

THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST.

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

FOURTH YEAR.—WHOLE NO. 169.

CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1902.

PRICE TWO CENTS

RUM OR CAPITALISM

Debate as to Which is the Cause of Poverty.

SIMONS AND COOK DISAGREE

Attitude of Mind of the Business Man who wants All to be Good.

As an illustration of the frame of mind of the business man and those who want each individual to succeed by his own efforts, the arguments of Ezra Cook, the well-known prohibitionist, in his debate with A. M. Simons, were interesting.

A drenching rain kept many from going to Ullrich's hall on Saturday night, but the several hundred who braved the weather were well rewarded.

Comrade Simons though troubled with a cold, handled his subject not only to the satisfaction but to the delight of those present.

Mr. Cook was handicapped through lack of time for preparation and read his argument from manuscript. His contention was that if men would be temperate and industrious they would succeed under the present system. By his own statistics, the correctness of which Comrade Simons challenged, he was only able to claim that 50 per cent of the cases of poverty were caused by the use of liquor, leaving the other 50 per cent unaccounted for. During the latter part of his remarks Mr. Cook dropped partially the idea that intemperance causes all poverty and told the union men that it was their business and ignorance that caused most of their woes.

A complete report is impossible but following are some of Com. Simons' more striking sentences:

Said by Simons.

"The amount spent for liquor is but a particle of this great productive wealth.

"The problem is not to create more wealth but to unload the surplus of that which has been produced.

"We find man with power to create untold wealth, who can hardly secure enough to enable them to live, because private ownership takes from him that which he has produced.

"Wealth is produced because there are profits to be made, not because there are hungry men.

"The cause of poverty is the fact that the producer cannot use the tools of production without the consent of the man who owns those tools.

"There are men with muscle and with brain who cannot find an opportunity to use them.

"You know as well as I do that if you walk into the shop tomorrow and do not pass a half dozen men, you would go to the boss and demand a larger share of that which you produce. But so long as there are men at the door who are waiting for your place you cannot ask for more. But if you could keep asking for more, the time would come when you could say to the boss 'I want all I produce and you and I will work together in the shop and we can produce enough to keep poverty from our doors.'

"If the unemployed laborer were removed for but one single week the whole fabric of capitalism would come down in a mighty wreck.

"Today there are natural resources enough to supply every human want, and productive power enough to turn them into every form that man may want, but private ownership stands in the way.

"Because drunkenness and poverty exist side by side does not prove that one is the cause of the other nor is it fair to say that because one thing exists with another thing that one is the cause of the other.

"If intemperance is the cause of poverty then we would find poverty rising and falling with the amount of liquor consumed. But we find this is not the case. In 1858 there was increased prosperity, and the consumption of liquors in that year was the highest ever known. Then in a few years when there was much suffering we find that the consumption of liquors fell. In fact we can see in whatever country we may take that more liquors are consumed when the country is prosperous than when there is a financial depression.

"Thirty per cent of the people who apply for aid to the Bureau of Charities use no liquors.

Small Number Drink.

"In 1898 there were 73,000 people in the almshouses of the United States. Of this number 4,000 drank. This includes many whom they classified in this way because they were unable to place them in any other class; the old and infirm, or they were classed among bachelors.

"Mr. Cook has said we must first get better men. That is putting the cart before the horse. Better the conditions under which these men live and you

will find the result will be that we will have better men.

"If I had a farm and wished to improve my stock I would feed and house and care for them better instead of buying better stock. I would not think of getting the best stock on the market and then not caring for them in the best possible manner."

VICTORY

IN NEW CASTLE, PENN.

Newcastle, Pa., May 27, 1902.

Chicago Socialist.
181 Washington St.
Socialist candidate for Select Council in fifth ward, New Castle, Pa., J. W. Slayton, won by eighty-nine plurality.

JOHN COLLINS.

POST CHECK CURRENCY.

Will Benefit Bankers and Railroad.—An Object Lesson.

Certain elements are now agitating for a post check currency and asking the publishers of this country for their support in order to get the U. S. Congress into the proper mood for the adoption of the plan. Government bills of one, two and five dollars are to receive the additional property of transferable checks by providing blank lines on them for the name and address of the payee. An issue of fractional post checks in denominations of five to fifty cents is to provide for sending small amounts.

An objective investigation of the plan reveals the following advantages for the mass of the people. Prevention of mail robbing, an addressed bill being useless for a thief; increased rapidity of circulation by the elimination of endorsed bills from the market; minimising of the danger of infection from old and dirty bills; convenience in transacting business in small amounts by mail.

These advantages recommend the plan to every lover of steps toward socialism. As an object lesson it offers valuable for propaganda. But it offers other advantages to the Socialists.

While the old Secretary of the Treasury was in office the relations between the Postal and Treasury departments were rather strained, and the two could not have been induced to co-operate in introducing such a measure. But hardly had the new Secretary of the Treasury taken charge when this measure makes its appearance and is put before the people with all the ingenuity of a politician and man of the world. The fact that the plan promises to benefit the publishing houses is especially emphasized, and the support of the press is thus easily obtained. It is also pointed out with great fervor that the Postal department would thereby increase its revenue considerably. That catches a lot of the patriotic dupes who hail every increase of the government revenue as an increase of national wealth.

But who gains by an increase of the postal revenues? The mail carriers and postal clerks? Not at all. They will be underpaid and overworked as heretofore. The public at large? Not for a moment. The rates of postage will be the same as ever. The greatest gainers by this new plan will be the eminently Christian and unselfish ring who control the railroads of this country. The express companies will lose the bulk of the small money order business and the railroad magnates will profit still more than heretofore from the folly of permitting them to draw the proceeds of the people's industry into their own pockets. The banks will be relieved of a lot of small and unprofitable business, so that they will have more time and less expense in carrying out their big schemes of fleecing the people. And the secretaries of the Treasury and Postal departments are to act as the agents of the gang who plot this scheme through congress.

The motives for the introduction of this measure are not altruistic and humanitarian, but the desire to use the public department for private profit. That the public at large will derive a trifling convenience from this measure is not denied. But the greatest benefits will go into the pockets of private individuals.

The prevention of stealing and infection, and the convenience to senders and receivers of small amounts are undeniable benefits. In this respect the innovation is a step in the right direction and deserves the support of every one who is interested in the progress of society. At the same time this measure suggests the question: If the government can assume the role of a bank for small amounts, why not for all amounts? And if the Postal department can co-operate with the Treasury department in establishing a check system, why not also to assume the functions of a deposit bank and a clearing house? Why, above all, not carry its own mail in its own railroads, instead of permitting the increased revenue to go into the pockets of the magnates who control these railroads? There is stuff for a week's reflection in this subject.

BORN TO COMMAND

New Order of the Captains of Industry.

FEW RISE FROM THE RANKS

Odd Tales of the Story Books Revised to fit Modern Conditions.

In the May number of the Cosmopolitan there is begun a series of sketches of the leading captains of industry now before the public—a series which the editor predicts will be one of the most interesting that has ever been presented in the magazine.

The "derivation" of the great captain is apparently regarded by the editor as a subject of much interest. It is, however, not very fully treated. The writers do not in most cases go into the antecedents of their heroes, assuming naturally that the great captains are in positions of power by reason of their transcendent abilities. These sketches will disappoint those who delight to hear the story of the poor boy toiling upward through adversity to fame and fortune. Such is not the career of the typical captain of industry of the present day. Indeed, it is noteworthy that in scarcely one of these sketches is the hero represented as a "self-made" man.

Hearst's Sad Handicap.

We are indeed told that the career of William R. Hearst is unique in that his success was attained "in spite of wealth." "Where," we are boldly asked, "can there be found another example in the profession of journalism where men have triumphed over the keenest competition despite the possession of wealth?" Happily enough the answer to this question is given in another sketch in this same series. James Gordon Bennett was like Mr. Hearst: born to great wealth. Yet, out-doing Mr. Hearst, he "triumphed in the teeth of almost incredible competition, gave his newspaper an international standing and maintained its supremacy."

Morgan Born to Purple.

Of the ten great captains who are written up in the opening number, at least four were born to millions and to power. J. Pierpont Morgan, as it well known, "was born to the purple. He did not split rails or walk the towpath or survey the forests." He put down his school books and stepped into the great banking business built up by his father and his father's associates.

Charles Henry Cramp is the subject of an eloquent and eulogistic sketch. "In all that the term implies C. H. Cramp is an ideal captain of industry." He is in fact, the writer tells us in confidence, "industry personified." "The question usually asked, to what does a certain man owe his success, is easily answered in the case of Mr. Cramp. He knows all about it." Yet it might have been mentioned as an incident contributing somewhat to C. H. Cramp's success, that his father, William Cramp, had begun and developed the great Cramp ship-building establishment and had died leaving a colossal enterprise in the management of which the son could develop his genius.

Bennet Overcomes Wealth.

A similar observation might be made in the case of James Gordon Bennett. Bennett, we are told, is today "the most commanding figure in journalism." Singularly enough he is the son of the James Gordon Bennett by whom the New York Herald had been founded and built up. The elder Bennett, as we are somewhat incidentally informed in the sketch, was, at the time of his death, "the richest and most aggressive editor in the country." The writer's statement, however, that the younger Bennett is the greater of the two, that he is in fact, "an absolute genius," can scarcely be gainsaid in view of his almost incredible achievements. "He has personally directed every vital feature in each issue of the Herald for the last twenty-five years," although residing almost continuously in Paris and performing the most amazing exploits as a sportsman, yachtsman, and leader in society. In this connection a slight mention is made of the fact that Mr. Bennett employs "a conscientious and modest assistant editor" as well as "a silent and conservative business manager."

The case of Alexander Graham Bell, the reputed inventor of the telephone, is somewhat different. Bell inherited not his father's millions but, it is said, his father's inventive genius. Perhaps more important, however, was the fact that he received personal instruction and direction from his father and continued the investigations regarding the mechanism of speech his father had begun. Fortunately, too, "Bell's claims were taken up by capitalists and a priority given him by a majority decision of the United States Supreme Court against the claims of Gray and others, claims admittedly superior to those of Bell." The writer does not, of course, discuss the question of the real invention of the telephone. "Long, cryen-

sive and famous litigation," he says, "has established Bell's claim. He beat his adversaries in the courts," the telephone monopoly was saddled on the people. "Bell had henceforth only to spread his system over the planet and enter into the enjoyment of his millions." Thus we see that at least half of the great captains owe their derivation directly to their fathers.

Edison's Queer Start.

The remaining sketches in this number give little encouragement to the proletarian who aspires to become a captain of industry. Perhaps Thomas A. Edison comes the nearest to filling the old-time ideal of the self-made man. With little schooling, Edison was carefully trained by his mother, a former high school teacher. We are here told that Edison first became known as "an expert telegrapher, famous for his accuracy and speed." A biographer, however, regards as a turning point in young Edison's life his making a blunder while a night operator and causing a collision. Edison fled and instead of applying for another job turned his attention to electrical experiments. Thus is the teaching of the old-time school book cruelly frustrated. Had young Edison been faithful to his duty he might have become a train dispatcher or even superintendent of a road. Instead of this he became an inventor and captain of industry.

Edison, we are told, early learned an important lesson. His first invention was a machine for recording votes in Congress. It proved a failure, such a machine being even then totally unnecessary. Resolving henceforth to invent only useful things he devised the "stock ticker," which brought him a fortune.

