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NO. 407

BOARD OF TRADE ON VERGE OF RUIN

Brokers, Threadbare and Lean, Want Government to Save Them.

Ten years ago every person paid homage to the members of the Chicago Board of Trade. To say that a man was a member of that gambling group was to decorate him in the eyes of the world. But what a change!

What is left of the well fed, sleek brokers' crowd is divided into factions. They are suing, prosecuting, quarreling, demanding anti-trust laws, getting injunctions, fighting injunctions, raising their commissions, lowering their commissions, making rules and unmaking them.

It is all to no purpose. All the brokers and all their little savings cannot hinder the progress of events in the person of J. Ogden Armour, and his men-at-arms, John C. Shaffer, who owns the Chicago Evening Post, Bartlett, Frazier & Carrington, and a few others.

The big fish are eating up the little ones. However, the little fish were once big fish in the little Chicago pond and are struggling to regain the lost respect of the populace, to regain their little fish at every bushel of grain and even to save their homes. They refuse to be separated from the bread of this country. They insist that they should have part of all grain raised.

Scouting around the gloomy old pile at the head of La Salle street, these Board of Trade operators, many of them as seedy looking and as nervous and homeless as are the other boards of trade, may be seen any day. If you approach them suddenly they start as if they expected to be slugged.

Everybody Works for Armour. Armour is never seen around the Board of Trade. His men-at-arms take care of his affairs. While he is in Europe or out on his broad acres west of Lake Forest his men at the stock yards work for him, thousands of railroad men work for him. John C. Shaffer is working for him, scheming and forming companies. Everybody appears to be working for Armour down around the board.

"What is the matter here?" was asked of John Hill, Jr., who is leading in the fight to have the "law enforced."

"We want a square deal here," he said. "We want competition restored. We want it so every broker can make a little money."

Mr. Armour, thrown out upon an unfeeling world with many millions by a cruel father, found that he must fight day and night if he was not to die poor. He has fought with such good will that he has added to his store of dollars. He is one of the richest men in the world and there are those that say his packing house poisons people.

So, forced to fight other business men, he has defeated them at their own game. Now come the brokers, once so noisy in their talk about their own energy and capacity, and ask the federal government to put a hobble on J. Ogden and Mr. Shaffer. They are poor losers.

The best of it is, the government has tried to do this, but for several years Armour has jumped the fences his foes try to put around him in spite of the weight of anti-trust laws.

It was a simple thing that Armour did. Every man on the Board was trying to do the same thing and if a score of them had co-operated they could have done it long before Armour tried his young hand.

Through a lot of subsidiary companies he got control of all elevators, and grain growers were up against what appeared to be competition for their crops. It was not competition. Armour and his men were the whole thing and the farmer had but one chance to sell.

the law of supply and demand upside down.

a labor union that destroyed machinery so foolish?

Armour, a good business man, paid at a price.

The only thing that has hindered him in his plan to make more money is the Farmers' Co-operative elevators.

John Hill, who is trying to save the little broker and stop "illegal" speculation once had his home blown up by dynamite. Suspicion rested on some of his rich enemies. Anyhow the police failed to investigate and in the end John was accused of blowing up his own house.

He still is fighting. He will not be dynamited again but the big fellows working for Mr. Armour for the crumbs he lets drop in their path, are sure to "put the rollers" and run John before long.

Almost any day you may see in the big dailies news that John, the lone fighter, is charged with some illegal practice, such as killing his great grandmother, trying to dynamite Armour's grain office, throwing his child in the lake or trying to rob a grain elevator single handed.

When Armour through his right hand men get after a "disturber" that wants to have the law enforced and persists in his reckless course they will land on him as sure as fate.

It is all for progress, however. Socialism is being talked by the outcast brokers. None have joined the working class for they all refuse to work, except as traders.

WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF GREAT SPEECH?

Eckles, Calhoun, Chancellor Day, Roosevelt and Others Deliver Same Address

A new prize contest to determine the original authorship of a regular after-dinner address that is now being given nearly every night somewhere in this country would be interesting.

The speech starts out with a description of the horrors of concentrated wealth and "swollen fortunes," and then explains that "something must be done to save the country" from the horrors of capitalism.

Not at all. From the "menace of socialism."

Last night it was William J. Calhoun who used this speech at the banquet of the Chicago Congressional Club.

He assured his hearers that "socialism threatens the home, fireside, government and mankind." Calhoun is the official investigator for this country. He investigated Cuba.

It is understood that the speech was promised to Chancellor Day of Syracuse University for the same night, but Mr. Calhoun received the copy and Day forgot all but the last part. So his magazine article was limited to the denunciation of socialism.

Some investigators held that the original of the speech is found in Roosevelt's message, but higher critics claim that much of it can be traced to Isaiah and Jeremiah.

The University of Chicago has authorized its Babylonian expedition to search carefully in the same hole from which the Code of Hammurabi was taken to ascertain if a still earlier origin cannot be discovered.

There is a strong suspicion that President Roosevelt has the only authorized, copyrighted edition in this country, and that all persons desiring to use the speech should apply to Secretary Loeb for permission to use it.

The Daily Socialist has been able to secure a copy of the outline and risks the danger of prosecution for infringement of the copyright by publishing it herewith.

First—Denounce the trusts. Lay especial stress on such phrases as "iniquity of wealth," "oppressive combinations," etc. On special occasions "swollen fortunes" may be used.

Second—Describe the "rising tide of discontent" that is appearing in all directions.

Third—Denounce the Socialists. Bear down heavy on this point.

DAILY PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE ARRIVES

OPERATE RAILROADS WITH THE MILITIA

Radical Plan in the Northwest to Get Coal—Private Ownership of Railroads Fails

St. Paul, Dec. 15.—The farmers of North Dakota and Minnesota, freezing for lack of the coal which the railroads refuse to haul, or are confiscating to their own use, demand that the militia be called out to run the trains and deliver the coal.

The weather is steadily getting more severe and the residents of the northwestern states are burning up sheds, outbuildings and other material for fuel. The Glenburn, N. D. Commercial Club has arranged to house the residents of that city and the surrounding farmers as far as possible in the school-houses and public buildings in order to save fuel.

Stock must be left to shift for itself.

