminary to determine whether they shall give him anything or not, for he is essentially a "business man" in his way and has no time to waste on irrelevant matters; the stock speech which he has prepared for all occasions must suffice. Finally he is objected to because he usually has a comfortable home and money in the bank, which if true, is perhaps the strongest reason why he should continue on the street, instead of getting himself tagged and numbered and listed on the books of an organized association, which will take good care that he doesn't get a chance to accumulate anything under their supervision.

The professional mendicant is not primarily a product of capitalist society. He flourished under the feudal system and was considered an institution during that economic stage, and his calling was by no means regarded as objectionable. The church recognized him as a component part of society and relieved his wants without attempting to "organize" him. But with the gradual growth of capitalism the profession fell into disrepute. The system which demanded organized control of the laborers and perforce to deal with the professional mendicant and it did so through legal regulations and restrictions which have gradually evolved the organized charitable societies of the present. Unorganized beggary is therefore out of harmony with the system of capitalism and is accordingly despised and condemned by the ruling class.

It is not difficult to understand why this Cincinnati parish may lack beggars. It is most probably a so-called "residence district" peopled by the "better classes," in which an unorganized beggar dare not ply his business under pain of instant arrest, and where the increased value of the ground produces the settlement of "deserving poor" in the locality. Such places exist in all large cities, and as their atmosphere is not healthy for the wandering mendicant, that individual avoids them, preferring the "business" district as a more fruitful field of operation. And this perverse habit makes him a "problem" which "organized charity" is unable to solve, and which is likely to remain unsolved until "human nature" is changed or capitalism has passed away.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Notice From Headquarters.

Office Social Democratic Party of the United States of America, Headquarters at Springfield, Mass., April 2. Comrades—The first of May will soon be here, when we should begin our campaign in the open air. Several weeks ago locals were notified of the proposed circuits in contemplation of arrangement, but as yet but few have replied.

Comrades, this is your opportunity to reach your fellow men and teach them their socialism, and we trust that you are all interested enough in the cause to take hold of this plan and carry it out to the fullest extent. Therefore, Comrades, take action at once and make up your minds to push the cause of the social revolution all you can this summer. The more locals participating, the less the expense per meeting will be, so Comrades, put your shoulders once more to the wheel and push hard for socialism. All comrades are also reminded that dues should be paid promptly the 1st of every month, and financial secretaries are especially requested to see to it that all comrades keep paid up. This is one of the most essential features of our propaganda work, and should not be neglected by any party members. Comrades, attend to this matter at once.

Yours fraternally,
WM. BUTSCHER, Nat'l Sec'y.

Trusts of a Week.

(From the Cleveland Citizen.)
Dry goods and department store trust is being formed with \$20,000,000 capital.—The two cereal trusts, one having played "independent" to get opposition concerns in line, will now unite with \$40,000,000 capital.—The two railway equipment and lighting combines have fallen under control of Morgan and Rockefeller and will be united.—The Tennessee coal and iron railway and mills are forming a \$100,000,000 trust and may soon pass into control of the billion-dollar trust, which has also gobbled the Pittsburg Steamship Co. and more iron mines.—Dredging concerns along the lakes are forming a \$10,000,000 trust.—The marble mines of Vermont are uniting.—A \$1,500,000 pulverized fuel trust has been incorporated.—Glue manufacturers are going to stick together in a trust—Arkansas comes forward with a \$2,225,000 sugar beet trust.—The American, Adams, United States and Southern express companies are going to consolidate.—A \$15,000,000 board box trust is being formed.—Turpentine interests of Florida and Georgia are trustifying.—Engine manufacturers forming \$25,000,000 trust.—A \$20,000,000 Western lighting trust is organizing.—Smelters' trust gobbled independents and capitalized at \$100,000,000.

The Strenuous Life.

The following description of an orgie which evidently escaped the notice of the numerous societies for the suppression of "vice" appears in the Chicago Inter Ocean of April 9th: "Clad only in a narrow band of black velvet Abbon fastened around her shapely neck, Miss Millie Delano danced, to the delight of the best element of Milwaukee society Saturday night, and wound up the entertainment with a champagne bath. "She appeared on the stage attired in street costume and went through her sinuous movements. The gray and bald heads had seen these in costume before, and after watching her a few minutes, they turned to converse with each other and to sip their beer. "In a little while those who glanced at the stage uttered exclamations of surprise which attracted the attention of the others. Miss Delano had begun to disrobe in the presence of the audience, and was at the same time keeping step with the music. As each article of feminine apparel was cast aside the applause grew louder. "It took a full half hour for her to divest herself of all she wore but the little narrow strip of ribbon around her neck. That was forgotten under the inspiration and excitement of the applause which had reached a perfect frenzy. Men who had for nearly half a century been in the center of the most strenuous of Milwaukee life lost their self-control and cavorted about the hall like yearlings. "When the imposing form of Miss Delano had disappeared behind the scenes, unable longer to restrain themselves, the members rushed upon the stage as one man and carried the dancer about the hall on their shoulders. This revelry was kept up until all were nearly exhausted. "At the conclusion of the entertainment in the hall most of the members and the dancer repaired to the Oriental cafe for lunch. After the meal champagne was ordered and Miss Delano consented to repeat her performance. At the conclusion of the dance this time the members placed her on a table and, filling their glasses to the brim, threw the contents over her, giving her a champagne bath. "It is almost certain that the next municipal election in Milwaukee will see a demand made for 'civic purity,' and various other brands of 'reform,' by people who are recognized as the 'best element' in Milwaukee society, and it is an even chance that some of the strenuous billy goats who 'cavorted around the hall' at the jamboree will be foremost in aiding the good work. Capitalist 'morality' is truly a fearful and wonderful thing.