Space is lacking for a discussion of the remaining great captains whose pictures are given us. A. A. Pope, a manufacturer, was making bicycles at the time the bicycle craze began. Naturally he made money as did everyone else who was making bicycles at the time. John Wannamaker saved up some money and started a clothing store. His success is modestly attributed to the fact that "he knew all the details of the business."

Mackay had Good Luck.

John W. Mackay got early to the Nevada gold fields. His success is said to have been due "to a number of happy coincidences," the last, perhaps not the least being "good luck." We learn, however, that "with him the last stalwart founder of the business structure of the western slope will pass away."

The remaining sketch is that of Joseph Pulitzer. The son of an Austrian college professor, Pulitzer came to America as an adventurer. He took up journalism, gained the favor of Carl Schurz, and bought a paper in St. Louis. Seeing the need of a "real newspaper" in New York, there being no such paper there at the time, he bought the New York World and "made it a real paper."

(At this point it might be pertinent to ask what the aggressiveness and absolute genius of Bennett was doing at this time. If there was no "real paper" in New York?)"

The Cosmopolitan series is to be extended to forty sketches, perhaps to seventy. Throughout it will be interesting to observe the part played in modern affairs by men who were "born to the purple." That even now the power in the industrial world is held mainly by rulers who have never served, is a statement scarcely to be disputed. Still more evident is it that ere long a captain of industry who has really risen from the ranks of the industrial army can with difficulty be found.

A. H. JANT.

At the regular meeting of the 31st Ward Branch, held May 23, 1902, the following comrades were elected officers for the ensuing term:
Organizer—J. Newman.
Rec. Secretary—Louis Rivet, 654 Robey Street.
Fin. Secretary—A. Rasmussen.
Treasurer—Edwin Anderson.

The report of the Auditing Committee showed a good financial condition of the Branch. During the last 6 months the receipts were \$129.34, and expenses \$112.49, leaving a balance on hand \$26.55. The Branch bought \$34.55 worth of due stamps and sold \$42.20 worth in the same time.

LOUIS RIVET,
Secretary.

Brief Mention.

Comrade Jos. Washops, editor of this paper, caught cold going to the Simons-Cook debate in the rain. He is laid up this week but expects to be on deck next week.

Congressional and westernist conventions are to be held June 1. Secretaries should mail reports on night of the convention so they may reach this office in time for publication.

Mrs. A. M. Simons addressed a meeting of woodworkers at 108 Randolph street Monday night. The hall was jammed until no standing room was left.

Seymour Stegman is back from a trip to Canada which he took in the interest of Gaylord Wilshire's campaign for member of the Canadian parliament. He is much pleased with the development of the movement and with Wilshire's original methods.

MINERS FOR ACTION

Western Laborers may Declare for Socialism in a Body.

ARE ADDRESSED BY DEBS

Delegates Representing 100,000 Workers in Western States Ready to Declare for Action at the Polls.

With the object lesson before their eyes of the class struggle standing out clearer than in any other part of the country, Western Miners, it appears from the newspaper dispatches have decided to carry the fight they have so magnificently made on the economic field into the political field under the banner of the socialist party.

Constantly before the eyes of these men is the fact that they produce the wealth which the mine owners spend in Paris and New York and the further fact that the old political parties in the west exist only for the purposes of selling the offices to the highest bidder. All that is expected of the workers is to furnish the vote. After election day promises to labor have been more brazenly disregarded than in any part of the country.

Line of Development.

If the western unions go into politics, practically in a body, it will only be in line with the development of the movement in all other countries and what may be expected later on from the unions of the less progressive sort. All the information at hand on this matter is what is contained in the associate press dispatches which of course the socialists will have to read between the lines.

Denver, Col., May 25.—The annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners and the Western Laborunion assembled in this city to-day. There are 300 delegates in attendance, representing over 100,000 workers in the western states and British Columbia. The two organizations work in harmony, but the conventions meet apart, both in secret session. President Edward Boyce presided to-day over the miners and President Daniel McDonald over the Western Labor union.

The leaders of the Western Federation of Miners and the Western Labor union have declared for socialism and propose to form political parties in all the western states, composed of members of organized labor. This matter is the most important to be considered by the two conventions.

Debs Addresses Them.

Denver, Colo., May 26.—Eugene V. Debs spoke in this city tonight in Coliseum hall at a meeting of more than 5,000 workmen. The speech was intended to inaugurate the new trades union socialist-political movement. Mr. Debs said among other things:

"You have tried the strike and the boycott, and have been defeated; your organizations have been wrecked by your masters. When you combine in the economic field, where you are weakest, then it is your duty to combine in the political field, where you are invulnerable. Your votes must be cast for and with each other hereafter.

"You have reached a point where you must beg of your masters the right to live and the man who finds a job merely a slave himself and his children."

OWNERSHIP FOR CAPITALISTS

Municipal Holdings a Good Thing for Them if Worked Right.

Talk of strikes or of trusts, in these days, is almost as monotonous as talking about the weather. Mention of trusts and strikes is banished from the heading of this editorial heading that you would avoid any such feeling.

The miners have opposed to them three trusts. They must defeat these three trusts or lose.

First, the COAL TRUST—a combination of all the coal mine owners.

Second, the RAILROAD TRUST, which sympathizes with and partly owns the Coal Trust.

Third, the FOOD TRUST, which works diligently in the interest of the other two, making it harder and harder for the man who strikes to live on the little he has saved.

Not more than half a dozen men control all three of these trusts.

If coal is scarce because of the strike forced on the men the Coal Trust raises its rates, the workmen suffer and the people pay. If any man owning a coal mine wants to sell his coal at a reasonable price and pay his men fairly, the Railroad Trust prevents that.

There is only one cheerful feature of the situation, and it is this: Growing power and growing wealth make the trusts every day more insolent, aggressive and reckless.

Every day they force upon the people real all three of these trusts.

THE PEOPLE MUST OWN THE TRUSTS OR THE TRUSTS WILL OWN THE PEOPLE.

Ultimately the great industries which live off the people will be owned by the people and administered in their interest.

Meanwhile competent, avowed organizers, are proving what the people need to know—that organization pays better than competition and that individual ownership is NOT, as was supposed, an essential feature of civilization.

The above is an editorial from Hearst's Chicago American of May 21st and it's a good one, too—as far as it goes.

Those who read it may get an impression that there is a great change coming in society. It is such editorials that induce admirers of the Hearst journals to insist that Socialism is advocated in them.

But there is one thing still lacking, and the Chicago American is careful about avoiding it—as yet. How and by what means can the "people" possess the trusts? That question is not touched upon. Why?

Let any reader of that paper submit this query in the inquiry column to the management, and ten to one he would be answered that the "people" were not yet ready for the information. The Chicago American is extremely conservative of the "people" and doesn't want to shock them by "going too far." They can stand to be told that individual ownership is no longer necessary to civilization, that collective ownership must supplant it, but any suggestion as to what the "people" MUST do in the matter is enough to scare them into fits.

Is that true? No. The real reason is this. That if the Chicago American gave the only possible answer, its sales would fall off. That is what is meant by the "people" not being ready. And that is good and sufficient reason (from the Hearst point of view) as to why the information is withheld.

The writer of that editorial knows thoroughly that the "people" cannot own the trusts, that individual ownership cannot pass away unless through the medium of a social revolution. But 'revolution' is not a word "harmonious to the ear" of the "people." It is all right to tell them that they MUST do something in the future which is thoroughly revolutionary, but the disagreeable word itself must not be mentioned.

The whole truth is not palatable in this case. A half truth which can be made to appear as a whole one is much more desirable.

No thanks or credit is particularly due the American for pointing out this incomplete truth. Like the relation of the "people" to the trusts, there is a "must" in the case.

Neither is the American to be especially blamed for concealing part of the truth. There is a "must" in this case also.

The time must come also when the American cannot stand on this middle ground. It will be compelled to do one of two things. Either tell the whole truth on this question or retract the half truth it has already enunciated. This is also a case of "must."

And upon this alternative will depend whether the Chicago American is to be considered a Socialist or capitalist publication. The CHICAGO SOCIALIST tells the WHOLE TRUTH on these questions now. It is not to be especially commended therefore, as that is its business, just as it is at present the business of Hearst's paper to tell half and conceal half.

We will supply what has been missed. To "people" cannot own the trusts unless through the Socialist movement. A Socialist movement can not exist except in the shape of a Socialist Party. If the "people" therefore, "must" own the trusts they must become SOCIALISTS and WORK and VOTE for SOCIALISM. There is no other way.

Open Air Meetings.

Sedgwick and Division streets. Sunday, 7.30 p. m.
Clark and Ohio streets. Tuesday at 8 p. m.
Clark street and Walton pl. Thursday, at 8 p. m.
Belmont and Sheffield avenues. Friday at 8 p. m.
Oak and Sedgwick street Wednesday, 8 p. m.
Sunday, June 1st, 8 p. m. Erie street and Center avenue. Speakers, H. P. Keusch, J. H. Bard.
Sunday, June 1st, 3 p. m. Douglas Park, Ogden and California avenues. Speakers, M. Kaplan, E. M. Stangland.
Wednesday, June 4th, 8 p. m. 11th street and Western avenue. Speakers, J. B. Smiley and J. W. Bartels.
Friday, June 6th, 8 p. m. Elizabeth and Madison streets. Speakers, J. Menke, S. Williams, Geo. Koop.
Saturday, May 31st, 8 p. m. Center and Milwaukee avenues. Speakers, J. W. Bartels, G. D. Evans, E. L. Wochosky.
North and Campbell avenues. Saturday eve. at 8 p. m. Speakers: Welcher and Larson.
North and California avenues. Sunday 3 p. m. Speakers: Morgan, Stegman, Welcher, Mallony and Spease will sing.

The printer is kicking because the list of new subscribers is growing too long. Let him kick or rather make him kick harder.

TICKET IS NAMED

Socialists in the Political Field for Campaign.

CALL FOR WAGE WORKERS

Cook County Conventions made up of Large and Enthusiastic Delegations.

Sheriff—Jas. P. Larsen.
County Treasurer—D. H. Daly.
County Clerk—Jas. S. Smith.
Clerk of Probate Court—W. H. Lemmwell.
Clerk of Criminal Court—Rice Washbrough.
Clerk of Appellate Court—W. J. Cassidy.
County Judge—Peter Sisman.
Probate Judge—Marcus Hitch.
Board of Assessors—Fred Lahr, Dr. Wm. Kamin.
Board of Review—E. L. Wochosky.
County Superintendent of Schools—Mrs. Sue Lowrie.
Judges of Circuit and Superior Court—Philip S. Brown, Thos. J. Morgan, Seymour Stegman, D. R. McEachren, E. M. Stangland, C. Trebbin, Chas. H. Soelke, Judge of Superior Court, to succeed Judge Sears—B. Kleiyser.
President of County Board—Smith M. Ely.

County Commissioners from city—Smith Ely, R. T. Sims, Max Faller, A. W. Lindgren, J. T. Caulfield, F. P. Farber, Jas. Charbonneau, O. Mork, Jas. Wright, M. Quadt.

County Commissioner from county towns—W. B. Lockwood, Chicago Heights; B. W. Collins, Evanston; Geo. Wieneke, Chicago Heights; Wm. H. Kays, Evanston; Robt. Knox, Winnetka.