Railroads Blamed. When cars are furnished for the shipping of coal their contents are frequently confiscated by the railroads if the fuel is needed by the carriers. In Sioux Falls, S. D., orders for coal which were sent in months ago are still unfulfilled, and the situation is approaching a crisis.

Local manufacturing has almost completely ceased for lack of fuel, and in some places the schools are closed. As a result a bitter hatred of the railroads is rising among the population, and some drastic legislation may be expected by the next legislatures of the states affected.

Business Men Talk. "If this business continues," declared a business man here to-day, "you will see the state soldiers and perhaps the federal troops operating the railroads. I am afraid if it comes to that point the people never will permit the private corporations to have a hand in running these transportation lines. We are trying to kill this tendency toward Socialism through the army, but when people are freezing, schools are closed and factories idle it is a difficult matter."

"We must not be too hasty in taking radical steps. I am in favor of waiting until the state legislature meets to get redress in a more legal way than capturing and virtually confiscating the roads. We had better freeze than take a step that would lead straight to Socialism, the dead level and lack of incentive to work."

Indications are that the people will not endure the hardship through the winter, and that the roads will get coal to the stricken cities to save their property from falling into the hands of the state and perhaps the nation.

COMMISSION TO RUN RAILROAD FOR USE

Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Consternation was aroused among members of congress this morning over the statement that Roosevelt proposed to send a special message to congress urging that the interstate commerce commission be given power to seize and operate the railroads of the United States in case of an emergency such as now exists regarding car shortage.

It is generally recognized that this situation is most critical. The pressure from shippers through the country, the cries for fuel in the northwest and the general indignation at the slaughter and overwork of men employed is giving rise to a condition that must be met by some sort of national action.

RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS FOR LABOR UNIONISTS

Section Men Try to Form Organization Ambushed and Two Are Wounded

Huntington, W. Va., Dec. 15.—At Lesages last night section men employed by the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, returning on a hand car from a union labor meeting here, were fired upon from ambush. Homer Knight, Roland Leopold and Walter Franning were seriously injured. The latter will probably die.

It is believed there were several men in the firing party, and detectives from this city have been ordered to the scene. The wounded men were brought to hospitals here.

Efforts to organize section men into unions are being made in all parts of the country. They must organize to protect the public. Workmen ignorant of track work are being hired by corporations to save a few cents a day and stop the agitation, and wrecks are occurring every day because of defective tracks.

To save dividends the captains of industry are becoming frightened, and the ambushing of the veteran section workers last night shows that they are prepared to murder, if necessary, to stop the unionization of section workers and trackmen.

GRAFT SENATOR DEPEW GETS BUSY AGAIN

Washington, Dec. 18.—Senator Depew introduced a resolution to-day authorizing any national bank to be designated as a depository of public moneys. Under existing law no bank with a capital of less than \$50,000 can be so designated. The bill also permits the secretary of the treasury to deposit receipts from customs in national banks as he now does internal revenue receipts.

ADIPOSE TISSUE KILLS

Ravenna, Ohio, Dec. 18.—Cecelia Shutter, aged 29, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Shutter, is dead. The cause of her death was an over-accumulation of adipose tissue at the weight of 400 pounds and had been gaining in flesh rapidly for several years past. A special coffin three feet wide, inside measurement, will have to be constructed. She was the largest woman in Portage county.

POPE UNABLE TO AROUSE FRENCH

Catholic Laymen Obey Law and Bishop Vacates Palace

Paris, Dec. 19.—All efforts on the part of the Vatican to excite rebellion have failed.

The Catholic membership has refused to take part in any demonstrations with the exception of the remnants of the old nobility in France, with Count Boni de Castellane at their head.

The government is not taking any action tending to stir up excitement, but is letting the prosecutions take their regular legal course.

Bishop Richard has vacated the palace which he has been illegally occupying for some time, and it has been taken by the government for the new department of labor. Viviani and his assistants are moving in to-day.

STRANGE CHRISTMAS STORY.

New York, Dec. 19.—Mrs. Kate Smith was robbed of the money she had saved to buy Christmas presents for her four children. She could not bear to disappoint the little ones, so she stole the things she had intended to purchase. To-day presented in court on the charge of shoplifting, she told her story. So moved was Magistrate Steiner that he said he would pay for the things. When the manager of the department store heard the real life Christmas tragedy he withdrew the charges. The Smith children will receive a call from Santa.

PHONE GIRLS WIN ONE-MINUTE STRIKE

New York, Dec. 18.—The "hello girls" of Staten Island have taken all the medals away from Samuel Gompers and John Mitchell. They have declared, conducted and won a strike all within one minute.

The general manager chose to dismiss Miss Sylvia Dailey.

"We guess not," cried thirty-two tear-laden voices as thirty-two young women started for their hats.

The big switchboard whirred and flashed. Hundreds of people were making demands. The general manager stood amazed. In less than a minute Miss Sylvia was reinstated with honor.

TRY TO KILL CHIEF OF POLICE

Lodz, Russia Poland, Dec. 19.—Two bombs were thrown at Chief of Police Chyzanowski at noon to-day while he was driving through one of the principal streets. The horse drawing the vehicle and the driver were killed, but Chyzanowski escaped with slight injuries. His carriage was completely destroyed. Several dragoons who were escorting the police chief were mortally wounded.

BISHOP McCABE IS DEAD

New York, Dec. 19.—Bishop Chas. C. McCabe of the Methodist Episcopal church, died at 5:20 o'clock this morning. He was stricken with apoplexy while walking on the street last week and was taken to the New York hospital where he succumbed.

HOLIDAY BOOKS.

Full supply of Socialist literature at office of Chicago Daily Socialist. Bargains in pamphlets. Choice books for Christmas presents. Marx Capital, new edition, \$2.00; by mail 25 cents extra.—Adv.

TO CAPTURE DENMARK PLAN OF SOCIALISTS

Copenhagen, Dec. 11.—The Social Democrats declare that at the next election for the Rigsdag, which takes place in 1908, the Socialists will elect a majority of the members.

That this is no idle boast is seen by the constantly increasing number of Socialist victories in municipal elections. The circulation of the Social Demokrat is now over 60,000. The capitalist paper having the next largest circulation has only 30,000.