Every Socialist should equip himself with a bundle of the "May-day" number.

The absorption of the Havana American Co. by the American Tobacco Co. (the trust) will make things interesting for the Cigar Makers' International union. They will have to show cause why workmen should not enter politics, ay, and class politics at that.

As a Contractor Sees It.

By Alfred B. Andrews.

I was much interested in an article in the Workers' Call of March 29th, headed "As a Bricklayer Sees It," and signed "A Bricklayer." The article, in large part, is directed against the contractor. After reading it one might infer that the contractor is an evil person whose sole business it is to make life a burden for his employes. Being a contractor myself, I was much interested in the Phillipic. In the main I quite agree with Comrade "Bricklayer," but as socialists we must have the whole truth in regard to any matter, therefore I desire to add something to his remarks. There is a mistaken idea current that the contractor is a capitalist. Just here the laboring man errs, for he is prone to think that the contractor is the cause of his hardships and therefore he directs all his efforts toward remedying his condition against the contractor, instead of looking beyond to see why it is that we have him in our midst.

The contractor is not a capitalist, neither is he the cause of the laboring man's discomforts. The much abused contractor is merely the agent of the capitalist. He is not the owner of the machine, but the man who hires the men to make the machine. The contractor is merely one of the products of our present economic system. Do away with him, and the capitalist would immediately secure the services of a harder taskmaster. Another false impression entertained by many is that the contractor does not work, except to go about here and there and collect his profits. While this may be true of a few, the great majority of men engaged in the contracting business do a great deal of mental work, as well as physical—laying out work, devising economic means of gathering material and fitting it up in place, instructing incompetent mechanics, and, in fine, bringing order out of chaos.

In any social system such an overseer would always be essential to systematic progress. Theoretically the profit system upon which the contractor depends for an existence, might imply large dividends. Practically, with the few exceptions, he gets but a fair living wage for his efforts in the capacity of a man in charge of affairs. Frequently even this is not the case. So it happens that the contractor is a laboring man and belongs to the laboring class, and is compensated for his services by a profit system, which to him amounts to but little more than a wage. The process may be said to be as follows: The capitalist engages the contractor to secure the labor and collect the material and see that it is properly assembled so as to form the desired structure. His profit, or wage, is the difference between the amount given him and the amount expended for labor and material. It may be more or less, and frequently, in these days of competition, amounts to but very little, if anything.

In order to compete with his fellows on an equal footing, the conscientious contractor desires that labor be given an established fee per day, so that in estimating, he may know what to depend upon. Therefore I think I am right when I say that almost without exception, reputable contractors look with great favor upon all labor unions in their efforts to regulate the wage scale. In fact, I have heard more opposition to the union from men in the ranks than from the contractors themselves. I think I am safe in saying that it is immaterial to the average contractor how high the scale of wages, or how short the hours, provided he is given reasonable assurance that they are stable and will continue in force for a certain length of time.

Another great fallacy is the idea that contractors are fighting the mechanics, and as an example the recent lockout and strike is cited. Before the organization of labor, unscrupulous contractors may have beat down the wages of their employes, but, thanks to the labor unions, this is no longer possible, and both contractors and workmen rejoice in it. But this was not the cause of the recent trouble. The real cause, to my mind, lay in the desire of the contractors to bring about the very thing the labor unions were striving to attain, viz, stability in wages, length of working hours, etc. I do not say that the contractors had in mind the welfare of their employes, or were aware of the good they were doing, except in so far as it reverted to themselves. But the facts are that due to unscrupulous and shortsighted members of the unions, matters were getting in a chaotic state. Mechanics on buildings were becoming arbitrary and unreasonable. Everywhere there seemed to be a concerted movement on the part of certain members of the unions to make as much inconvenience as possible and harass the contractor to the limit of his patience. I think I may say that this was a source of great annoyance to many of the union members themselves. When matters came to that point, where contractors could no longer estimate on work with any certainty, due to the chaotic state of affairs, the rupture came. It takes fire to fight fire. The contractor then in his turn became unreasonable in many of his demands, and so it came about that the whole body of labor looked upon him as a common enemy. The abolition of the Building Trades Council was the bone of contention. Naturally the union men fought hard for the maintenance of their central body and they were quite justified in doing so. This organization was right in principle, but had in practice, it had become degenerate. No adequate steps were taken to purify it from within.

so the destruction was demanded from without. If the central organization of the trades unions had conducted the affairs of the unions in an orderly manner, and treated outsiders with consideration, at the same time making it their business to maintain stability in their rules and regulations of the unions, showing no discrimination or favoritism, I feel sure that the contractors of Chicago would have considered the interests of such an organization as being identical with their own. So, under our present economic system, it behoves the mechanic and the contractor to get together on the most friendly terms, in as much as their interests are largely identical. If they must fight, let them unite forces and wage war against the man of great wealth, who desires to get his work done at less than the cost of production. The most ready way to rid ourselves of the evil fruit is to strike at the root of the tree. The system is wrong. The working man holds in his hand the key to the new dispensation. Let him with dignity and confidence step firmly to the polls and show to the world that he stands for justice and equity.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Olimpex of the World-wide struggle of the Proletarian Army for Its Liberty.

AUSTRIA.
One of the deputies elected to the reichsrath is a schoolmaster, working under the Vienna communal council—which is the school authority. Herr Lueger, the burgo-master, who is an anti-Semite, has dismissed him. This measure, which is contrary to all precedent, has roused a great deal of opposition even among many Conservatives and Liberals, and his action has been condemned by many bodies. Anti-Semitism is beginning to be found out in Austria, as it will be elsewhere.