The above ticket was named by the Cook county convention of the Socialist Party at 181 Washington street on Sunday afternoon.

Convention is Representative.

The convention was large and enthusiastic. One or two wards were not represented on account of a misunderstanding, but aside from that every branch sent delegates, besides Evanston and Chicago Heights.

Sam Robbins handled the gavel and Wm. Leffingwell acted as secretary.

The convention got down to business at once and while the resolution committee was wrestling with a variety of ideas the county ticket was named.

After the resolutions were adopted a separate one on the trades union question was offered. This brought out the only discussion of the day and it was quite lengthy, on the stand the party should take toward strikers. The attitude of the resolution was friendly to the trades unions but called their attention to the feebleness of the strikes as compared to the ballot as a weapon for their emancipation. The phraseology of the resolution was objected to and it was referred back to the committee for correction. The convention adjourned before the committee had acted so the resolution was lost.

Resolutions are Clear.

The resolutions adopted follow: The Socialist Party in county convention assembled calls upon the wage working class to unite upon the political field for the interest of their class, by casting their ballot with the Socialist Party at the next election, in November, 1902.

"In calling upon the wage workers to vote the Socialist Party ticket we want them to study the principles of Socialism, which has its basis in the class struggle, for the possession of the means of life, as expressed in the principles of Socialism.

"A movement whose definite aim is to emancipate the working class from wage slavery and all the other evils that result from the private ownership of the means of production and distribution.

"The introduction of machinery, the concentration and organization of industries which greatly increase the productive power of labor, has not materially benefited the condition of the laborers, but has intensified their misery and poverty.

"We therefore call upon the wage working class to rally to the support of the Socialist Party because it represents the interests of their class, and to begin with their votes to organize their class for the abolition of capitalism and the establishment of the Socialist industrial society, a system of society in which the wage working class will collectively own and operate the machinery of production and distribution, thus giving the producers full control of the products of their labor.

"Vote the 'Socialist Party' ticket."

Comrade Isaac Cowan, international organizer of the Amalgamated Engineers, Machinists, etc., is in the city and offers his services as speaker for the party. Branches desiring him will please communicate with this office.

Does the man beside you in the street read a socialist paper?

THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST

Published every Saturday at 181 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

The Chicago Socialist is published under the control of Local Chicago of the Socialist Party of Chicago, a corporation without capital stock, the whole revenue of which must be expended for socialist propaganda.

Resubscriptions may be made by Post Office money orders, express money order or bank draft.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Year \$1.00, Six months .50, Three months .25, Single copies .02. To European countries, per annum \$1.50. Always in advance. Orders for current issues should reach the office by Tuesday evening.

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

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. To secure a return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.

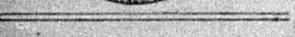
Contributions must reach the office by Monday evening preceding the issue in which they are to appear.

The fact that a signed article is published does not commit The Chicago Socialist to all opinions expressed therein.

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

FRANKLIN 454.

Entered at the Post Office Chicago, Ill., as Second Class Matter March 18, 1900.



At best the referendum is only a means to an end. It is only a method and not a measure. With socialists it is only incidental. When a majority of the people want to overthrow the wage system they will do it. At present they are satisfied with that system.

Socialists believe in the principle of the referendum but they do not believe in wasting their energy. Of what benefit would the referendum be to the wage worker who feared he would starve to death if the capitalist did not give him work and boss him about?

PLACE TO STRIKE.

The present era of strikes for higher wages would to the unthinking appear as an evidence of prosperity, but the fact is that the workers are desperately trying to get back to their standard of living which has been lowered by the enhanced price of the necessities of life.

Suppose they win their strikes, and we will help them to win where we can, what then?

The capitalist class which owns and controls the instruments of production and the channels of exchange will raise the prices.

Then they could strike again and again. One strike at the ballot box would break the vicious circle. Strike with the socialist party and win a victory worth while.

USE FOR LODGING HOUSES.

Those who glory in the extension of municipal socialism as expressed in a municipal lodging house by the City of Chicago where the victims of capitalism out of employment could obtain shelter may be amazed to learn how such an institution is worked even under a friend of labor like Carter Harrison.

During the present strike of the gas workers the unfortunate who found lodging in this "socialistic institution" were ordered to fill the places of the strikers at the gas works under threat of being sent to the Bridewell if they refused.

This statement is supported by affidavit in possession of the strikers committee.

On May 17th a statement was prepared by the gas workers and given to all of the labor reporters for the Chicago papers. Through some mysterious influence it never saw daylight in print. Hearst's Chicago American, professional friend of labor, even could find no space for it.

TOM JOHNSON.

Just as the democratic party in 1898 gathered where the populist party had gone, its so called radical leaders are now preparing to reap the harvest of the present socialist agitation.

Just as Bryan was the Moses to lead the populists to financial reform so Tom Johnson is to be the chosen one to gather up advocates of municipal ownership and such semi-socialistic measures and lead them back into the reactionary old democratic party.

That he will not take any socialists who understand that socialism means the abolition of the wage system and the substitution thereof of the Co-operative Commonwealth goes without saying, but unless history has forgotten the trick of repeating itself he will gather into his fold a goodly number of the camp followers who vaguely

think that socialism means the municipal ownership of the street car lines and a few such things.

In this new Johnson boom is a lesson to socialists. While we would not ask the votes of those who would go with him it is our business at present to educate the workmen who come under our influence as to what socialism is.

The man who knows his ground will stand firm when cunning agents of capitalism attempt the stampede to Johnson.

SABBATH OF CAPITALISM.

Dr. Emil G. Hirsch is a progressive Hebrew who doesn't believe in the possibility of perpetuating the Jewish Sabbath and urges his congregation to substitute for it the day selected by the Christians. The doctor believes in one day of rest out of the seven and does not seem to care which day it is. There are some curious admissions in his sermon on this subject as reported in the press. For instance he told his audience that "sentiment must be thrown to the four winds and we must realize that it has come to be with us a question of economic and industrial life or economic and industrial death. We have no right to put aside opportunity to do good for others simply because sentiment demands that we remain idle on a day of activity. No lawyer has the right to place his client's freedom in jeopardy because his sentiment will not permit him to go to court on Saturday. No merchant has the right to imperil his independence by closing his store on the Jewish Sabbath."

Here we have the Sabbath connected with economic and industrial reasons, a recognition of the truth of which no Socialist will dispute. The clever piece of bourgeois reasoning in which the demands of business are made to coincide with "doing good for others" is also worthy of notice, though it might readily be used as a pretext for abandoning the observance of Sunday altogether.

Dr. Hirsch however thinks that one day of rest is absolutely necessary and throws the following bouquet at the New England Puritans: "There has been much loose talk in this country lately about the tyranny of the Sabbath laws. I am not here to defend the blue laws of New England, but I can say that the sound sense behind those narrow and bigoted laws has preserved the manhood of the people. The Sabbath sentiment has thrown around the American workman the rampart of protection. It has given him what no other laboring man on earth has—the feeling that on ONE DAY OUT OF SEVEN HE IS A FREE MAN, FREE FROM THE SHACKLES OF SLAVERY."

The admission that the American workman is a slave for six days out of seven seems a secondary matter in the eyes of Dr. Hirsch, altogether subsidiary to the importance of changing the Jewish Sabbath in the interests of the Hebrew exploiter. But we can assure Dr. Hirsch that "every day will be Sunday by and by" when the Socialists get into power.

A BOSSE'S UNION.

President Roach of the Union Traction Company has seen a great light. To the officials of the Chicago Federation of Labor belong the credit in a measure for pointing out to Mr. Roach this ray of light which while at first it was dim has now blossomed out like one of his electric headlights. He sees the point.

When the subject of organization was broached officials of the labor body went to Mr. Roach and politely asked for permission to organize the men. Instead of taking it for granted that this right which press and pulpit argue is inherent in the men, the leaders, by asking showed that the alleged right was only conditioned on the consent of the capitalist at the head of the concern. Mr. Roach seeing this point at once jumped at the conclusion that an organization under his control would be even better than one with his consent. With a magnanimity almost unparalleled he told his men that they could organize. He even went so far as to furnish the premises.

It is needless to say that this organization will be in exact harmony with the resolutions presented at the last meeting of the Federation of Labor disavowing any intentions of fostering strikes.

As the laborers did not want a strike and as Mr. Roach has no desire for one there appears to be no reason why there should not be harmony along the entire line.

What the workmen will get out of this union other than a chance to pay dues does not appear.

and the girl glove makers, both comparatively new organizations, whose members first organized and then went to the bosses with demands for better conditions.

The officials of the Chicago Federation of Labor should go to the girl glove makers and learn how to act like men.

COMING TO AMERICA.

One of the largest manufacturers in Sweden has discharged all employees who went on strike for universal suffrage and announces that if he cannot get workmen who will renounce their union he will remove his factory to the United States.

This capitalist, having found in Sweden that the workmen are class conscious and from the reports received from America knowing that the working men are easy, it is but natural that he should desire to locate here.

Up to the present time the American workman has submitted to being clubbed by the policeman, shot by the militia man, overruled by the injunction, looked up in jail, and then on election day goes complacently to the ballot box and confides the power to impose these things on him into the hands of the capitalist class.

This is the prospectus which we present to the capitalists of other countries when confronted by rebellious workmen. The hoisting, un-class-conscious American workman may become the world's scab. Only the pushing of the socialist propaganda will save the American workman from such a fate.

Grand Rally

of Socialists and Sympathizers at Headquarters 181 Washington St., Friday, May 20th, at 8 P. M. Visiting Members of the State Committee will speak.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAY SIDE

The spirit of industrial organization is abroad in Chicago. Men are waking up to the fact that united they can do some things which if they tried to do as individuals the boss would throw them down the elevator shaft after running them through the machine to stamp them as horrible examples. It said they are waking but the fact is they are being awakened with a jolt not unlike the caress of a Missouri mule when he is trying a new pair of shoes on a pale sweet dude.

Street car men, who according to the capitalist idea should be thankful that they are not charged for riding, in which case they would come out owing the company at the end of each day, have suddenly taken a notion that they would like a few hours off to get acquainted with their families—a most revolutionary and dangerous thing for a workman to desire—and that they would like to get enough pay to take home an occasional beefsteak.

Of course the company insists that the men would be contented if the low down agitators would let them alone and just to show that they are running the works the corporation has discharged 100 men for joining the union. A strike is possible when that renowned friend of labor Carter Harrison will have an opportunity to repay the men who elected him by allowing his policemen to wear out good clubs on the heads of the strikers. Chicago is poor—the clubs cost money but where his dear friends the laboring men are involved Carter will not care for expenses.

Workers are butting their heads against capitalism in several places and they find it very much like a stone wall, the contact is so hard that there is reason to believe that in addition to making sore spots without it sits up the gray matter within, the latter condition is to be deplored (by Mark Hanna) for if the workmen ever start thinking the socialists will get them sure.

There is a tremendous arguing about and running two and fro of agitators at present who want to usher in a glittered, hand-painted millennium for the workmen without having it done through the socialist party. These agitators are hiring halls, piping in squeaky voices and bellowing in base tones, pounding the long-suffering air and making facial gyrations like an old lady swallowing a set of false teeth. They are making little impressions though the capitalist papers give their funny sideshow twice the space they devote to the socialist show being held under the main tent. In the frenzied eye of the newsgatherer a meeting of this kind which consists of leaders with spittoon and chairs for audience cuts a ton and a half more ice than a crowded hall of actual people addressed by workmen.