TO MAKE PEONAGE LEGAL.

Newspapers Propose "Vagrancy Law" That Will Restore Slavery.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Newspapers in this part of the country have struck upon a novel plan for making the negroes work. This plan is the so-called enforcement of the "vagrancy law." By this law any negro who is not working can be forced to work in a mill or factory. All that will be necessary is to say that he is a vagrant.

It is claimed by those advocating this measure that thousands of negroes in the South live on what others produce without doing a stroke of work themselves.

While there is some truth in this statement, the enforcement of the vagrancy law is nevertheless meant not so much to stop vagrancy as to make negroes work in the mills, where workers are badly needed. If the law is adopted as proposed peonage and practical slavery will be made legal, as far as the Southern states are concerned. If it is adopted white men of course could be "peoned" in the same way.

DEADLY ASSAULT ON SOCIALIST MAYOR

Effort to Enforce Law Brings Attack from Gamblers

Red Lodge, Mont., Dec. 11.—One of the most dastardly and brutal assaults ever committed in the state was perpetrated Monday evening, Dec. 3, upon Socialist Mayor Austin.

The villainous deed was committed about 8 o'clock in the darkness of the winter night. The assailants were two brothers-in-law, Paddy Doran and Lewis Thomas, who were accused lately of running a gambling game in the saloon of the former, and who were brought to justice by his honor, the mayor. Mayor Austin, as was his custom, had closed his barber shop for the evening, and was walking up the street in the direction of the Red Lodge State bank.

At this corner the thugs accosted him, shoved him into a side street, knocked him down, beat him unmercifully, kicked him in the face, forehead and sides, stamping and disfiguring him and otherwise injuring him seriously by crushing in his ribs.

The mayor struggled to his feet and succeeding in breaking from his would-be slayers, ran down the street calling for the marshal. He was followed by Thomas and Night. Policeman Youngholter, running to the rescue, attempted the arrest of the murderous criminal, which was vigorously resisted until Sheriff Potter came, when the thing was taken to jail. The cause of the heinous attack was the policy adopted by Mayor Austin in enforcing the state gambling law.

PEASANTS FACE FAMINE

Washington, Dec. 19.—Russian peasants are facing one of the worst famines that country has known during the last twenty years, according to reports made to the department of agriculture by its European agents. The wheat crop is 100,000,000 bushels short of the previous year's crop and over 120,000,000 bushels short of the crop in 1904. The rice crop is even more alarmingly small. While crop of 1905 was 281,000,000 bushels shorter than that of the preceding year, this year's crop has fallen 74,000,000 bushels lower than that of 1905. It is even smaller than the famine crop of 1897.

AFTER BIG THIEVES

New York, Dec. 19.—The grand jury has started an investigation of the Armstrong investigating committee's findings concerning crookedness in the New York Life Insurance company. The grand jury will seek to start the big life insurance crooks, who have so far only been exposed, on the road to the house of punishment—the penitentiary.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION CONFIRMS BELIEF THAT OVERWORK IS DANGEROUS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—"The commission is without authority under the law to deal effectively with the car shortage situation," declares the annual report of the interstate commerce commission, which was sent to congress this afternoon. It is stated that conditions now existing in the northwest, southwest, trans-Missouri region, are "alarming."

The causes ascribed are, in some cases, a lack of cars, in others insufficient tracks and motive power, and in still others wholly inadequate freight yards and terminal facilities.

"A situation of such gravity calls for every remedy that can be usefully applied," says the commissioner.

"Special investigations have been instituted by the commission," continues the report, "into the relation between the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railway systems, growing out of their combined management and control, and the relation of the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Burlington systems, with a view to ascertaining to what extent they are under unified control, and the effect of such control upon their rates and practices."

The report shows twenty-one civil cases pending in the courts for enforcement of the interstate commerce law, and a large number of criminal proceedings disposed of or instituted during the year. The fines imposed upon corporations and individuals involving criminal violations amounted to several hundred thousand dollars. Two persons were sentenced to imprisonment within the year.

Since the last annual report of the commission was submitted 1,084 complaints have been filed with the commission.

The number of formal cases and investigations instituted during the year is eighty-two, relating directly to the rates and practices of 559 carriers.

Referring to the operation of the new railroad rate law, the report says: "Generally speaking, the law has been well observed. Certain carriers have been somewhat lax, and in these cases it has been necessary to prosecute."

WRECKS CALL FOR EIGHT-HOUR DAY

FUEL FAMINE GROWS IN WESTERN STATES

Farmers Camp in Schoolhouse—Big Crops Can't Be Delivered

Glenburn, N. D., Dec. 17.—Fuel dealers say no cars are to be had with which to ship coal. Much delayed traffic causes fuel shortage. North Dakota lignite miners are also unable to get cars. The above lines tell the cause of the fuel shortage here. Railroads have promised immediate attention to the movement of coal, giving its freight preference. The coal supply throughout northwest North Dakota is very limited. Dealers are entirely out, and very little is in the hands of consumers. This part of the state is entirely dependent on eastern coal, except those in the territory wagon distance of lignite mines. There is no timber here, and the Glenburn town farmers are entirely dependent on the supply of hard coal from the east.

Fargo, N. D., Dec. 17.—Beautiful sunny weather with temperature above zero and continuance of moderate weather predicted has a tendency to remove fuel famine conditions in this state. The brief weather respite has given the railroads a chance to rush coal into this territory, and the situation is less acute than twenty-four hours ago. The railroads have concentrated their effort to opening up traffic on main lines first.

The most real suffering has been in the northwestern part of the state, in some of which old buildings and fences were torn down to use as fuel. Straw was burned in large heating stoves, and in some places plans were arranged for the heating of large halls and conserving what fuel supplies were on hand by extinguishing individual fires. Many schools were closed down and church services abandoned. Coal shortage is more noticeable along the Great Northern lines than on the Northern Pacific and Soo roads. The Great Northern has less percentage of engines and the least number of cars for the miles of its road of any line in the northwestern states, and the blockade during the rush of grain and stock shipments all fall has been most serious.

Since the recent agitation railroads are making desperate efforts to relieve the conditions, and are running special coal trains, disregarding all other freight shipments till conditions are relieved.