BELGIUM.
An indictment has been brought before the jury of the Assizes against our contemporary, The Worker of Antwerp. The accusation is that it used too strong language in reference to the last dockers' strike, in one of its numbers.

The Socialist members have made in Parliament a strong protest against a scandal at Antwerp, in giving the tramway monopoly to a syndicate of capitalists. The Socialist representative of Antwerp, comrade Terwagne, showed that they simply bought the press to work on their behalf. The government did nothing to prevent it.

DENMARK.
The municipal elections have been held at Copenhagen. The Liberals and Social-Democrats ran a joint list of candidates and returned these by 15,700 votes against 10,400 given to the Conservative candidates.

FRANCE.
At Chateau Thierry a workman was dismissed by his employer for belonging to a trade union. An action was brought, and the man succeeded in obtaining compensation.

GERMANY.
The minister of war has instituted proceedings against Vorwärts for publishing letters from China in which the atrocities committed by the troops at the instigation of "God's faithful ally" are related. But "there are judges at Berlin," and the result of the trial will probably make the government regret their action.

RUSSIA.
Vorwärts publishes a protest—signed by many Russians against the brutalities of the Russian police and Cossacks at St. Petersburg. Many students have been arrested not only at St. Petersburg, but also in the provincial universities, and at Odessa 100 persons, and at Riga 300, are in prison. No wonder when these arbitrary arrests take place that we hear of assassinations and plots.

Orders for the special May-day number must be in this office by Thursday noon, April 25.

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

The Stenographers and Typewriters' union meets Monday, April 22, at 12 noon, at 609 Ashland block, Clark and Randolph streets.

Thomas J. Morgan will speak at the Socialist Temple for the Ladies' Auxiliary on Thursday, April 25th, at 8 p. m. The temple is situated at 120 Western avenue.

A debate between speakers of the Self-Educational club and the Socialist Educational club will take place on Friday, April 25th, at 8 p. m. sharp in the Hull House auditorium, Halsted and Polk streets.

One of the popular entertainments given by the 25th Ward Club will be held at Proletariat hall, 929 Sheffield avenue, corner Belmont, on Friday, April 26th, 8 p. m. Music provided. Refreshments free. Admission, 25 cents.

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.

LABOR ITEMS

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

Franz Seibert, pioneer Socialist, died in New York last week.

Socialists of Great Britain report increased votes in local elections throughout the country.

Municipal election at Puteaux, near Paris, resulted in Socialists defeating the Nationalists by 1,457 to 842 votes.

Roosevelter has contributed \$12,000 towards the erection of a Baptist church next door to his university in this city.

About 20 labor men, among them half a dozen uncompromising Socialists, have been elected to the new London County Council.

Miners and iron workers by the hundreds of thousands are having wages reduced in England. Cause? Can't compete with American "pauper" labor.

Union holders have decided to demand an increase on the minimum wage scale of \$2.75 per day, and the proposition is to be presented to the foundry owners of Chicago as soon as possible.

Of the 14 "labor bills" that the trade unions brought before the Nebraska legislature all but two insignificant ones were turned down. Serves 'em right. Why do they elect politicians? Why don't they elect their own people?

Half of the employes of the American Sheet Steel Co. at McKeesport, Pa., are on strike because seven of their number were discharged for the crime of joining a newly organized lodge of the Amalgamated Association.

New York advices say Standard oil crowd secured control of coffee trust and sent price up one cent a pound. This means that Rockefeller and his piratical crew will clean up, by this advance, an additional \$6,500,000 a year.

Newspaper reports state that Tom L. Johnson, the "reformer" who has been elected mayor of Cleveland, proposes to give the city a "business administration," which is about the best method of showing the workmen of Cleveland their folly in electing him.

Morgan syndicate has gobbled \$1,000,000 of coal lands in Pennsylvania. Half a dozen towns with their lighting and water plants are included in the purchase, and it is said that the syndicate holds "options" on other coal lands in the state worth \$100,000,000. Looks as if the name "billion-dollar steel trust" is fast outgrowing its numerical adjective.

Work on the Chicago postoffice building is in danger of being suspended unless the wages of stone derrick workers are advanced 80 cents per day. Sixteen of the twenty-two non-union men of that industry have joined the union, and the contractor's assurances that no future labor troubles were probable have received the usual confirmation in the form of a threatened strike.

The laugh is on the tobacco jobber, a useless person. Recently the tobacco trust, feeling that it needed a few additional millions in fat dividends, raised the price on plug tobacco one cent a pound. The jobbers, tried to shift the tax on to the shoulders of the retailers, but the trust stepped in and sold to the retailers at the original figure, and it looks now as though the combine is preparing to wipe the jobbers out of existence. Small loss.

In spite of the fiasco of the Ketcham blacklisting case, one Michael Driscoll is bringing suit against the Pittsburg-Fort Wayne and Chicago R. R. for \$100,000 damages on account of being blacklisted by the company for participation in the great strike of 1894. Like Ketcham, the plaintiff may get "judgment," but the prospect of cash is probably remote. It may be that when the necessary experience is gone through Mr. Driscoll will be able to understand what "law" means in the hands of the other fellow.

Perhaps you may not know it, Mr. Workingman, but the "balance of trade" in "your" country is expected to reach \$700,000,000 this year. That means that you have worked longer hours, produced far more and received proportionately less than the "pauper" laborer of Europe, against whom your masters are ever ready to "protect" you. It also means many other things too numerous to mention, but it doesn't mean that you or your class are going to get any of the 700,000,000 aforesaid. And it is for that reason alone that the "balance of trade" is termed "favorable."