Chicago is going to be captured for socialism in some day if anyone should stroll in from the prairie of Kansas and ask you, and the socialism will be spelled with an S so large that he who runs may read. Only the capitalists will do the running.

James H. Eckles, one of the directors of the Union Traction Company,

These are not his only offices. He is also on the Civic Federation Labor Committee to help Mark Hanna bring peace on earth and settle strikes for other employes. Now he is in a position in which anyone but a capitalist would be up against it. His street car employes want to organize as said above and the directors object. They have appealed to Eckles but their appeal will be like asking Russell Sage for funds to start a socialist party. They will be turned down gently but so firmly that their hair will be driven in two inches. Mr. Eckles will not let his philanthropy interfere with his profits.

Commission met who work four or five hours a day skinning people at the stock yards complain that the government action against the packers makes business dull for them. They are business men and if the government is not to be run solely in their interest why dig down for the campaign fund? Much sympathy for them is expressed among the better classes. Thousands of workmen have also been discharged but nobody has shed any hot scalding tears for them. Workmen are supposed through long practice to be able to starve by the painless method, but it hurts a commission man to go hungry.

MANAGER'S COLUMN.

ROLL OF HONOR. 7th ward 127, 25th ward 100, 12th ward 100, 16th Ward 100, 17th ward 100, 21st ward 100, 14th ward 100, 3d ward 100, 25th ward 100, 18th ward 20, 15th ward 10, 23rd ward 10, Elgin 50, Evanston 10, Chicago Heights 15.

Total 1042. The above list represents the number of subscription cards the different wards and cities have agreed to buy before July 1. Some of the clubs have taken the full amount and some have taken only a part of them and have pledged the rest.

If your branch is not on that list do not sleep until you have seen a number of comrades and have sent in a pledge. The time grows short.

Remember here is the mark—10,000 new subscribers by July 1. But 15 clubs out of the 100 in the state have acted.

Get a move on you! Write, or still better, telegraph a pledge! The clubs that took time by the forelock and made their pledges in May have all the month of June in which to sell the cards. Those that lag will have to hustle like Sam Hill or the other gentlemen.

Don't lose sight of the fact that 10,000 new subscribers means at least 20,000 votes! Roll in the pledges! Keep the trail hot! Make it 10,000 by next week! Everybody get a hump on!

Do you find your branch in the "Roll of Honor"? If not, why not? The country clubs are beginning to be heard from. Evanston, by Comrade E. O. Blake, 10 sub. cards, Elgin 50, and Chicago Heights 15, besides bundle order from the latter place.

We ought to have a large subscription list in the fertile state of Iowa. Some towns are well represented, while other are conspicuous by their absence. Comrade Carl Reck, Lyons, Ia., writes a very interesting letter and encloses \$3 for four new subscription cards and bundle order. Let us hear from more comrades in Iowa.

Denver, Col., is represented on our books by a long list of subscribers, and Comrade P. W. Doyle added five more to it last week.

Few men can beat Comrade J. W. Cassidy of the 3rd ward selling cards when he gets down to work. He called and bought six dollars' worth of cards last week and he will do doubt call for more ammunition next week.

Comrade R. Waabrough needed 500 copies of the paper for the meetings at State and Congress last week. He will need as many more this week.

Another call for eight sub. cards from Comrade Wm. Murray, Coble, Ill. Now if a little Country town like Coble can use 16 cards in two weeks how many cards ought the big towns throughout the state take?

Donations are very welcome and especially so this week with our extra heavy expenses. We acknowledge receipt of donations from Comrade T. Netter, 50 cents, \$5 from Comrade Seymour Steadman, and 50 cents from Comrade W. T. Russell with thanks.

The county convention held at headquarters last Sunday was attended by an enthusiastic crowd and the financial results were gratifying.

The individual subscriptions coming in are increasing daily. Lebanon, Reese and Chicago Heights take the lead this week from out-of-the-city points.

Comrade John Collins visited Newcastles, Pa., last week. We have no letter from him, but six new subs. from this place tell the story.

A letter from Springfield tells of the good work accomplished by Comrade Saunders, and a desire to have him renew his visit soon. Subscriptions from towns he has visited are coming in daily. "Socialism and Science," by Enrico Ferri is now for sale at this office. Price 11. The subscription list is growing at a good rate, but we can only mention a few.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Chase's Good Work.

St. Louis, Mo., May 22, 1902. Leon Greenbaum, Secretary Labor League Bureau:

Dear Comrade—Having completed the six week trip in Illinois lecturing before the trade unions and locals of the Socialist Party, under the management of the Labor League Bureau, I think it well to send you a report of the trip for publication. Hereafter I shall endeavor to forward a report each week so that all interested in this work may be informed of the progress being made.

I have lectured during the six weeks under the auspices of 29 trade unions and eight locals of the Socialist Party. Fifteen of these unions were miners and the balance were divided as follows: Traders and Labor Assemblies, 6; Cigarmakers, 2; Sprinkler Fitters, 1; Metal Polishers, 1; Bakers, 1; Coopers, 1; Carpenters, 1; Scandinavian, 1.

The towns and cities where I have spoken are as follows: Iowa—Davenport, Des Moines, Keosauqua, Keokuk, Rockford, Bloomington, Dixon, Sterling, Toluca, Colchester, Girard, Millwood, Witt, Taylorville, Serrano, Leclair, Hillary, Peru, Carbond Hill, Alton, Chicago Heights, Elgin, Morris, Spring Valley, Lincoln, Troy and seven other towns. A number of miles traveled in the trip about 2,500. My financial report you have before you already and it will show that the trip has been a self-sustaining one.

I have gone into these details to show the far-reaching effect of the Labor League Bureau. A study of them will show that I have been able to get into places and before audiences that could have been reached in no other way. It will be understood of course by those who read this report that my mission has been to propagandize the class struggle and the principles of Socialism among the working class through the organizations of labor, and I can say to them that the work in that direction has been successful, more successful than I had anticipated on entering this field of work.

Those who are familiar with the history of Socialism in this country know how hard it has been to bring the trade unionists to the belief that Socialism is the only solution of the labor problem and the only means of emancipation of the working class from wage-slavery. In fact the principal aim of Socialism which that direction has led many Socialists to become skeptical and to assume a wrong position upon this subject. I am one of those who have always believed that the Socialists are obliged to have organized labor with them before they can win the support of the English working people that the King is all right, but that they are the chumps.

I am more convinced of this now than ever before, and I believe that the trade unions of this country are fast coming to see this and are fast awakening to the fact that they are helpless in their struggle without Socialism. In nearly every instance where I have spoken to organized labor I have found a large attendance, and I have yet to find a single instance where the most radical Socialist speaker was not applauded and accepted by an overwhelming majority. I am firmly convinced that we only need to get before organized labor and state the Socialist position in the right manner to win them over to the support of the Socialist movement.

It has been my endeavor to show to those whom I have come in contact with the limitations of the trade union movement in its contest with organized capital, at the same time giving them credit for what they have done, and I have had no difficulty in making it plain to them that there is no possible permanent improvement to be gained under capitalism and that the ultimate aim of trade unionism itself is the abolition of the wage system.

Once this position is made clear to and accepted by them, there is no difficulty in convincing them that political action on independent working class lines is absolutely necessary. Once they are brought to understand their class position and realize that they are engaged in a class struggle the more readily do they see the need of an uncompromising Socialist program. From my experience of the past six weeks in the propaganda of this doctrine to organized labor, I am led to believe that the trade unions of this country are ripe and rotten ripe for change.

If Socialists do their duty and handle this question in the future as evolution demands that it should be handled, Socialism will grow as it has never grown heretofore in America. Organized labor is in itself an evidence of the class struggle; organized labor is as a whole honest, and seeking the best it knows how the emancipation of the working class.

Our duty as Socialists is to bring them into the class struggle politically and it is my opinion that the Labor League Bureau by sending out speakers and agitators to the trade unions, the trade union movement, and from that experience gained a knowledge of the limitations of the power of trade unions and can impart that knowledge to trade unionists in a convincing manner will be a big factor in accomplishing this result.

Get ready, everybody, she's coming! Yours fraternally, JOHN C. CHASE.

Activity in Fulton County.

Middle Grove, Ill., May 25, 1902. To Comrades of Fulton and Knox Co., I address you through the columns of the Chicago Socialist because it is impossible for me to see you and talk to each of you personally. Before you, through the vista of your own power, you can almost see the dawn of industrial freedom. It is yours to grasp and it is yours to offer with the outstretched hands of brotherhood and human kindness to the ones who shall follow after you. Socialism is not a dream of the far-away future; it is not the distant reward of a just life; it is not a dream of impossible conditions beyond the hope of consummation. It is NOW. It is HERE. reach out, comrades, and take it. Six years ago when I first came to Fulton county, I doubt if there were six persons in it who could intelligently define the word Socialism. Today there is not a township where the seed has not been sown and the abundance of the harvest was only partly manifested in the spring election.

To continue the aggressive fight that has been so ably commenced and so far carried on by a few of the comrades, it is necessary to organize every town in the two counties and keep a speaker in the field until after the election. To do that we must have money. It is believed that a contribution of \$1 per member of the local Socialists, organized, together with the collections that will be taken up, will keep a competent speaker and organizer in these two counties the required time. The struggle is yours, is there anyone who cannot give one dollar? If there are there are others willing to give more who will make up the deficiency.

Put your shoulder to the wheel and give your money or labor to your secretary and keep C. H. Kerr notified of the amounts so collected and pledged, and whenever there is enough collected to pay some one month, have him start out and by the time the month is up more than likely he will have collected enough to further pledge for another month. Fulton county is a rich field to be worked and the harvest is white. I know less of Knox county, but I DO know that any amount of work will bring forth paying results. I will lead with \$5 and pledge \$1 each for the members of the Middle Grove local, to be paid between now and the election. This is a matter of inconceivable importance, not only to yourselves and the cause of Socialism in Illinois, but to the cause of humanity, so let the response be immediate and to the purpose.

F. W. MOORE.

Press Bulletin.

St. Louis, Mo., May 24, 1902.

The comrades are warned against one C. W. Rasmussen, late organizer of Texas, recently repudiated by the Texas state committee. Rasmussen is a very tall, portly man, about 45, with a very interesting manner. In revenge for notice regarding him furnished by National Secretary and Indiana State Committee Rosa is advising secession from the Socialist Party and formation of an independent organization. He is now operating in the South.

Most capitalist papers are suppressing news of the coal strike. To offset this conspiracy of silence efforts will be made to get news direct at National Headquarters and furnish same to Socialist papers. Donations to propaganda fund received as follows: Amount reported to May 17th, \$368.13 Local Broad Brook, Conn., 10.00 Total to May 24th \$378.13

Huggins Departs.

Chicago, May 25, 1902.

Chicago Comrades: On leaving Chicago for England for a few months, I leave the Temple and street work, also the interesting Socialist Sunday school in the 28th ward. Comrade Leffingwell takes hold of the Socialist Co-operative, and his arrangement of going around to each ward for orders will increase the business very much indeed. We hope the boys will keep up the fight and through the Chicago Socialist will find out what you are doing from week to week. Meanwhile we are going to tell the English working people that the King is all right, but that they are the chumps. Fraternally yours, WALTER HUGGINS.