There is no co-operation between the railroads and the operators. Railroads disregard state law, preferring long haul on hard coal from the east, and the state railway commission is a laughing stock, with little real authority and a lack of desire to enforce what it has.

SHORTER HOURS FOR WORKERS

The only suits decided against the government are two recent cases tried in the district court in Colorado. Should this interpretation of the law be sustained by a higher court, the statute will be greatly weakened.

"To secure proper results in the administration of the law congress should provide for a considerable increase in the force of inspectors."

The commission urgently recommends shorter hours for railway employes, saying that in the matter of long hours the accident reports for theyear "have shown instances of even worse conditions than existed in former years."

The cost of collisions, exclusive of damages paid to victims or their families, reached the enormous total of ten millions during the past year, a million greater than in 1905.

In discussing its purpose to inaugurate a uniform system of accounting among the railroads, the commission says that its aim is to grant any person interested the opportunity of criticism and suggestion before a definite system shall have been determined upon.

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HOW THEY HARASS FIRE FIGHTERS

An organized effort to destroy the firemen's union is in existence, according to F. S. Wilson, attorney for the union.

In conjunction with attacks being made upon labor organizations comes a very strenuous one on the firemen, the attack being led, it appears, by Fire Chief Horan.

One of the significant facts in connection with these attacks is the summoning of so many union firemen before the civil service commissioners. In the last few years this has been a very rare thing but in the last month there have been eight men brought before the commissioners and in every case it is a union man who is summoned, or one about to become a unionist.

The particular first battalion is getting the brunt of these attacks. It is working under the platoon system.

Ball, the man who was discharged, received the hardest treatment. The charges were read to him by Commissioner Frank Wenter. He pleaded not guilty, but was not given an opportunity to introduce evidence on his own behalf. The only evidence produced against him being a transcript of the proceedings of the testimony of the Maynard case, which was taken down by Chief Horan's stenographer.

What the Facts Are.

Evidence was there shown that he had not refused to answer, but said that he would rather not answer. He asked Commissioner Wenter if he was required to answer. The reply was that it was not necessary. Then the anti-union dailies published reports that he had flatly refused.

There were several who testified that Maynard was not guilty, and charges against him were dismissed.

At this hearing the captain, lieutenant and battalion chief testified that Maynard was guilty. This evidence caused Ball to state that he would rather not answer as he was afraid to testify against his superior officers.

The charges against Maynard originated in the fire marshal's office and were brought against him by that office.

A little story in this connection will prove that it made no difference to the officials who they get, just so it is a union man, and they are satisfied.

The chief called up the battalion commander and told him to come over to his office. After he got there they sent for Maynard. In some manner a man named Clancy came instead. The battalion chief walked up to him and said: "What do you mean by being in this condition? Do you think you are in a fit condition to drive a fire engine?"

Clancy was struck dumb, he being, as a matter of fact, perfectly sober. The chief, seeing the way Clancy received this, said: "You've got the wrong man."

Another Case.

One case brought up was that of an engineer and his assistant, who were brought in for not keeping up steam on their engine. They testified that the reason they could not keep up steam was because of the poor coal which was supplied.

Another case was that of a captain who was brought in for not keeping a chemical engine in repair. The testimony in this case was to the effect that they could not get the tools with which to repair it. They had sent in requisition after requisition but were not recognized at the chief's office.

CHILD BREAD WINNER SERIOUSLY INJURED

Exploiting Packing Company Keeps Little Girl Employee After Dark

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 18.—While little Julia Thompson, fifteen years of age, was returning from her work at the Kingham & Company packing house at six o'clock in the evening she fell a distance of fifteen feet from the abutment of a bridge to the pavement below, seriously injuring her back.

She was small and delicate for her age, but was compelled to work to support her mother and self.

Her home was nearly a mile distant from her place of work and the place where she fell is in a dark alley. She was carried to her home by some men who were working at the same place and who happened to come along some time after the accident.

POVERTY IS A DISGRACE.

The whole world as it stands at present, with capitalists and so on, is a disgraceful world, and we have got to get the workmen to hate poverty.

Instead of keeping up the spirit of snivelling sympathy with poverty, which really comes from the upper classes, who always want to give coal and blankets, we have got to make the workingman understand that his poverty is a disgrace to himself, and that the poverty of the country is a disgrace to him.

We want to make him look at the world and look at himself, and to see that he is a poor and disgraceful specimen.—George Bernard Shaw.

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TRACTION CROWD CAPTURES CHICAGO

"Settlement" of Transportation Problem Will Put \$50,000,000 Mortgage on Public

The traction question has been settled in a way satisfactory to Mayor Dunne. It is entirely satisfactory to J. Pierpont Morgan, the Field estate and John J. Mitchell of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank.

Chicago is to be "trimmed" right and left. It must pay at least \$50,000,000 to the Wall street gamblers and lesser capitalists. If it does not pay this the companies have a twenty-year franchise. If the \$50,000,000 is paid it will be paid for equipment justly called "junk" by every newspaper and every citizen in Chicago, and for franchises given through hoodlum by Chicago to the traction companies.

By the "settlement" the companies "apparently" lose several millions. This loss, if any is to be sustained, is to be made up under the reconstruction contract included in the settlement.

First the companies—J. P. Morgan, the Field Estate and others—are to get 5 per cent for "brokerage," 5 per cent interest on the \$50,000,000 and on all new money put in and 10 per cent profit on the cost of reconstruction.

Where Profits Are. If the men who control the companies are good business men, and it is commonly conceded that they are, they will at once favor construction and contracting companies.

These companies will build the new power houses, lay the new tracks and dig the tunnels.

For this work they will get enough to give the traction schemes a good profit. Morgan, the Field estate and John J. Mitchell cannot lose.

The "settlement" puts upon the people a debt of \$50,000,000. Upon this they must pay interest for years and in the end the "loan." In addition they must, if the lines are bought, pay profits of many millions. How large these unknown profits are to be will depend upon the attitude of Chicago's newspapers for the public gets its information—unless it reads this paper—censored by some millionaire, directly or indirectly.

The newspapers have drugged the public, and they will try it again when Morgan and the others begin their Wall street tricks to make money out of "rehabilitation."