A Question of "Rights."

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has decided that the American Federation of Labor has no "right" to entice apprentices working in a factory to become members of the Glass Workers' union, holding that the manufacturer had the "right" to employ workmen independent of any labor union, and the "right" also to adopt a system of apprenticeship excluding apprentices from membership in such union, and that no union had a "right" to interfere. If members of the labor unions when reading this decision would substitute the word "power" wherever "right" occurs, they might perhaps place themselves in a position to discover some invaluable information about "rights" which would prove exceedingly useful later on.

AFTER THE BATTLE.

The Working Class Having Again Placed Their Enemies in Power Must Take the Consequences.

The workmen of Chicago—the producers and those engaged in the necessary labor attendant upon production—have consented by their vote to be governed by a mayor who represents the class which profits by the system under which production is now carried on.

A union man—John Collins—representing the interests of labor, has been defeated as a result of scabbing at the polls. Laborers who have nothing to lose but wretched conditions of life, have passed up the opportunity of registering a kick in the most effective manner against those conditions, and have deliberately voted for some more of the misery to which they have been accustomed.

A workman, whose whole energy is devoted to enlightening his fellow workmen, standing on a platform which proposed that the city should employ the unemployed, educate the children and feed and clothe them when necessary to their attendance at school, assist workmen on strike to better their conditions, give the best medical and hospital care free of charge to the sick and injured producers, a workman on such a platform has been defeated by the votes of workmen in the election just past! And for whom? And for what reason?

For a man who belongs to the class which profits by the laborers' misery and which, for that reason, wishes to keep him down forever. A man who has proved worthy by his past service in that respect. For his class, a man who believes it best to try to scare the workmen by showing them the glistening guns in the possession of the police, who, when he finds that fails, orders his policemen to club the workmen who strike to get enough of their product to live decently, who, whenever this doesn't accomplish his purpose, orders that the limit be given to any striker arrested for trying to keep another from taking his job—such a man has been chosen by the workmen of Chicago for mayor. He stood for 20-year franchises, for no "blue laws," that is, "let the saloonkeeper alone; I profit by his adulterated beer and his foul-gut whiskey; the saloonkeeper must have personal liberty—my policemen will take care that the 'drunks' are fined heavily, and we know who get the swag." He stood for the rights of capitalists. Who would antagonize capitalists, if their rights need a defender? Surely not other capitalists, for he says "the rights of capitalists!" That includes all capitalists. Then he must be defending them as against others than capitalists. And who are they? Laborers; of course, producers, those who work, those whom capitalists exploit! You, workmen! Yes, against you! This is your Carlos H. Harrison.

The workmen were asked to vote for one of their own number and for their own interests; for a union man and for the interests of working class solidarity; for a platform solely in their interests, first, last and always, and they chose Harrison and 20-year franchises.

The noise is over, the talking to workmen has ceased until another election, the friend of the workmen who has been defeated is tired and sore and curses his luck, the friend of the workmen who was successful proceeds to take a rest, the capitalists who win hasten to brush the paraphernalia off the stage, the capitalist press urges that, now that it is over, let everybody settle down to business again and the skinning of labor goes on as before. But, after the capitalists have disposed of their part of the affair and go about their business, confident that the working men will always remain fools and will always respond when called upon to empower an enemy, with the authority of life and death over them, the class-conscious workmen gather their wheat from the chaff and they find that the good seed has taken root wherever the ground has not been stony, and that there are less fools among the workmen by the number of the increase in the votes for the party of the workmen—the Socialist party.

They find that, notwithstanding all "arts of prejudice and ignorance on the part of the workers, and all sorts of cunning on the part of the exploiters, that light is entering the lives of an increasing number of workmen, and as the count is made each member of freedom's army is re-empowered by the knowledge that the ranks are swelling and that at once a larger number of sowers go about to plant the seeds of socialism in the soil which capitalism is manuring unconsciously for its fruitful acceptance.

Stands for "The Open Door"

Among last week's fairs perhaps the prosecution of "Hinky Dink" for keeping his saloon open Sunday, takes first rank. A simple-minded woman who was unscrupulous enough to take the cry of "reform" seriously, ventured to prosecute the redoubtable alderman on the above mentioned charge. The foolish creature who thought that an "open violation of the law" would meet certain punishment in the courts was speedily undeceived. "Dink" owned everything in sight, and the result was a foregone conclusion. The city prosecuting attorney wouldn't prosecute, the witnesses failed to appear, and after the attorney for the defense had abused the complainant sufficiently, "Dink" was acquitted amidst general laughter. Everybody knew that his saloon was open, just as everybody knows that practically everyone in the city

saloons in the city are open on Sundays, and everybody knew that there is a law requiring them to be closed on that day. And, finally, everybody (reformers and idiots excepted) knew that this violation of the law incurred no penalty. But it seems that Mrs. Boyd has not yet comprehended the nature of "our institutions," as she has preferred charges against the city prosecuting attorney for "neglect of duty," or some trifling dereliction of that sort.

STANDS UNSHAKEN.

Correctness of Marxian Economic Demonstrated by the Course of Recent Events.

After several years of closest scientific investigation, the economic teachings of Karl Marx stand forth more triumphant than ever. One after another the waves of latter day scientific criticism were shattered by the massive rock of facts and logic, on which scientific socialism is founded. Defeated all along the line, our adversaries retreated into the obscurity whence they had arisen. Bernstein alone still sulks among the desolate ruins of his artificial conception of a steadily increasing middle class.