ERIE CONVENTION.

Break Little Pennsylvania City into Action.

Another successful convention marks the Party's progress. On the 23d the first Socialist Convention ever held in the GOURT HOUSE was called to order by A. W. Garren, editor of the Erie People, at 8 p. m., and 200 delegates, representing ward branches and trade unions, took seats within the "bar." At 7 o'clock a hurricane passed over the city, accompanied by a fierce deluge of rain, and at 8 o'clock it was still raining, preventing the attendance of visitors, not more than 20 or 30 being present, but even the rain could not deter the horny handed sons of toil who came pouring in through wind and rain with red card or credential under seal of the union entitling them to participate in the council of the party of their class.

Temporary organization was quickly effected, the credential committee as quickly elected, as quickly reported; then the platform and resolutions committee. It took this committee about an hour to perform its service, nothing being cut and dried, and while it was out red hot speeches were delivered by Comrades August Klenke, Jas. Wilson, Jr., and others. The reading of the platform and resolutions was interrupted by enthusiastic applause at every reference to the distinctive class character of the movement, a fact which speaks louder than words for the class consciousness of the Erie proletariat.

The resolution reads as follows: "We point to the contemplated rape of public rights in the proposed making of our parks a swiftdary for the Erie Electric Motor company, as an inevitable sequence of the 'business' administration, as was constantly asserted by us in the late municipal campaign. We are unalterably opposed to the granting of any new or the extension of any old franchises to any private corporation for the exploitation of the people, insisting that the franchise for public utilities are, and of right should be, the property of the whole people and should be owned and operated by and for the whole people."

The political situation is peculiar. The Republican party is completely under the domination of a machine which "runs" things with a brazen effrontery that would put Matt Quay to the blush for his incompetence; the Democratic party is disrupted and disorganized; the Pops, Prohibs, and Dannyites are withered and gone, swept away by the uprising of last February, and a half dozen trades are in strike. Democrats talk of combining to "break the machine;" of a "citizens' ticket" and of any proposition or scheme that promises to prolong their party existence, and get mad when Socialists turn them down. The better element of the Republican party is in revolt against its own municipal administration and threatens to repudiate it by supporting the Socialist ticket. In despair the Dems., Dannyites and Pops. will hold their state conventions here, thus concentrating their supreme effort and best talent in the final struggle. The Dems. and Pops. will meet at the same time; to complete the harmony and accord with the eternal fitness of things the Dannyites should join in time and place, as they have in purpose, to prolong a useless existence at the expense of the Socialist Party, but to no avail.

Fraternally, G. HEYDRICK.

SOCIALIST POINTERS

- Three cheers for the Teamsters' Union? L. P. are left we have not run out of freaks. You can sell ten cards and you know you can. Remember the number: 10,000 new subscribers. We will take the mitten from the union girls now. Drop ten subscribers in the slot and watch Socialism grow. Drop around to the noonday meetings and bring a friend. Plant subscribers in the unions. There the soil is fertile. Time is precious. Start tonight on your ten subscription cards. If you never sold a subscription card surprise yourself and sell ten. Comrade Simons is looking for new prohibition worlds to conquer. Do you want Illinois to be the banner Socialist state? Sell ten cards. Why don't you have some style about you and buy a \$16 panama hat? Our best campaign can be made now before the other fellows get started. If the silk striking element nominate a ticket to whom will that ticket belong? Quite a good-sized party when it can hire headquarters down town and hang out a sign. We have left Cuba to its fate but the capitalists will see that it don't get lonesome. Don't fail to attend the Second Congressional picnic. Bertyn must be elected to Congress. The longer the coal strike holds out the more glory there will be to Mark Hanna for settling it. Have you taken your ten cards yet? You know you have it to do so you might as well do it first as last. What kind of a representative government is it when a committee of 100 respectables pick its nominees. It is not likely that we will have to walk for several days yet. The street car men are not the teamsters. Don't wait for the secretary or the organizer to start the ball rolling. Stir up your ward for at least 100 subscription cards. Old soldiers were once told to vote as they shot. Now many workmen appear to take delight in voting as they are clubbed. The union labor Republican club can't stand for Lorimer. As long as they can stand for capitalism; the bosses do not care if they shift over to the Democrats in a body. It is getting too hot in the cities for the wives and daughters of the capitalists and many of them have started for the seashore. Somehow the wives of workmen appear able to stand the heat.

CONDITIONS IN COLORADO.

When Capitalism has the Science of Skinning Down Fine.

Sometimes we are prone to imagine that Chicago capitalist corporations are unrivaled in the gentle art of labor skinning, but it is as well to admit that there are others. This week a correspondent sends us a copy of "The Indicator," a journal published in Pueblo, Col., which announces in big type for the admiration of all its readers the fact that the monthly pay roll of the great local steel works broke all previous records, no less than \$29,124.17 being required to remunerate the wage slaves employed there who receive \$1.50 per day for ten hours' work. For this latter information, however, we are indebted to our correspondent, who further states that the plant is "scab" from end to end, no union man being permitted to set foot within the premises. Some time ago, our correspondent adds, the iron molders went on strike, and stayed out over a year. The company built shacks for the men in the yards and supplied their wants with the best of food and drink during the most critical period of the strike. In fact their needs were so minutely attended to by the grateful bosses that regularly on certain evenings of the week two or three carriage loads of prostitutes visited the premises for a few hours, at the expense of the generous company, and, our correspondent adds, "most of our good church people here have the gall to defend the system." "When a man gets killed in the mill," he continues, "the company gives \$25 to his family. They get \$2,000 for every such victim from the insurance company. I know a lot of wise people in Chicago won't believe these things, but nevertheless they are facts." However, our correspondent is not wasting his time in useless complaints, as his letter contained a goodly number of subs. for the Chicago Socialist.

DISCUSSION ON PLATFORM AND TACTICS.

PETER SISSMAN.

In the controversy now current in the Socialist Party of Chicago on the question of platform, the adoption of the majority report at the Socialist Temple on Sunday, February 23d last, by no means closed this controversy, the comrades favoring a constructive program of some positive, definite measures, designated for short as "immediate demands," are variously characterized by their opponents, the "revolutionary," "non-compromising" Socialists, as "opportunists," "compromisers," "middleheads," "middle class reformers," etc., appellations which are intended to suggest that these comrades at best have a very vague and superficial understanding of the philosophy of Socialism, and of the character of the movement, and if at all admitted to be Socialists, are to be looked upon as a brand altogether inferior to the simple pure "revolutionary" kind.

In this discussion, as indeed in all discussions, the attention we are apt to pay to the arguments of the respective sides will depend not alone on the merits of the argument, but to a good extent also on the preconceived estimate we have formed of the character of the disputants, their intellectual attainments, their standing in the party, their personal character, and what not. And while the discussion lately had on the subject of immediate demands was as free from personalities as could reasonably be expected, it still remains a fact that the individual peculiarities of the men participating in that discussion did exert an influence, one way or the other, beyond the merits of their arguments.

Another factor in the discussion which exerted a very potent influence, was the reference frequently made to men living and dead whose names command the respect and admiration of all Socialists, who have been cited as authorities in support of the views of the respective sides. Now, the use of authorities in support of an argument is certainly a legitimate mode of argumentation provided the authority cited really supports the argument based on it. This, however, is not always the case, as was illustrated in our late discussion. The name and writings of Wilhelm Liebknecht, more perhaps than that of any other man, was relied on by our "non-compromising" friends to support their contention, with what justification let the reader judge from the quotations which I am about to offer. These quotations, I believe, will show how completely our "non-compromising" friends have been misled and terrorized by the word "compromise," and how little they distinguish between the compromise of a principle and the legitimate practice of compromising according to the dictates of common sense, which are necessitated by the exigencies of every day life, and which the welfare of our cause demands. Here is what Liebknecht said on the subject of compromises in his now famous essay, "Keine Kompromisse Keine Wahlverweigerung" (No Compromise, No Political Trading, Hitch and Simons' transl., Chas. H. Kerr & Company, publishers.

"Before we go further we must get a clear idea of the meaning of the word 'compromise,' which exists in every debate on it will be completely without aim and without result, because every one will have in mind something different and consequently no one will meet the argument of another."

Liebknecht apparently did not consider it good logic to set up a straw man and then knock him down. In this, as I suppose in a good many other respects, he differed from some of our Chicago Socialists.

"If compromise is understood as a concession of theory to practice, then our entire life and theory is a compromise, and all human history and the history of the race from the life of the individual up to that of nations and of mankind is an endless, unbroken chain of compromises. That conception of history according to which, (Lutetianus, I. c., a clean sweep, is temporarily made and must be made in order to start a new administration and arrangement free from the old, is in the highest degree unscientific and stands in the most direct contradiction to experience. The clean sweep theory is a spook which exists only in the heads of police politicians who possess us of wanting to 'ruinate' everything that does not fit into our scheme."

And some Chicago Socialists, I add, as Liebknecht could not have included them, having written the above in 1899, two years before the "evolution" of the Chicago platform, and three years before the Chicago resolution was proclaimed.

After ridiculing and scouting the idea of a "clean sweep" and denying that the conquest of power by the working class would mean a proletarian dictatorship, Liebknecht goes on:

"We Social Democrats know that the laws according to which political and social evolution goes on can no more be changed or stopped by us than by the authorities of capitalist society. We know that we can no more introduce at will Socialist production and a Socialist form of society than the German Kaiser nine years ago could carry out his February proclamations against the representatives of the capitalist class struggle. Therefore we were able to watch with smiling indifference the attempt of our opponents to crush the labor movement by force. We were and still are sure of our success, as sure as the solution of a mathematical problem. But we know also that the shifting of relations, though it goes on unceasingly, yet goes on gradually because it is an organic movement; and it goes on, too, without destruction of the existing relations (the removal of the dead is not destruction). The destruction of the existing, of the living, is in general impossible. We saw that plainly in the French revolution, which was probably the best planned and most energetically carried out of all pe-

ditional upheavals; but nevertheless after the "golden period" of biological growth and of phantastic utopian illusions was past, it was compelled to take things as they were and fit the new on to the old. In the first rush it may be possible occasionally to crowd out the living, but history teaches us that the most revolutionary and despotic governments were finally compelled by the logic of facts to yield and to recognize, perhaps in another form that which was unnaturally and mechanically abolished. In short, viewed historically, the present is, as a rule, a compromise between the past and the future."

"Therefore to reject a compromise in this sense would be unscientific folly. And practical folly it would be for a political party to fail to draw advantages out of the opportunities of political life of the different opposing parties. These demands (this) principles do not come into the question; no obligations are assumed and not to do what prudense demands would be stupidity. That we Social Democrats in the Reichstag sometimes on a socio-political question vote with the Conservatives for the Government, and on political and commercial questions vote with the Radicals against the Government, that is a common requirement of political warfare. Though it is undoubtedly a compromise between theory and practice, it has nothing at all in common with the compromises against which the party has repeatedly declared itself. WHAT THE PARTY HAD IN MIND and what it by formal resolution made the duty of members WAS THE AVOIDANCE OF ALLIANCES, AGREEMENTS, ARRANGEMENTS, CONTRACTS, OR WHAT-EVER THEY MIGHT BE CALLED. It was the duty of members to stand on principles or in general a change in the relation of our party towards the bourgeois parties." (pp. 30-32.)