Hearst's papers have fought the allied press and failed. Now the American and Examiner appear to be giving up the fight.

The Case in Brief.

The case as it stands now is as follows:

What the people will get: New street cars.

Through service from one end of town to the other for one fare, but only on certain cars and outside the loop district.

Better tracks.

Somewhat better service in two or three years.

Fifty-five per cent of "net" earnings.

What the companies and Wall street gamblers, led by J. P. Morgan and the Field estate, will get:

If the city does not buy the lines they will get as favorable a twenty-year franchise as has been granted by any boogie council in recent years.

If the city buys the lines:

They will get \$50,000,000 for a lot of junk and franchises the city council gave for nothing.

They will get all the money they invest hereafter and 5 per cent interest.

They will get 10 per cent profit on all money spent for improvement.

They will get 3 per cent "brokerage," that is, for borrowing money and financing the affair.

They will get a profit, as large as possible without scandal, out of reconstruction by subsidiary contracting companies.

Forty-five per cent of the "net" receipts.

To sum it all up the Chicago lamb and the Wall street lion are to lie down together, but the lamb is inside the lion.

BRUTALITY OF POLICE

Inexperienced and Vicious Officers Club and Shoot.

A perfect carnival of police brutality seems to have broken out. Following close upon the story of three policemen beating a man almost to death after he was confined in a cell, came the discharge yesterday of Patrolman Lawrence McElligan for clubbing Achilles Meret to death. The discharge only came when the evidence before the coroner's jury revealed a tale of beastly brutality by the officer. The witnesses agreed that Meret was clubbed into insensibility, without cause, and was then dragged into the patrol wagon in a dying condition, although bystanders offered to pay for a carriage to the hospital.

A couple of dog-catchers and Officer Hugh H. McNally are accused of beating up James Probasco, and then trying to shoot him, falling in the latter purpose only because the revolver missed fire.

Maurice Rice and M. Rabbel have preferred charges against Patrolman Edward Shewbridge, of South Chicago, who, they allege, ordered them to "move on" when they were standing in front of their own store. On their refusal to move he proceeded to "beat them up" and take them to the station. They were discharged by Justice Goodnow.

At a recent conference held at the Ministry of Commerce, St. Petersburg, it was decided that agricultural machinery required by peasant emigrants to Siberia and other portions of the Russian Empire, would have to be ordered abroad this year, as the Russian factories would be unable to deliver in time. Next year an attempt will be made to introduce Russian machinery among the settlers.

GETTING SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

Butler Brothers, whose big wholesale store is one of the prides of Commercial Chicago, just now houses as unhappy a lot of under-paid and harassed workers as probably ever were gathered under one roof.

Like all other "efficient business men," Butler Brothers require every employe to be ready for work on the minute. They are in a position to demand this promptness but the workers being unorganized are not in a position to demand overtime pay or prompt release from duty.

This big firm is just now making thousands out of unpaid labor. Practically every one of the hundreds in the big house are required to work from 6 o'clock to 10 o'clock every evening, including, of course, Saturday night, for they can sleep all day Sunday.

If a thousand men work four hours every evening and are not paid anything for it, the employer has secured the equivalent of 500 days' work of eight hours each. At \$2 a day, more than the average in the Butler sweat shop, this would be \$1,000 a day. Butler Brothers probably work 2,000 persons every evening, so you see if they count the labor cost in ordinary times, they are earning \$2,000 a day. This amount comes from workers who have not intelligence enough to organize a union and take a hand in deciding what their labor is worth.

E. R. Butler, president of this concern, is a member of the Merchants' Club, which wants to reform the public schools. He knows that without a union men and women can be forced to work for nothing. He hopes to see the school teachers' union busted by law.

He poses as a philanthropist and a "public spirited" citizen.

His store is typical of hundreds of others. He gives each worker who labors at night "supper money." If the employe is over his head he is able to get some overtime pay.

When asked to discuss the facts given above Mr. Butler refused to talk at first. "Interview my men," he said, "I am willing to leave it to them." After repeated questions he admitted that no pay is given for overtime.

If one of Butler's clerks should steal 20 cents worth of merchandise he would be arrested and sent to prison, and, justly so. But Butler can take through his power and the weakness of his employes their time and be within the law. Time and labor are the only things the workers have to sell, and yet they must give much of both for nothing.

GETTING AWAY WITH SAGE MONEY

New York, Dec. 19.—Mrs. Russell Sage has made a Christmas present of fifteen acres of land, valued at \$300,000, to New York University. Chancellor Henry M. MacCracken announced the acceptance of the property. It comprises the old Schwab farm, which adjoins the university grounds on the south. It is said that this is the beginning of a campaign of "safe and sane liberality" on the part of Mrs. Sage.

"THE PUBLIC SERVICE"

Announcement of a New Paper to Be Devoted to the Propaganda of Modern Socialism

In response to my article, "The Military Power," which appears in the December issue—International Socialist Review—many letters have been received offering suggestions, promising assistance, and urging the undertaking of the work proposed. My original plan included only the military branch of the government, but the many suggestions received have resulted in a decision to extend the work over the entire field of public service.

A monthly journal of sixteen pages will be published. Name of publication to be "The Public Service." The journal will contain condensed news items, short stories and editorials touching upon events and matters of particular interest to our public servants, the whole to be interspersed with quotations from standard Socialist writings and notices of Socialist books, papers and magazines.

Subscription price one dollar per year. As a premium we will give with each yearly subscription any one of the following one dollar books:

"The Changing Order," by Oscar Lovell Triggs.

"Better World Philosophy," by J. Howard Moore.

"The Universal Kinship," by J. Howard Moore.

Or any of the Chas. H. Kerr & Company's one dollar books; or any two of the following fifty-cent books:

"The Evolution of Man," by William Boelsche.

"Collectivism," by Emile Vaandervelde.

"The Triumph of Life," by William Boelsche.

"The Socialists," by John Spargo.

"The Rebel at Large," by May Beale.

"Social and Philosophical Studies," by Paul Lafargue.

Or any two of Kerr Company's fifty-cent books.