The course of economic evolution demonstrated only too plainly how well Marx had recognized the leading factors in the problem. Even while his recent opponents were still ransacking the dusty shelves of cobweb-covered abstractions for further proofs, the busy wheels of economic progress were slowly but surely fashioning the events that ended in the tragedies of the Philippines, South Africa and China.

In the clear light of Marx's materialistic (economic) conception of history, we plainly perceive that concentration of capital and increased productivity of labor must lead to an accumulation of unemployed funds and to a glut in the market. This naturally forces the capitalist to find new fields of investment and other markets outside of the overstocked and limited territory. Hence expansion and its foster child, militarism, with their natural consequences—denial of the rights guaranteed by the declaration of independence, rise of a class of snobs and an emperor in Washington.

In reply to the fable of an increasing middle class, the defenders of Marx, assisted by the evolution of industry, were enabled to point out that concentration of the industries into fewer hands, reduces ever richer and richer people to the ranks of wage workers. For even millionaires are unable to compete with billion-dollar trusts and glacially become employes of these gigantic organizations. As such they are subject to the will of the employer as much as the poorest laborer, and proletarians in the sense that in superintending and directing they are doing useful work for the benefit of idle men. That their wages are called salary and assume dimensions out of all proportion with the value of their work does not alter this proposition.

And when Bernstein quoted statistics in proof of the alleged fact that the volume of deposits by small capitalists was increasing, Vanderveide's investigations showed that 80 per cent of this increase was made up of small deposits from \$5 to \$100 per year. The remaining 20 per cent were large deposits made by a few individuals.

Our intellectual duels with the luckless disciples of Henry George always resulted in victories for the socialists, who, armed with the sharp weapons from the Marxian armory, easily pierced the armor of the inadequate and one-sided single-tax theory. For land is only one form of capital, and it is illogical to abolish private property in land and leave private property in all the other means of production untouched. It is useless to abolish rent, and to leave wage slavery intact. It is childish to cry out against monopoly in land and pass in silence the class struggle.

The often repeated argument that the laboring class is not sufficiently educated to assume the control of the industries and take the political power into its own hands, was adequately met by the explanation that the industries have been thoroughly organized by the capitalists, until now the whole vast machinery of production is handled exclusively by workmen.

Only the political power remains to be conquered. And in order to do this, we faithfully follow Marx's advice to organize and educate the workers, heedless of the protesting cry of the theorist, who believes that society will grow into socialism like a caterpillar into a butterfly. More than ever we emphasize the necessity of forming trade unions for men, women and even children. Stronger than ever our pleas for the support of the existing trades unions, even though the fanatic may raise the feeble and childish cry: "Smash the unions!" Louder than ever rises our warning: "Workers, unite!" And most earnestly let us add the fervent wish: "Socialists, unite!"

E. UNTERMANN.

A Superfluous Recommendation.

A "Committee of Fifteen" in New York city have made the startling discovery that "vice" is under police protection, that gambling and poolrooms are being operated in open violation of the law and that the passion for gambling had increased to such an extent as to become a "menace to the community." It might be thought that this information would hardly come under the head of "news," it being the normal condition of every large city in the land to a greater or lesser degree, but what is really remarkable about it is that the committee of fifteen reports that "they do not think that the best

Socialist Pointers

What a mighty army it would be for Socialism if each Call subscriber were a Call hustler.

The trusts are teaching socialism. It is our privilege to direct the teaching so it will not go astray.

You never know who will buy a Workers' Call card, and it costs no money to ask people to buy.

Even the "smash the trust" issue is dead. Three-cent car fare is the only live issue. It is so harmless.

Everybody in Chicago should hear of Socialism from the people's platform—the soap-box—this summer.

Mayor Jones of Toledo would like to be a Socialist, but the Socialists will not let him. Cruel Socialists!

Chicago not only stands for union, but it hustles for it. Union of Socialists, not necessarily of leaders.

The Cigar Makers' union is in a fight against the trust. You can help them by smoking union-made cigars.

The trusts have no use for unions. Pure and simple methods are scheduled for a good hard blow from them.

Japan has a Socialist party. Everywhere capitalism produces the power that eventually is to overthrow it.

The special May day issue will be one that you will be proud to show to your friends. Early orders are in order.

Tom Johnson with his three-cent car fare schemes is a long way from Socialism, but he will do as a decoy duck.

Business halts at Springfield until Lorimer gets well. The Socialists, you know, would interfere with individual action.

Do the party workers realize that great things are expected of them in the way of making sales of picnic tickets?

The small cities are now forging ahead of the large cities in the race for Socialism. Go it, little ones; we are not jealous.

The legislature acts as if it were about to forget all the municipal ownership planks on which its members were elected.

The Workers' Call is your paper. You never see a banker going around with Call cards in his pockets looking for subscribers.

The election returns showed that the Chicago board took itself altogether too seriously, but the voters had it sized up correctly.

English Socialists want to start a daily paper. So do Chicago Socialists, for that matter, but talk doesn't do these little things.

Branches can increase their membership by securing subscribers to The Workers' Call in their neighborhood. The scheme is easy.

The law is not for Hinky Dink. It is for the fellows who get on soap boxes and stir up discontent with the existing order of things.

Mark Hanna does not have to be a friend of the coal miner this summer. There is nothing in it for him now, so they must fight their own battles.

It is heralded abroad that Mayor Harrison was re-elected on a municipal ownership platform, but it is doubtful if the mayor knows anything about it.

The secret of Pierpont Morgan's trip to Europe is out. He went over to buy a blooded pup, and he did not work for the money he paid for it with, either.

Chicago made the best showing of any of the big cities in the spring election. Chicago is all right and it is for union with a big U and the kind that sticks.