Thus Liebknecht on compromise. Now, it was not and could not have been contended that the resolutions presented by the minority, or the position by them taken on political action generally, in any way savored of that kind of "compromise," which spells fusion with other parties, contracts, alliances, or agreements, which Liebknecht condemned; and the kind of compromise which we, the "opportunists," (Untermyan's favorite name for the minority) do favor is exactly the kind which to Liebknecht was unscientific folly, to favor which is to do simply what "prudense demands," and the question, and to reject which Liebknecht characterized unqualifiedly as STUPIDITY.

The above quoted utterances were made by Liebknecht in an essay written singly as a rebuke to the Social Democrats of a Bavarian district who had entered into an alliance—practically fused—with another party in a political campaign, and in refutation of some of Bernstein's utterances. An essay, as you see, merely intended to warn against compromises, and yet even under such circumstances Liebknecht saw fit to carefully define the sort of compromises that should be shunned, namely, those involving a "surrender of principles or in general a change in the relation of our party to bourgeois parties."

The above quotations will be found peculiarly germane to the discussion, when it is recalled that the objections to the resolutions presented by the minority, was based not on the ground that these particular subjects (municipal ownership of street car lines and free education), were objectionable in themselves; I am not mean enough to take the utterances made by Collins, Untermyan, et al, in the heat of argument as their sober conviction on the subject, but mainly on the broad ground that it would be a compromise, which it would admittedly have been. But it was a compromise which the necessities and circumstances of the situation demanded, as the referendum vote on the question of municipal ownership has since sufficiently shown. It was a proposition for compromise of the kind that makes "our entire life and activity a compromise, and all human history and the history of the race from the life of the individual up to that of nations and of mankind is an endless unbroken chain of compromises." (Liebknecht, p. 30.)

The mere fact of an "immediate demand" program being a compromise program should be no objection to sensible and intelligent people; and when we shall become emancipated from the reign of "class conscious" cant and ridiculous grandiloquent "revolutionary" phrasemongery, this objection will not be considered as valid. When the time comes that we will be able to enter into a political campaign with a sensible platform, it will not be necessary for us to boast of victories which it takes an expert statistician to discover, and which we have to figure out as victories "under the circumstances," circumstances which were of our own making; but we shall be able to record victories which will be visible to the naked eye and which will be weighty enough to make us a positive factor in the equation of social forces, and our influence in the cause of social progress will be real instead of imaginary.

PETER SISSMAN.

A party must have great confidence in its rank and file when it turns over the nomination of its candidates to the silk stockings. Democrats whose coats are patched and whose sox are cotton must esteem it a great privilege to be

Look at the number on your wrapper. The paper stops when your subscription expires. No "smoker" would be a "perfect" success without Comrade Barney Herby cigars, and he doubts them free, too.

CAREY WON A VICTORY.

Massachusetts Legislature adopts Referendum Measure.

The two Socialists won a most decided victory in the house yesterday, a victory that caused a sensation and some uneasiness to those who had looked for defeat and hoped for it. After being voted down twice upon a rising vote, and a quorum being called in, Carey and MacCartney succeeded in substituting the former's bill to provide for a constitutional amendment requiring the referendum on statutory legislation for the adverse committee report by a vote on roll call of 54 to 52. During the roll call many members left the chamber, presumably to avoid going on record.

Carey's bill provides that upon the petition of 25,000 voters matters before the legislature can be referred to a general vote of the people, and is broader in scope than the referendum bill defeated two weeks ago. Carey moved to substitute his bill for the committee report, and in support of the bill delivered one of the most brilliant speeches given during the present session. At its conclusion Carey was applauded by the members and the victors until the speaker rapped for order. MacCartney answered the objections to the bill made by Hall of Malden, who was in charge of the bill for the committee, in a forcible manner.

Carey's speech, though only twenty minutes long, covered tersely every point that had been made against the referendum upon previous occasions and anticipated the arguments that might be made in the debate. The result was that the opponents of the bill had nothing to say.

The Callender bill (in the form of a rule) to prohibit the solicitation of jobs by members of the legislature from public service corporations was adopted and became a law last week. The bill will be remembered as the one to which Carey added a resolution early in the session requiring an investigation into the matter to see if any of the members were guilty of what the bill aimed to remedy—a resolution which Mr. Callender opposed and which was defeated. In the debate on the bill last week MacCartney said the rule would be ineffective as the members would not inform on each other. It was true that the evil existed and it was a most pitiable thing that the necessities of the working class were to keep them voting for their enemies. He favored the bill but it would not remove the cause of the evil, for no one believed that it would cure.

The Senate had a day of amusement last Monday when four labor bills were killed with brevity and dispatch. They came up one after another and were laid away on roll calls, going where all good labor bills go.

WILLIAM MAILLY. (Note through pressure of space this letter was unavoidably cut down.)

Change at the Temple.

The following letter regarding the change of management of the Socialist Co-operative has been sent out with a letter from the secretary to all the members of the organization:

Dear Comrade: I have only undertaken the management of the co-operative after considering whether or not I can extend its scope. I have given up a good position to take this one because I feel confident that I can make a success of the work. I base this confidence upon the assurance I have from a great many members of their help and upon the presumption that I will have the co-operation of all members and socialists. We cannot stop the work of the co-operative as long as capitalist stands and its progress must keep pace with the socialist movement.

I intend to proceed upon a different plan than has been tried heretofore, which I will briefly outline to you in the following:

1st. I will work up weekly routes, covering each section where a bunch of socialists reside. Beginning small, thoroughly covering one district at a time. I will go to these districts, get the order and deliver within a day or two. In this way, probably fifteen or twenty orders can be secured and all of them delivered in one trip. You can readily see the saving which will result in this plan. The expense for delivering one order of say, \$2.00, is almost as great as that of twenty similar orders. Recently we had an order to be delivered five miles from the Temple, the profit on the order amounted to 20 cents, the cost of delivery was about fifty cents, considering the time of man, etc. Of course the order had to be delivered, because the member had the impression that he was helping the co-operative and it would not do to refuse the order and thus kill the interest of that member. I have at the present time assurances from three wards of weekly sales amounting to about \$150.00 at the very least. First I will devote all my time to these three wards, soliciting orders and delivering them when I have systematized these three districts and covered the territory completely. I will extend my work further—working only one district at a time.

members can order from the co-operative all of their groceries, regardless of the kind wanted. This will greatly increase the sales and will correspondingly increase the profits.

4th. An extra effort will be made to increase the membership, which will increase the working capital and also to increase the buyers, under the non-member plan. This will greatly increase the sales, also, which will make the running expenses of the co-operative lighter, the sinking fund larger and increase the amount turned over for propaganda purposes.

5th. Just as soon as it is possible to do so, we will move out of the Temple where we can reach outsiders, in some store of a ample size on a business street. The advantage of this is obvious.

I promise you the best services I am capable of rendering and trust that you will have no cause to regret my management. Within a few weeks at the most I will pay you a personal visit and talk the matter over with you.

Fraternally, WM. H. LEFFINGWELL.

ILLINOIS NOTES.

New Local of 40 members at Masonia. This has been a banner week for the Socialist Party of Illinois. Comrade Saunders, within seven days, sent in application from the following new locals:

Breese, 9 members; Trenton, 15 members; Lebanon, 23 members; Mascoutah, 40 members.

The secretary also received by mail during the same week an application from Belleville with seven members, making five new locals with 93 members added during seven days.

STATE COMMITTEE MEETING. The full state committee of one member from each senatorial district holds its first meeting on Friday, May 29th, and a full report of its transactions will be given in the Chicago Socialist next week. The committee will have itself in charge of a living movement with very small cash resources in sight but with plenty of energy waiting to be directed.

Breese.—It will be remembered that Comrade Saunders was invited to speak at a picnic held by the miners' union of this place on May 17th, and that in last week's paper he promised to organize a local before leaving. He released the promise in due time, sending in an application for a charter from nine members.

Trenton.—Comrade John J. Schuster of this place wrote the State Secretary some time ago that he feared it would be impossible to interest the laborers of his town in forming a Socialist local. He was willing, however, to entertain our organizer and let him see what he could do. Comrade Saunders arrived there after finishing his work at Breese and he went to work and held a meeting which resulted in an application for a new local with 19 members.

Lebanon.—This was Comrade Saunders' next stopping place after leaving Trenton. He has been too busy organizing locals to write any long report so that we can give few details. The important fact is that he held two meetings at Lebanon, the second of which, held in the open air, was attended by 500 people, including women and children. "After the mass meeting," he writes, "I called for all those who believed in working for themselves to form in line and march to the hall and the show they made marching down the street was astonishing."

Comrade Saunders evidently gave good advice to the Socialists who went to the hall with him for his letter was accompanied by an application from 23 paid-up members.

Mascoutah.—This is a city of 2200 people, 25 miles southeast of St. Louis and seven or eight miles south of Lebanon. We have had no correspondence from there and it was therefore a welcome surprise to hear from Comrade Saunders on the day this paper goes to press an application containing the names of 40 paid up members. He had no time this week to tell how he did it. The fact speaks for itself. This is one of the largest locals in the state and by all odds the largest in proportion to the size of the town.

Belleville.—This is an important city half way between Masonia and St. Louis. Comrade Waehler, who has been corresponding with State Secretary for some time, succeeded in effecting an organization last week, and Comrade Saunders before this paper goes to press will have visited the new local and doubtless will have brought in a large number of new members.

Sandoval.—Comrade Evans, secretary of this local, writes that the miners in Sandoval are all out of work at present, but that as soon as work is resumed at the mine there is a prospect for a large and rapid increase in the membership of the local.

Jacksonville.—An encouraging letter has just been received from Comrade Herring enclosing a good-sized remittance to apply on back dues. The Jacksonville local is getting in better shape and the comrades are preparing to make an aggressive campaign for the fall election.

THE ORGANIZATION FUND. Previously reported \$15.95 Local Elgin 1.00 Local Pana 5.00 Local Quincy 4.70 Ben Hayfield, Chicago 25 Local Decatur 64.35 It will be absolutely necessary to do better than this if the work of the State Committee is not to be retarded. The necessary expenses of the committee, even if we do not put out an additional organizer, are at least \$50 per month in excess of the total receipts from

dues. With the exception of \$25 donated by one member of the Chicago Local, nearly the whole amount has thus far come from the outside locals. Here is the place where a few comrades or friends who are in a position to make large cash contributions without undue sacrifice, will find that their money will bring the largest and quickest returns in the increased growth of the Socialist Party. Contributions may be sent to the State Secretary or will be received at the office of the Chicago Socialist.

THE MONOLOGUES OF A MILLIONAIRE.

Or Mr. Rockefeller's Soliloquies. Soliloquy No. 2.

My friends, who run the government, and bourgeois people share. What let me in to all their deals, and treat me on the square.

Have sent me here to Washington to work a Chinese puzzle, To lobby through an act or two the multitude to muzzle.

They have in me a business man who aims to broaden grow, Who wears a bloom on his nose, for that's the thing, you know.

They use me as a senator to help Fry Fry his fish, Or as a happy go-between to fill the poor man's dish.