Book premiums will be mailed immediately upon receipt of subscription price. First number of publication will appear in January. Make postal and express money orders and drafts payable to Maurice E. Eldridge. Address all communications to "The Public Service," 284 E. Kinzie street, Chicago, Ill. Maurice E. Eldridge, editor. Send your subscription in now and help to circulate the new journal among our soldiers and other public service employes.

SENATOR BAILEY DEFIES HIS ENEMIES

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 19.—United States Senator Bailey in an address at Comanche defied his political enemies. In vigorous language he defended his public and private record against the charges made by his opponents in Texas.

SOLVING THE PROBLEM

Ten million people in the United States are staggering under a load of poverty. Ten million people who cannot rise, but must go about day after day and year after year, until death relieves them, with their backs bent and aching from the burden.

And it is often said that if the body is crooked and misshapen, the soul becomes crooked and misshapen, too. Then the thoughts become as the soul, and at last the deeds are crooked.

A man under the load steals, or he lies, or he commits murder. It is a dreadful thing when the deeds become crooked.

Indeed it is so dreadful that society must build and support prisons, jails, asylums and other costly institutions for those of the crooked deeds.

And there are so many of them!

Society is striving in a number of ways to prevent the execution of these deeds—of murder and theft and lying. It is paying vast sums to schools and colleges, and to ministers of many, many creeds, to teach the ten million with the load on their backs that they must not do these things for which they will surely suffer.

It is an admirable trait in society—that of taking so serious an interest in its people with the burdened backs—and the crooked deeds.

It is admirable and it is commendable. And yet, it is not saving the ten million, nor those who must come after.

Maybe, if society would raise the burden from the backs, isn't it just possible that that would solve the problem? Then the bodies could stand erect, the souls would grow straight, and the deeds would become good. All would face heavenward.

And it would save the vast expense of superfluous experimenting.

JOSEPHINE CONGER-KANEKO.

Labor Union News

Chicago Printed Book Binders and Paper Cutters' Union, No. 8, is planning to hold an open meeting for agitation purposes on January 26. The union has at present about 800 members, and it is planned to have as many of the members of this trade who are not union men present at this meeting as possible. The executive board will meet next to form plans for the meeting and to select speakers.

Cleveland is to be a model union city in the United States, if plans now under way by the Trades and Labor Council of that city are carried out. The council is preparing for a vigorous agitation campaign with the object of organizing every worker of every trade in that city. Special efforts will be made to reach the foreign elements, which are exploited without their knowing it.

The annual report made by the officers of the Bakers and Confectioners' Union, No. 2, shows that the organization has made marked advances during the past year. The report shows that the union has \$22,425 in its treasury. It paid out during the year \$4,477 in out-of-work benefits. Labels were issued to 310 union bakers on an average of 7,000,000 a month. The number of labels issued this year exceeds that of last year by over 4,500,000. This, of course, was due not alone to the activity of the union, but to the assistance which organized labor in general rendered them by being on the lookout for the label and demanding it from its bakers and grocers. The union has at present 1,428 members, practically all of whom are in good standing. The labor bureau in connection with the union furnished steady work to 1,580 men, jobs for one day to 8,911 men, jobs for several days to 311 men, and jobs for one or two weeks to 195 men. The union will hold election of officers for the ensuing year on January 5, 1907.

Four new branches of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners will be formed in Alameda county, Cal., under the auspices of the Alameda Building Trades Council. The crowded conditions of the present unions is responsible for the move.

The prison board of the Chester penitentiary has decided to establish a chain plant at the penitentiary, to solve the problem of the employment of prisoners. The board holds that the manufacture of chains will not conflict with free labor in this state.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14 (Special).—The latest in the labor field in this city is an attempt by the Buck Stove & Range Company to compel their workmen to receive from a nine to ten-hour day. This move, though in contradiction to the movement and spirit of the times, is conceived by the company to be just, as it will help increase its earnings.

Train dispatchers are organizing for more money and easier working conditions. They are tired of being considered "officials" at \$75.00 to \$100 per month.

Striking lithographers are jubilant over a victory won in New York. A telegram received by B. J. Tighe, president of the Lithographers' Union, says that the lithographic establishment of R. Senia & Co., one of the largest in that city and a member of the Employers' Association, has granted the demands of the strikers. Mr. Tighe also received letters stating that one other firm granted the demands of the union and that several more are expected to do the same the next few days.

The employes of the Regina music box factory of Elizabeth, N. J., have, by a vote, decided that they do not want the company to go to the trouble and expense of creating a clubhouse for their education and pleasure. They would much prefer having their wages raised, so they would be able to select their own pleasures.

"Yes," said the broker, "mining stock has slumped somewhat—but livestock is all right. For instance, there are lambs. Lambs are paying dividends in both Packington and Wall street. There's more than one way to roast lambs, you know—with a twinkle of his eye—and roast lamb with mint sauce is not bad—not bad."

NOW IS SOCIALISTS' GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Paris, Dec. 18.—The Berlin correspondent of the Petit Parisien quotes Count von Ballestrem, president of the reichstag, as saying on leaving the house after its dissolution:

"You will not see me here again. I shall move my furniture to-morrow."

The next tenant will be Herr Singer, the Socialist leader.

The elections for the reichstag have been set for Jan. 25. This will enable the new reichstag to meet in the middle of February. The emperor announces that if it proves to be more radical than the present one he will at once dissolve it. This means that its dissolution is practically certain.

Berlin, Dec. 14.—A contest between the kaiser and pope, crystallizing the Russian convulsions, will result from the dispute between Emperor William and the reichstag, is the prediction of political prophets prognosticating on the outcome of the new elections.

Forecasters assert the anti-government majority in the next reichstag will be stronger than in the one just dissolved. The opposition will obstruct the kaiser step by step, bringing on a deadlock not only in the colonial bureau, but in the foreign, naval, military and domestic departments. Yesterday's dissolution, it is claimed, is only the first step in a terrific contest between Kaiser William and the nation.

To-day the predominant feature of the situation is the popular resentment against the ultramontanes, in clerical party, which, acknowledging the vatican's supremacy, was able to exercise decisive influence in the vote yesterday on a question of national importance, thereby forcing dissolution.

The situation may develop into a clerical fight almost similar to that being waged in France. Political leaders interviewed to-day by the correspondent of the Scripps-McRae Press Association expressed widely varying opinions.