An alderman complains that street work is hampered because old men are hired as laborers. The old men should be shot. The capitalists are through with them.

The steel trust manager gets \$1,000,000 a year and he don't belong to any labor union. He is only looking out for his fellow laborers to see where he can cut their wages.

The labor unions have been successful in the past because their enemies were divided. Now they meet the trust and the only place they can hold it down is at the ballot box.

The building trade laborers of New York are talking about independent political action. Independent of their brother laborers they will accomplish nothing. In union there is strength.

This paper is the property of the Socialist workmen of Chicago. It is not published for the profit of any individual, but to advocate the political and economic interests of the working class.

Are you still hustling for subscribers?

The Chicago School of Social Economy.

WILL ORGANIZE A CLUB ANYWHERE.

Any comrade who will join this school as a regular correspondence student and do good work may organize a class of his own and we will furnish him the printed lessons in any quantity he may need them for the use of his students.

Such classes are now being undertaken in many places. The best time for meeting is usually on Sunday.

These lessons can be studied and appreciated by children twelve years old or over. Comrade Mills will follow this series of lessons with a course for children as soon as he can arrange to do so.

Organize a Sunday School and we will supply you with the lessons. Comrade Herman Grossbeck of Wyoming, in closing his review of the second lesson said: "These lessons are grand and I take the greatest delight in them. Better establish classes in every town of importance and then socialism will come by the overwhelming weight of public sentiment."

This is exactly what we want to do. The best way to help the coming of socialism is to learn how to get hold of the subject "by the handle" yourself.

This is the Grand Army of the wide world. A good soldier will fight best with the best arms and the best ammunition. These lessons are packed full of powder which is both smokeless and noiseless. You can tell where they have been only by the havoc they have wrought in the old school of economics and politics.

Master these lessons and no one living can silence or outfound you in your defense of socialism.

Get your neighbors to join a class and study together and you will carry your town for the party of socialism before you now dream that it will be possible.

It will cost you only three dollars for the teacher's tuition and then at the rate of five cents a lesson for the rest of the comrades.

Send a stamp for particulars to THE CHICAGO SCHOOL OF SOCIAL ECONOMY 3902 Langley Ave., Chicago, Ill.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CHICAGO.

Branch Directory.

Secretaries will please send notice of any omissions, changes or corrections in the following list and notify the editor of The Workers' Call, 26 N. Clark street.

COMMITTEES.

GENERAL COMMITTEE meets first Saturday of every month at Koch's hall, 104 E. Randolph street; A. W. Lindgren, secretary, 1477 Roscoe st.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE meets every Monday at Workers' Call office, 26 N. Clark street, Room 1; secretary, A. W. Lindgren, 1477 Roscoe st.

BRANCHES.

The following directory announces only the business meetings of the various branches. All agitation meetings will be announced in the "List of Meetings," which will be found on the first page of every issue of The Workers' Call.

FIRST WARD—Every Tuesday night, Atlantic Hotel, southwest corner Van Buren and Sherman streets; secretary, Leo Maremont, 497 Wabash ave.

SECOND WARD—Every Friday night, 214 Wabash avenue; secretary, Rice Washbrough, 175 E. 22d street.

THIRD WARD—Headquarters, 3355 S. State street; meets every Monday at 8 p. m.; secretary, S. E. Yeomans, 3260 State street.

FOURTH WARD—Meets every first and third Monday night at 3110 South Halsted street; secretary, Joe Trentz, 359 E. Twenty-fourth street.

FIFTH WARD—Every second and fourth Tuesday at 5749 S. Halsted st.; Sec. George Mitchell, 1233 35th st.

SIXTH WARD—Meets Friday nights; secretary, M. Kleiminger, 454 Lake avenue.

SEVENTH WARD—Meets at Forest-street hall, 632 Cottage Grove ave., every Thursday at 8 p. m.; Sec. Peyton Boswell, 607 Washington ave.

EIGHTH WARD—Every Saturday 9 p. m. at Sherman Hall, 5149 Commercial ave.; Sec. M. H. Taft, 9906 Commercial avenue.

NINTH AND TENTH WARDS—Meet every Monday night at 436 S. Halsted street; secretary, Geo. L. Rosenberg, 516 W. Twelfth street.

ELEVENTH WARD—Every Friday night at 294 W. Hastings; secretary, Robert Plotter, 400 Washburne ave.

TWELFTH WARD—Every Friday 8 p. m. at 124 Twenty-fourth street, near Oakley avenue; secretary, G. J. Sindelar, 1198 S. Albany av.

THIRTEENTH WARD—Every Wednesday at Socialist Temple, 120 S. Western avenue; secretary, James Lambert, 1912 Washington Blvd.

FOURTEENTH WARD—Every Friday at Miles' Hall, southeast corner Grand and Western avenues; secretary, E. Cope, 182 Emerson avenue.

FIFTEENTH WARD—Headquarters at 594 W. North avenue; secretary, M. Hull, 84 Thomas street.

SIXTEENTH WARD—Every Monday at 1133 Milwaukee avenue, second floor; secretary, O. Eselack, 446 N. Wood street.

SEVENTEENTH WARD—Every Sunday at 3 p. m., Aurora Hall, Huron street and Milwaukee avenue; secretary, Sol Siegel, 199 W. Huron street.

EIGHTEENTH WARD—First and third Wednesday at 477 W. Madison street; secretary, John Gillespie, 477 W. Madison street.

NINETEENTH WARD—Every Tuesday evening at Hull House, secretary, Miss Mary Colson, Hull House, corner Polk and Halsted streets.