I'm honored at the Union League, where politicians spout, I pose as a philanthropist and am a dimer out.

I drink champagne with men of note and jolly up the crowd; But when it comes to eloquence I below long and loud.

Now should your masters need a tip to know which way to steer, I've got the stuff to grease the wheels, and that is why I'm here.

Our Bankers want the government to let the banks alone, Trade Unionists want the government to let them cut its stone;

The Farmers want the government to loan them each a trifle, Small dealers want the government the mighty trusts to stifle;

Free traders want the government to give us all free trade; Protection wants the government to give its infants aid;

But I have found that Uncle Sam is quite a man of taste; He knows that helping men of means is not a thing to waste;

So he goes in for helping those who always help themselves; He pigeonholes all social demands, or lays them on the shelf.

Your Uncle Sam believes in pay, not paternalism; As the voters like his way he smiles at criticism.

While he elines to yellow gold, because there is no other, I know he has a friendly smile for Capital, his brother.

FRANK FINSTERBACH.

RALLY FOR FREEDOM.

The hour has come, ho, comrades, rally! The morn of Freedom's day is nigh. Let vile politicians with tyrants daily, And hireling priests our cause decry; And hireling priests our cause decry; Long have we crouched before oppression,

And kissed the hand that forged our chains, While Treason vaults and Plunder reigns, And Liberty from earth is banished.

Chorus— Arise, arise, ye braves! Unite, unite, ye slaves! March on, march on, All hearts resolved, On victory or death!

Behold the vulture's brood embattled Upon the field of patriots slain; When martial drums of freedom rattled,

Men sell their nation's blood for gain, Men sell their nation's blood for gain, And shall the sons of martyrs bear it To see the prize so dearly bought By coward vendors put to naught, And liberty to knaves surrender?

Chorus— Arise, etc. Throng forth, ye toilers, day is breaking! Shall idle lordlings you enthral? The throne of tyranny is quaking At Freedom's glorious bugle call! At Freedom's glorious bugle call Before its blast flies the usurper Of powers built by Labor's might, When man demands his native right And toll and joy once more are wedded, Chorus— Arise, etc.

Come, beat the drums once more, ye braves, Nor heed foul treachery's shrewd deedy, And bid your children, wives and mothers,

All hail the reign of Thrift and Joy, All hail the reign of Thrift and Joy, The power of nature, by your conquest, Subdued, must serve at your command, And Freedom reign from strand to strand, While industry unites the nations, Chorus— Arise, etc.

Then wave the banner of defiance, Though lords would lash us to a sore, And let the voice of our alliance Roll on like mighty thunder's roar! Roll on like mighty thunder's roar! No more, as serfs, shall despots despoil us, braves,

Who build their thrones on ancient creeds, And seef when famished Labor pleads, Revolt! The voice of ages calls you! Chorus— Arise, etc.

The season for open air meetings at State and Congress streets opens Saturday night, May 31st. This is to be known as rally night for Chicago Socialists. Meetings held Tuesday and Thursday each week throughout the season.

Every Republican and Democratic candidate is a friend of labor, and still the capitalists are not afraid of what they will do to the capitalists if elected.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CHICAGO.

Branch Directory

COMMITTEES.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE meets every Monday at Headquarters, 131 Washington St. E. M. Stangland, secretary.

THE NORTH DIVISION ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE meets every Friday 8 p. m., at 263 Sedgwick St. A. H. Schuler, secretary, 131 Washington St.

GENERAL COMMITTEE meets first Saturday of every month at 181 Washington St.

BRANCHES.

The following directory announces only the business meetings of the various branches.

FIRST AND SECOND WARDS—meets every Friday, 8 p. m., 2114 Wabash Ave. (store), Alice Wabrough, Secretary, 17 East 22nd St.

THIRD WARD—Headquarters, 3555 S. State street; meets every Monday at 8 p. m.; secretary, S. E. Yeomans, 3560 State street. Organizer, Louis Dalkard, 3706 State street.

FOURTH WARD—Meets every 2d and 4th Tuesday night at 310 Halsted Street. Secretary, Joe Trentz, 35 E. Twenty-second Place. Organizer, H. Driesvogt, 3110 Halsted str.

FIFTH WARD—Meets every second and fourth Mondays, 8 p. m., at 2025 Archer ave. Secretary, Mrs. A. M. Finsterbach, 3530 Archer ave.

SIXTH WARD—Meets first and third Monday nights at 410 E. 43d street. Secretary M. Kleininger, 454 Lake ave. Organizer, A. J. Nielsen, 315—E. 43rd street.

SEVENTH WARD—Meets every second and fourth Friday evenings at 8 o'clock, at 622 E. 62d street. Secy., D. M. Smith, 6116 Drexel Avenue. Organizer, Paul Pierce, 6407 Rhodes Ave.

EIGHTH WARD—Holds public meetings at Sherman Hall, 9140 Commercial avenue, every Saturday evening. Business meeting at 273 79th street every Wednesday evening. T. J. Vind, secretary, 273 79th street.

NINTH TENTH AND NINETEENTH WARDS—Meets every 1st and 3rd Monday at Forges Hall, Jefferson and Maxwell streets; secretary, Geo. L. Rosenberg, 522 W. Taylor street.

ELEVENTH WARD—Every 1st and 3rd Friday at Jusewitsch Hall, cor. 21st street and Paulina street. Secy., P. A. Zahlmayr, 122 W. 27th st.

TWELFTH WARD BRANCH—English and German combined, meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 116 W. 24th, near Oakley ave. Secretary, G. J. Sindelar, 1928 Albany av.

THIRTEENTH WARD—Every Friday evening, 8 p. m., at Socialist Temple, 129 S. Western Ave. Secy., Mrs. D. H. Daily, 461 S. Western Av. Organizer, W. E. Kolberg, 523 S. Western avenue. Phone Secy. 553.

FOURTEENTH WARD—Every Friday at Milies' Hall, southeast corner Grand and Western Aves.; Secretary, Jas. P. Larsen, 547 W. Erie st. Organizer, L. A. Mitchell, 752 Austin av.

FIFTEENTH WARD BRANCH—Meets every Friday at 623 N. Campbell St. Secretary, Albert L. Ogus, 419 W. Division St.

SIXTEENTH WARD—Every 1st Friday, Shoshofen's Hall, Ashland and Milwaukee Aves. Secretary, O. Besslack, 846 N. Wood St.

SEVENTEENTH WARD—Every first and third Friday at Danila Hall, 251 W. Chicago av. Secretary, A. Mork, 441 N. Wood st.

EIGHTEENTH WARD BRANCH—Every first and third Thursday at 420 Fulton St. Secretary, H. J. Mosler, 160 W. Madison St. Organizer, M. H. Taff, 339 W. Adams St.

TWENTY-SECOND WARD—Secretary, J. R. Anderson, 81 Seelye ave, organizer, William H. Leffingwell, 743 W. Taylor st.

TWENTY-FIRST WARD—Every first and third Tuesday, 8 p. m., 363 Sedgwick st. Sec. R. Morris, 131 E. Washington st.

TWENTY-SECOND WARD—Every first and third Thursday in the month at 363 Sedgwick st. Secretary, Chas. Sand, 243 Wells st.

TWENTY-THIRD WARD—Meets first and third Tuesday 8 p. m., at 363 Sedgwick st. Secretary, R. Holthausen, Jr., 235 Cleveland av.

TWENTY-FOURTH—Every 1st and 2d Monday at N. W. corner Southport avenue and Diversey Blvd.; secretary E. G. Knapp, 361 Lincoln ave.

TWENTY-FIFTH WARD—Every Sunday 10 a. m. at Schotis Hall, 1295 Belmont Ave. cor. Rennie Ave. Secretary, Ruth Dick Hall, 144 Corcoran Avenue.

TWENTY-SIXTH WARD BRANCH—Meets every first and third Wednesday at Social Turner Hall, Belmont and Paulina streets, Secretary, C. L. Jansen, 1525 N. Leavitt St.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 1—AVONDALE—Meets every first and third Friday at 1713 N. Kedzie Ave., corner Berry Ave. Secretary, Henry Schulz, 305 W. Wellington St.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD No. 2—Meets every first and third Wednesday at Social Turner Hall, Belmont and Paulina streets, Secretary, C. L. Jansen, 1525 N. Leavitt St.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD, No. 3—CRAGIN—Every first and third Tuesday, Lincoln's Hall, 1018 N. 51st Av. Secretary, George Jansen, 225 St. Paul Av.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD No. 4—Meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday at Moe's Hall, cor. Kedzie and Belmont Aves. Secretary, J. Gould 423 McLean avenue.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD No. 5—SWEDISH SETTLEMENT—Meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 8 p. m., at 2123 N. Francisco ave. Secretary, Fred Hammond, 212 N. Wipple st.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD No. 6—HERMOSA—Meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday evening at 942 S. 1st av. Secretary, C. Disney, 124 N. Tripp ave.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD No. 7—MANSEN PARK—Meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 8 p. m., at 3361 Grand Ave. Wm. Klemm, Secretary, 1123 N. 27th Ave.

TWENTY-EIGHTH WARD BRANCH meets every Friday at Mozart Hall, Armitage ave and Mozart st. Secretary, John Peterson, 545 W. Fullerton st.

TWENTY-NINTH WARD—Meets on call at 64 Ashland ave. Organizer, Wm. S. Ellis, 547 Ashland st.

THIRTIETH NINTH WARD BOHEMIAN BRANCH—Meets every 2d and 4th Sunday afternoon at 48th and Honore street. Secretary, J. A. Ambroz, 5415 S. Winchester Av.

THIRTIETH WARD—Meets every Sunday 10 a. m. at N. W. Cor. 51st and Westworth av. Organizer R. T. Sims, 565 Westworth ave. Sec. Herman Imhoff.

THIRTY-FIRST WARD—Every 2nd and 4th Friday at Lundquist's Hall, 61st and Morgan Streets. Secretary, Chas. Weistrand, 6146 Aberdeen St. Organizer, John Newman, 6714 Loomis st.

THIRTY-SECOND WARD—Meets 1st and third Friday, 5 p. m., at 763 61st St. Secretary, Lillie M. Forberg, 6129 Halsted St. Organizer, G. Anderson, 7133 Emerald Ave.

THIRTY-THIRD WARD—Every first and third Wednesday evening at 113th street and Michigan Avenue. Secy., W. J. Cassidy, 21—114th st. Organizer, H. DeBoer, 44 West 110th street.

THIRTY-THIRD WARD No. 2, Grand Crossing, meets second and fourth Monday at Grand Crossing Turner Hall, 7946 Grand Crossing av. Organizer, Hugo Meyer, 7946 Grand Crossing av. Sec. John T. Caulfield, 1123—75th st.

THIRTY-THIRD WARD No. 3, West Pullman, meets Thursday at 1157 Emerald avenue. Organizer, Christ Peterson, 12239 Union avenue. Secretary Thomas F. Green 11533 Princeton avenue.

THIRTY-FOURTH WARD BRANCH meets every first and third Friday at 229 Harrison st. Secretary H. O. Leary, 229 Harrison st. Organizer, Peter Eulthous, 58 5th av.

THIRTY-FIFTH WARD, No. 1—Secretary, E. Houlberg, 2903 W. Chicago av.