Herr Rebel, the Socialist leader, said: "We will be winners in the elections. The Socialists will be the strongest party in the next reichstag. The death knell of absolutism has been sounded, and the employers' personal rule has passed. A democratic regime is ahead."

Radical Leader Schrader said: "The watchword of all good Germans is 'Down with the ultramontanes.'"

Herr Basserman, national liberal leader, said: "The two elections war cries will be 'Down with the ultramontanes,' and 'Up with colonial expansion.'"

Herr Kardorf, leader of the conservatives, expressed a similar opinion, saying: "The government is wise to declare war on the ultramontanes."

For the clericals, Herr Recrew, their leader, said: "Dissolving the reichstag was a disastrous mistake for the government. The opposition will be stronger in the next house. The colonial policy is unpopular and the electors will reduce the government to impotency."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO STATE CAMPAIGN FUND TO DEC. 17

Previously reported.....\$2,426.55

Thirty-fifth ward branch.....3.25

H. Leemann.....1.00

Twenty-ninth ward, collected at Slavia hall.....3.71

Thirty-second ward.....5.00

Sixth ward.....50

C. H. Uthoff, La Salle.....2.00

S. Odaiski.....5.00

Total.....\$2,447.01

THE BITTER CRY OF THE CHILDREN

BY JOHN SPARGO

Library Edition.....\$1.50 By mail.....\$1.65

THE CALL OF THE WILD

BY JACK LONDON

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO SELL

# SCARING THE CAPITALISTS

[The following confidential circular of the Corporations Auxiliary Company of Cleveland, Ohio, which is being sent to all large employers of labor, is such a good presentation of the class-struggle from the capitalist standpoint that it would be too bad to have it concealed in "confidential" communications only.]

The present large combinations of labor have, within the last few years, demanded the constant attention of employers. The troubles arising from organized labor in its present activity, are increasing.

The greatest difficulty in the way of harmonious settlement of the various questions arising between capital and labor in the present industrial conditions, is the presence, and in most cases, the mischievous and often the criminal conduct of labor agitators, parasites, and walking delegates. In but few instances would strikes occur, if the management and the laboring men could confer in the beginning.

## Non-Union Shops Equally Liable to Strikes.

In numerous strikes, coming under our observation, fully ninety per cent of the men have gone out without knowing, either the position of the Company on the question involved, or the reasons for the strike. This has occurred also in many cases, where the employees were all non-union men, an organization being effected after the strike had been declared. At these times the men have blindly followed the call of a committee who, alas, too frequently have their own selfish ends to promote, even at the expense of hundreds and thousands of satisfied workmen.

## Those Horrible Agitators.

Another difficulty in the way of a peaceful solution of the many troubles arising where large bodies of men are employed, is the compulsory and arbitrary methods used by organized labor in securing recruits to their ranks. Almost all the National organized bodies of workmen, have paid emissaries who circulate from state to state, from city to city, and from shop to shop, for the purpose of agitating and organizing the men, and inducing employers to bid up the price for labor. Then after organization there comes a demand for increased wages and decreased hours. If these are refused then follows the strike and perhaps the torch. At no time can the employer be assured of exemption from these annoyances and dangers except by the installation of our system of inspection.

## They Don't Ask the Boss.

An organization once formed in a plant, even of only five or ten per cent of the workmen, begins its work of pernicious and continuous proselyting, by the most unscrupulous and nefarious methods, usually without the knowledge of the management, and gradually recruits are secured; when if the employer knew what was going on, he could, if he desired, prevent it.

## Get Ninety-five Per Cent of Men.

After forty or fifty per cent of the men in an establishment are coaxed and forced into the union, it becomes a matter of very little trouble to unionize the balance of the shop, and in the course

of a few months a manufacturer finds himself, very frequently to his great surprise, confronted by a compact union organization, comprising ninety or ninety-five per cent of his men. Then comes a demand for a "card" shop, with the result that the balance of the men must either join the union, or get out. Unless this is done, a strike is the result; and even if it is done, it is only a question of time when a strike comes anyway, for but very few manufacturers will submit, voluntarily, to the continuous coercion, irritation and dictation of union committees and walking delegates.

## Terrible Socialist Newspapers.

There is no employer of large bodies of labor that is free from this danger. Organized labor activity is now universal both in skilled and unskilled trades, and during the last few years there has been constant agitation on the subject, both by personal solicitation, and through the thousands and hundreds of thousands of labor journals and socialistic pamphlets and newspapers scattered all over the country.

This condition makes it manifest to everyone that no manufacturer can know too much, or too soon, of what is going on among the workmen in his own particular plant, and yet a comparatively few manufacturers give any thought or attention to the kind of men they employ.

## Influence of One Socialist.

A manufacturer in purchasing a new machine would spend thousands of dollars in investigating different styles of machines in order to get the best, and yet hundreds of manufacturers are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars for labor of which they know practically nothing. A man applying for a position who is able to tell a reasonable story is put to work without question. This is excused, perhaps, by the foreman or superintendent saying if the man does not do his full day's work, he can easily be discharged, but no thought is given to the question of how much damage one man can do in one factory while he is working and associating with his fellows, and his chief purpose being to agitate and organize.

This phase of the subject seemingly never occurs to a manufacturer or employer, until he is threatened with a strike or boycott, and then the discovery comes too late.

## Ready to Furnish Spies.

The Corporations Auxiliary Company, through its system of industrial inspection, is prepared to keep a manufacturer closely and continuously advised of the conditions in his own particular plant; of breakage and leakage, of agitation and organizations; of the dissatisfaction and discontent, if any, that exists, and of the feelings of the workmen at all times, making it possible to give promotion strictly on merit, irradiate any discontent or abuse, and render it easier to establish and maintain a constant harmonious relation between himself and his employees, thus assisting in preventing strikes and all labor difficulties. This system is not an experiment, but has become to be recognized in many factories, railroads, etc., as a necessity, as much so as insurance.