TWENTIETH WARD—Every Thursday at Socialist Temple, 120 S. Western avenue; secretary, J. P. Eckenberg, 322 N. Franklin street.

TWENTY-FIRST WARD—Every Wednesday at 181 Wells street; secretary, R. A. Morris, 36 N. Clark street.

TWENTY-SECOND WARD—Every second Tuesday in the month at 54 Clybourn avenue; secretary, P. F. Eckenberg, 322 N. Franklin street.

TWENTY-THIRD WARD—Every Friday at Garfield Turner Hall, Garfield and Larrabee streets; secretary, A. H. Schuler, 148 Dayton street.

TWENTY-FOURTH WARD—Every first and third Friday at N. W. corner Southport avenue and Diversey Blvd.; secretary, L. N. Wagner, 628 Southport avenue.

TWENTY-FIFTH WARD—Every first and third Sunday, 2 p. m., and every second and fourth Tuesday, 8 p. m., at headquarters, Proletarian Hall, 983 Sheffield avenue; secretary, G. A. F. Herold, 877 Ogden.

TWENTY-SIXTH WARD—Every second and fourth Wednesday at 1657 Lincoln avenue; secretary, A. Johnson, 233 Cuyler avenue.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 1—Meetings every Friday at 293 W. Wellington street; secretary, Wm. H. Leffingwell, 629 W. Wellington st.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 2—Secretary, J. H. Hard, 113 W. Irving Park Blvd.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 3—Every first and third Monday, Lind-Hall, Fifty-first avenue and St. Paul road; secretary, J. Harris, Fullerton and O'Brien.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 4—Secretary, A. Eisenman, 1116 Armitage avenue.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 5—Secretary, Daniel Zatzke, 1151 N. Fifty-seventh court.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 6—Secretary, James Charbonneau, 3168 N. Whipple street.

TWENTY-EIGHTH WARD—Every Wednesday at headquarters, Socialist Hall, Armitage and Milwaukee avenues; secretary, Chas. Ehnborn, 170 Johnston avenue.

TWENTY-NINTH WARD—Every Monday at 48 Bishop street; secretary, Nick Krump, 413 W. Forty-second street.

THIRTIETH WARD—Secretary, F. W. Fisher, 125 Westworth avenue.

THIRTY-FIRST WARD—Every Friday evening at headquarters, 699 Halsted street; secretary, H. P. Newman, 6714 Loosda street.

THIRTY-SECOND WARD—Meets second and fourth Monday at 3038 Halsted street; secretary, Charles F. Lowrie, 6401 Parnell avenue.

THIRTY-THIRD WARD—Every second and fourth Wednesday evening at 1138 street and Michigan avenue; secretary, G. F. Denno, 1147 Perry av.

THIRTY-FOURTH WARD—Meets every Monday evening at 1329 W. Monroe street; secretary, H. C. Johnson, 2329 W. Monroe street.

THIRTY-FIFTH WARD, No. 1—Every Wednesday at Lindstrom's Hall, 48th avenue and Lake street; secretary, J. M. Crook, 156 N. 53d avenue.

THIRTY-FIFTH WARD, No. 2—Every first and third Friday evenings at Liberty Hall, corner Chicago and Hamilton avenues; secretary, F. G. Strickland, 214 N. St. Louis avenue.

GERMAN BRANCHES. KARL MARX CLUB—Every second and fourth Monday evening at 890 Larrabee street and North avenue; secretary, O. Grilacki, 627 N. Halsted.

FREDERICK ENGELS CLUB—Meets at 49th and 540 W. 49th street; secretary, Henry Steiner, 240 W. 49th street.

EIGHTH WARD GERMAN CLUB—Every first and third Friday evening at 910 South Chicago avenue; secretary, Ferdinand Jahnke, 1013 Ave. K.

TWENTY-SIXTH WARD GERMAN CLUB—Every first and third Friday evenings at Social Turner Hall, Belmont and Paulina.

POLISH BRANCHES. POLISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Meets every Monday at Polish headquarters, 484 Noble street; secretary, F. Cienciarz, 484 Noble street.

SEVENTEENTH WARD BRANCH—Every Saturday at 484 Noble street; secretary, M. Pitek, 484 Noble street.

EIGHTH WARD BRANCH—Every Sunday, 3 p. m., at Prokop's Hall, 84th street and Superior avenue; secretary, F. Rudzinski, 8757 Market ave.

TENTH WARD BRANCH—Every Saturday evening at Pulaak's Hall, 18th street and Ashland avenue; secretary, K. Kosturaid, 617 W. 29th street.

TWENTY-NINTH WARD BRANCH—Every first and third evenings, Kosciuszki Hall, 48th and Wood streets.

LADIES' BRANCH—Every first Sunday at 852 51st place; secretary, Mrs. B. Felick, 852 51st place.

EDUCATIONAL CLUBS. SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL CLUB—Headquarters and lecture rooms, 1132 Milwaukee avenue; business meeting every Wednesday.

LASALLE POLITICAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB—Lecture and reading rooms at 488 S. Halsted street; meetings every Friday night.

ILLINOIS. Locals affiliated with Social Democratic Party, headquarters at Springfield, Mass.

ILLINOIS STATE COMMITTEE meets every second and fourth Friday evenings at 26 N. Clark street; secretary, R. A. Morris, 36 N. Clark street.

LOCAL ALTON—Secretary, Aug. Shilpert, 804 Union street.

LOCAL BELLEVILLE—Secretary, G. W. Boyce, 114 N. Gold street.

LOCAL CENTRALIA—Secretary, Anton Baumgarten, Railroad No. 3.