THIRTY-FIFTH WARD No. 2—Secretary, Geo. L. Simons, 149 N. Central Park Ave.

THIRTY-FIFTH WARD No. 3—Meets at club rooms, 5935 Henry street, 1st and 2d Sunday afternoons in each month. Secretary, E. E. Arnold, 6923 Henry street, Austin.

GERMAN BR

KANSAS CITY'S DE SHOW.

Vrooman's Frantic Appeal to the Small Business Men. Kansas City, Mo., May 17.—A brass band mounted on a gorgeous red and yellow wagon (strange commingling of emblems of proletarian and plutocrat), and followed by an old hyena, came, both rescued from the effects of the last stranded circus, paraded the streets here last Monday and every day this week, announcing to the wondering inhabitants that the Western Co-operative Association, and "The Multitude Incorporated," were ready for business. This is the Vrooman co-operative movement mentioned last week, and but for the fact that the movement is exploited on all sides as "Socialistic," would not merit more attention from the Socialist press than would any other business institution. The Vroomans, father and two sons, have been known as "Socialists" for many years, but the fact that the brand of Socialism advertised with this institution is known as "imperial" is sufficient explanation to the knowing ones why the regular Socialist movement has not been graced with Vrooman talent. It might be well to say for the uninitiated that as the regular Socialist movement has about ten million voting adherents and at least as many non-voting adherents in the world, it has the same right to define the position and purpose of Socialists as the Roman Catholic church has to define the doctrines held by that body, and by no twisting of English can the qualification of "imperial" be gotten out of Socialism.

And further quoting from the "Multitude," the official magazine of the movement: "We are allied with no ephemeral political party, but advocate measures and methods regarding our party, whichever it be, in the light of an instrument or means which, when it cannot be used to satisfy our ends, should be cast aside. We do not belong to any party, but seek to make all parties belong to us." Mack Hanna would laugh to think of his party as "ephemeral." The careful student of events knows that a political party for the interests served is one of the hardest of all facts. It would be hard to conceive of anything more "ephemeral" than the Vrooman scheme of salvation from industrial despotism, no matter how successful it may be for a time. It is difficult also for one at all versed in industrial organization of the day to understand just what is meant by "buying as cheaply as the trusts" for the work of the association thus far is entirely in the line of distribution, and not of production. Except the department store, there is no trust in retailing. And right here you have the Vrooman view, which is also the view taken by the middle class, that security and prosperity depend on the terms the consumer receives, and not what the producer gets. (The productive forces under control of Mr. Vrooman so far are few. A farm or so (let the single taxers laugh here), and possibly a bakery. Say that a small abattoir, a small bakery can be conducted successfully on a co-operative basis, will they supply those whose food supply is now jeopardized? To date we have not heard that any bargain has been struck with the stock yards, or the packing houses, neither has any railroad company been after the Vrooman stock for its property. No flouting mill will roll for the "people." None of the coal barons or iron and lead mine owners living here have taken hold of the scheme. The lumber companies don't warm up a bit. There was something said about a brickyard, but possibly brickbat was meant. The few who own all the ground in this locality hold strangely aloof, neither does any contractor come forth as a bulwark of co-operative housing. There is much talk here of a cotton factory which, as a prominent business man says, "will utilize the labor of women and children thus giving much needed employment;" but we will not do Mr. Vrooman the injustice of charging this capitalist scheme to him. And really it looks as if the whole thing would fizzle down to a consumers' league which would last as long as the consumers have the wherewithal to purchase. It will not be long now until the Vrooman movement will have an opportunity of showing its hand publicly. The Socialists of the country may be sure of one thing, the "people's trust" may seek to have all political parties belong to it, but it will have a hard time acquiring the Socialist Party. Contrary-wise, it is the logic of events that the adherents of Vroomanism must have their eyes opened in the end, and the Socialists complacently watch this latest economic development in the course which must be taken before the people will learn that they must take possession of the earth and control it themselves, giving to each his due, if they are ever to enjoy the fruit of their labor and all the other powers which nature has given them. Among the notables who were featured at the free entertainment given at the Century Theater by Vrooman and in the big tent set for from it, were Granville Lowther, of McPherson, Kas., who has just been expelled from the Methodist church because he did not know whether Jonah was swallowed by the whale or not; Mr. W. D. P. Biles of New York was also a star. He has been written up before in the Socialist press. He may well be classed as "unavailable." These people are long on the "brotherhood of man" and possibly actually believe that the powers that be will finally be persuaded. Dave L. Guyotte is calculated as a card to catch the trade unionists, as he is secretary of the Missouri Federation of Labor. Comrade Behrens of Sedalia can probably add to his case. Guyotte has been a maverick in capitalist politics, and it will be interesting to see where he lands this time. John W. Wrettschal of Kansas, Populist hold, holds a federal appointment of treasury department, was also on the card. It is said the "middle of the roaders" sometimes have their suspicions of Joan. And Mrs. Annie L. Diggs must not be forgotten. Socialists present say that she made a fairly good presentation of Socialism, but carefully refrained from any application of it to the scheme at hand. It has been suggested that the "imperial" part of this latest "Socialistic" scheme is the "bread and circuses" of keeping Rome. As an advertising dodge free theaters and tent vaudeville certainly draw the crowd. Let us give Mr. Vrooman all credit for good intentions, and also for ability as far as his means allow. His work in the establishment of Trenton college at Rusk, Mo., cannot be overlooked. If he can alleviate the conditions of any part of the people, he is some use in the world, but his actions must not be allowed to compromise or cloud the issue between the people whose labor has built up the vast properties controlled by the trusts which Vrooman fights, and who in their ignorance have given up their birthright in the world which gave them life, and those who have possessed themselves of all these things. GARNET FUTVOYE. ... who has deserted Chicago, but as the half dozen men constituting the S.

SOCIALIST PARTY PLATFORM.

The Socialist Party of America in National Convention assembled reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people. Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by the individual worker. Today the machine, which is but an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. This ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them. Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever increasing uncertainty of livelihood and the poverty and misery of the working class, and it divides society into two hostile classes—the wealthy and wage-workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of production and distribution is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, wars are waged between nations, industrial slaughter is encouraged, and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home. But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage-workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The Democratic, Republican, the Progressive and virtual parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class. The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes. While we declare that development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to Socialism are dependent on the state of development reached by the proletariat. We therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the S. P. to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices, in order to facilitate the attainment of this end. AS SUCH MEANS WE ADVOCATE: 1. The collective ownership of all means of transportation and communication, and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines. No part of the revenue of such industries to be applied to the reduction of taxes on property of the capitalist class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening the hours of labor of the employees, to the improvement of the services and diminishing the rates to the consumers. 2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the workers in the product of labor. 3. A State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age; the funds for this purpose to be collected by the government and to be administered under the control of the working class. 4. The inauguration of a system of public industries, public credit to be used for that purpose, in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor. 5. The education of all children up to the age of eighteen years, and state and social aid for books, clothing, and food. 6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women. 7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents. But in advocating these measures as steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth, we warn the working class against the so-called public ownership movements as an attempt of the capitalist class to secure governmental control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the exploitation of other industries and not for the amelioration of the conditions of the working class.

NOTICE. The Executive Committee has extended the time for the return of referendum on the Constitution to June 24. E. M. STANGLAND, Gen. Sec. Wanted. A good Socialist hustler to distribute "The Chicago Socialist." Good thing for the fight. Can make from \$10 to \$20 per week. For particulars address or call upon W. H. KERR, Editor, 323 S. Western Ave., Chicago, Ill. WOOD CARVERS UNION. Assembles every 1st and 3rd Tuesday in the month at: ADAM KOCH'S HALL, 104 E. RANDOLPH ST. at 9 P. M. Address: O. F. RUSSELL, 675 S. ARCADE, CHICAGO, ILL. FORSKAREN. THE INVESTIGATOR—Semi-monthly. A Socialist Paper in the Swedish Language. 16 pages, 4 columns. Send for sample copy. Address: Forskaren: Sta. B., Minneapolis, Minn. The Meat Trust. is putting up the prices of meat, but our prices are as low as the lowest. Give us a trial. TREBBIN BROS., 728 W. North Ave. P. HORSLEY, BUTTER, COFFEE, TEA and SPICES. Send order by postal card. Goods delivered all over the South Side. 3925 Aberdeen St., Chicago. LOOKING BACKWARD. (unabridged) by Helleny. This book costs 50 cents in U. S. A. You can have it delivered to your address by sending to Henry B. Ashplant, London, Ont., Canada. Single copies 13c, 2 copies 25c, dozen \$1.25, 50 copies \$3.00, U. S. A. stamps or P. O. order. STRAIGHT SOCIALIST LITERATURE. That is what the co-operative publishing house of Charles H. Kerr & Co. is organized to publish. That is what it is publishing. The Company is owned by over 300 socialists scattered over the United States and the rest of the world. It declares no dividends, and no officer gets more than ordinary union wages. Any socialist can be a joint owner by investing \$10.00 in a share of stock, and he will then be able to get books at cost. For example, the company is just importing 200 copies of Marx's "Capital," the complete unabridged work, best edition, the same that is being advertised at \$2.50, and the price to stockholders will be \$1.00. Local Chicago is a stock holder, and the literary agent of any branch can get stockholder's prices, provided he is buying for his branch and will account to his branch for the difference between retail and stockholder's prices. NEW PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS. We have just issued a new series of four-page leaflets, each containing three pages of propaganda matter, with a blank for stamping the time and place of socialist meetings and an advertisement of the Chicago Socialist and of a few Socialist booklets. The leaflets will be supplied to ward branches at our office for only TWENTY-FIVE CENTS A THOUSAND. If sent by mail, the price will be 6 cents a hundred or 59 cents a thousand. Two titles are now ready, "Who are the Socialists?" and "A Country Where Strikes Don't Fail." Others will follow. THE MADDEN LIBRARY. This is a new series of 16 page booklets, stitched and trimmed. They are uniform in style with the Pocket Library of Socialism, but without the red cover. Price, 2 cents each, \$1.00 a hundred postpaid. To stockholders 50 cents a hundred postpaid or 40 cents at our office. Three numbers are now ready: "WHAT IS A SCAB?" and "THE CLASS STRUGGLE" by A. M. Simons; and "AN OPEN LETTER BY A CATHOLIC TO POPE LEO," by W. I. Brown. THE POCKET LIBRARY OF SOCIALISM. No. 25 of this series, "THE PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIALISM," by A. M. Simons, is nearly ready. Nothing equal to these covered booklets for selling at open air meetings. They retail for 5 cents each, 6 for 25 cents, 14 for 50 cents, 20 for \$1.00. Stockholders in our company and literary agents of branches of Local Chicago get them for \$1.00 a hundred, assorted among 35 titles if desired. BOOKS YOU NEED TO READ. (Stockholders get them at half price by calling at our office or 40% discount by mail.) Karl Marx, Memoirs by Liebnicht 20. Collected Works, Vol. 1 20. The American Farmer, A. M. Simons 20. The Origin of the Family, 20. The Last Days of the Huskie Co-operative Association, Isaac Broome 20. American Communism, 20. William A. Hinds, 1.00. Love's Coming of Age, 1.00. Edward Carpenter, 1.00. The Impending Crisis—Statistics on the Distribution of Wealth, 25. Socialism, Utopian and Scientific, Engels, 30. Other important works are in preparation.

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