LOCAL GLEN CARBON—Secretary, C. Demmerich.

LOCAL GALESBURG—Secretary, Jno. C. Spodin, 1027 E. North street.

LOCAL HERRIN—Secretary, F. R. Myers.

LOCAL MONMOUTH—Secretary, R. F. Watson, Box 1999.

LOCAL MOLINE—Secretary, Paul Pressell.

LOCAL NEW BURNSIDE—Secretary, A. O. Miles.

LOCAL PERIN—Secretary, G. F. Schmidt, 512 Court street.

LOCAL QUINCY—Secretary, William Heuman, 1235 State street.

LOCAL ROCK ISLAND—Secretary, H. Weyland, 1209 Fifth avenue.

LOCAL GLEN ELLYN—Secretary, Chas. H. Kerr.

LOCAL SPRINGFIELD—Secretary, A. Von Behrens, 1940 N. Grand avenue.

LOCAL FRENCHBURG—Secretary, Joe Sutton.

LOCAL TRENTON—Secretary J. J. Shuster.

LOCAL ALTOONA—Secretary, Carl Ellison, M. D.

LOCAL BISHOP HILL—Secretary, A. F. Lindwall.

LOCAL ROCKFORD—Secretary, Henry Nesvant, 409 Seventh street.

LOCAL BERWICK—Secretary, H. E. Allen.

LOCAL ABINGDON—Secretary, Thos. Wallace.

LOCAL PANA—Secretary, Henry Wulmer.

LOCAL LINCOLN—Sec., J. N. Balt.

Socialist Temple

120 S. Western Ave.

Campaign Meeting, Sunday 3:30 p. m. Socialist School, Sunday, 2:30 P. M. (Advanced class taught by A. M. Simons.) Social Crusade, People's Meeting Sunday 8 p. m. Socialist Party Meeting, Tuesday, 8 p. m. Ladies' Auxiliary Thursday, 8 p. m. Reading Room Open Every Evening.

John Kozlik, FINE BOOTS & SHOES. AT LOWEST PRICES. Repairing neatly and promptly done. I keep only Solid Leather Boots and Shoes, and First Quality Sables.

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IN GENTLE ACCENTS

(Continued from page 1.)

from them all blessings flow, it is unwise, impractical, indelicate, ungrateful, injudicious and inexpedient to lay too much stress upon the manner in which they get what they have power to give or withhold. It was all very well that the reckless agitator of nineteen hundred years ago called down denunciations upon those who devoured widows' houses and for a pretence made long prayers. Possibly he was justified by the "conditions" then existing, and at any rate he received his reward from the "best circles" of that day. But this is the twentieth century—present conditions must be considered—and a man must live somehow.

When the ministers have got through deploring the evil complained of and have made quite certain that nobody that is anybody has heard them, they might, with great profit to themselves, and with the fullest concurrence of the "best circles," wrestle for a while with that periodically recurring question, that "problem" of the ages—why workmen don't go to church.

The "May-day" number will be out Saturday, April 27. Bundle rates 50c. per hundred.

Socialist Temple Notes.

Remember the entertainment given tonight, April 20th, by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Socialist party. Tickets, 25 cents, including refreshments. See advertisement.

Next Sunday at 2:30 Comrade A. M. Simon will give another one of his interesting lectures. At 3:30 Comrade Geo. Koop will speak. Thirty minutes following the lecture will be devoted to questions and answers. At 8 p. m. the Schubert string quartette will play and Comrade William H. Wise will speak.

Tuesday, April 23, 8 p. m., Comrade Thomas J. Morgan will speak. Every Thursday evening the Ladies' Auxiliary provides a lecture. Everyone is invited.

The temple committee will meet hereafter in the side room every first and third Thursday evening. Comrade Strickland was re-elected as organizer at the last meeting. The officers now are as follows:

Rec. Secretary—Jas. Hickman. Literary Agent—Jas. Lambert. Financial Secy.—Ed. J. B. Cope. Treasurer—D. H. Daly. Organizer—F. G. Strickland.

Two good meetings were in progress at the same time Tuesday evening, April 9, Comrade Klenke speaking on the inside and Comrade Strickland on the outside.

It was a matter of regret that Comrade Mary Callison could not speak Thursday, April 11, because of being ill. Glad she will take a vacation and soon be herself again.

The meetings last Sunday were up to the usual standard. The primary class has outgrown the small room and will have to be given the larger side room. Following his instructive lecture, Comrade Simons was kept busy with questions, and this part of the program was extended into the Socialist party meeting. After the interesting talk by Comrade M. Kaplan, both he and Chairman Brennan were kept busy answering questions for a half hour.

The Social Crusade meeting at 8 p. m. was well attended in spite of the rain. The Schubert string quartette were at their best and their first selection received an encore. Comrade Strickland spoke at 8:30 on "The Present Opportunities of Socialism." The audience was demonstrative as ever.

The pastor of Grace Episcopal church has no use for competition. Last Sunday he succeeded in spoiling the chances of a rival attraction in the shape of a circus which had located across the way, and which was about to open up for business. The managers of the circus didn't go to church, however, in consequence. They went to the Illinois theater to see a play called "Hodge Podge," which perhaps answered the purpose quite as well.

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Can Use Them Here.

Bishop Turner thinks it the duty of the U. S. government to pay the expenses of the colored population back to their original habitation in Africa, and states that 3,000,000 of them are ready to go right now. The good bishop overlooks the fact that the government, or the class who own the government, are not likely to become enthusiastic over a scheme which would deprive them of a supply of cheap labor necessary to the new industries of the south. They are quite able to use all the available market supply of negroes in the textile industry, now in its infancy