# FLASH LIGHTS ON CHILD LABOR

By NICHOLAS KLEIN

The following extracts from speeches delivered at the National Child Labor convention assembled at Cincinnati December 13, 14, 15, gathered by Nicholas Klein, special representative of the Daily Socialist, most strikingly illustrate the attitude of thinkers on this subject:

## Maiming and Poisoning Children.

"The purpose of this republic is to produce a better type of manhood and womanhood, and that he or she shall develop such manhood or womanhood is the absolute right of every boy and girl beneath the flag; and any industrial system that robs the American children of that right is a crime against humanity and treason against liberty itself. And yet such a system is in operation at this hour. Not only is the deliberate maiming of infant bodies and the deliberate poisoning of young character being committed, but in the committing of that offense against God and man, an even greater crime is being committed against free institutions themselves."—Senator Beveridge of Indiana.

## Kind Master Enemy of Freedom.

"The kind mill man is the greatest enemy of the children just as the kind master was the greatest hindrance to the movement to emancipate the black slaves. The long haired men, the short haired women and the labor agitators spread the truths that cause agitation against child slavery."—Dr. A. J. McKelway, Asst. Secretary National Child Labor Committee.

## Children Human Commodities.

"We should say unto capital: 'Do not permit the competitive life to build up our industrial institutions upon the vitality of little children or permit the factory to rob the school of that rising generation upon whose shoulders rests the future and the fate of this republic.'"

While Professor Laughlin was talking about Socialist failures he should have mentioned Jack London, Ferri, Lombroso, DeGreef, Alfred Russel Wallace, and a host of others whose names will be writ high in the temple of fame when Laughlin is remembered only as an interesting relic of a dead economic system.

## Modern industrialism has produced modern individualism. It has developed a parenthood that is prone to raise children as human commodities for the factory, the mills, the mines and other places. The result has been the growth of a child labor evil that is the shame of modern civilization."—Edgar T. Davies, Chief Factory Inspector of Illinois.

## Capitalists the Enemy.

"When we in the South worked for a child labor bill, we were hit by the capitalists on every side. The legislature of Georgia had before it stacks of proof from doctors to prove that the cotton mills of Georgia were regular health resorts."—Rev. Dr. Wilmer of Atlanta, Ga., Secretary of the Georgia Child Labor Committee.

## All Share in the Crime.

"There is hardly a person in even a moderate sized city who does not have incorporated in their clothing by some means or other the work of child laborers. For no articles of clothing except cut stones and spectacles are immune from the curse of child labor and the sweat shop."—Mrs. Florence Kelley, Secretary of the National Consumers League.

## The point of view of the workers in this movement is that an industrial progress that is built on child labor is a false progress."—Dr. Felix Adler, President National Child Labor Committee.

## To show you how the glass manufacturers disobey the law, I will state that I have secured 6,300 convictions in six years of my office. One large factory covering 640 acres in Alton, Ill., has two gates for inspectors to get in, and lots of holes for kids to get out."—Hon. Edgar T. Davies, Chief Factory Inspector of Illinois.

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# Fixing Labor Legislation

If the following had been furnished by the Washington correspondent of the Daily Socialist he would have been accused of doctoring the news. It comes from the dispatch sent in by Edward B. Clark, the Washington correspondent of the safe, sane and conservative Chicago Evening Post:

The House leaders have agreed in quiet session upon a complete legislative program for the winter. It is almost painfully brief, but it has been sanctioned by the powers and will stand unless unexpected interference comes from a man more powerful than any congressional leader.

An agreement has been reached to pass an anti-injunction bill. On its face this agreement looks like a victory for Samuel Gompers and his labor following. In truth it is a defeat for Mr. Gompers, and of the worst kind, because it has the surface indication of victory. The measure which it is the intention to pass provides that an injunction shall issue only after notice has been served on the adverse party and that he be given an opportunity to be heard. This looks well to the labor leaders who have urged an anti-injunction measure seasonably and unseasonably. An arrangement has been made, however, by which an amendment is to be offered, and in this amendment it is to be found the "joker."

The amendment provides that in case a notice to the adverse parties would defeat the object of the injunction, no notice shall be served. In other words, if the party seeking the injunction makes affidavit that his employees or his property are in danger if there is delay in issuing a restraining order, the order may issue at once.

Mr. Gompers was opposed to the bill as it stands unamended. Some of the labor leaders, however, were in favor of its passage, believing the requirement that notice should be served would nullify all the advantage an injunction would give an employer in cases of labor troubles. To Mr. Gompers the amendment is simply unspeakable, and it hardly can be conceived that any other labor chief will find satisfaction in it, for from the labor point of view the bill with its amendment has practically no force and effect. Mr. Gompers tried his best to defeat some of the leaders of the majority party in congress. They are to give him something labeled an orange, but he will find it to be the currently proverbial lemon.

When the leaders finished the work of framing the anti-injunction measure with its amendment they turned their attention to the eight-hour bill. The House will pass the measure and the Senate will kill it. It is entirely within reason to believe that the leaders of the House know what the fate of the bill will be in the Senate. The blame, however, cannot be placed in the House doorway, and in a personally political sense this is something gained.

# THE INQUISITIVE BOY

BY J. L. BACHMAN.

"Mamma, why did we leave our home And move into this shack? Was it taken by the Socialists, Who refuse to give it back?"

"No, child, when pa was out of work, We mortgaged it one day, And the interest kept on eating Till the law took it away."

"And, mamma, where is papa now, Since I don't see him more? Did the Socialists break up our home And drive him from our door?"

"No, dear, he leaves when you're asleep And comes when you're in bed; He has to work long hours, my son, To earn our daily bread."

"And mamma, who owns all the shops, And the things pa makes each day? Does he work so hard for Socialists, Who steal those things away?"

"My son, God gave unto the rich The factories and soil, That they may make their profits large And let the poor man toil."

"Then, mamma, dear, why didn't God Give all those things to me? I'd make the rich man work a while, And let pa rest, you see."

"Or give those means of life to all That none could profits take, But own the tools with which they toil, And all the things they make."

The "soap boxer" had finished his speech and asked for questions, when a G. O. P. man said: "What you say goes in one ear and out the other." "And there's nothing strange about that," said the S. B. "Why not?" asked the G. O. P. man. "Nothing in there to stop it," ironically answered the S. B.

# CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

"The theft of a piece of meat worth 18 cents, from Swift & Co., brought a combined sentence of twenty-two months in the house of correction for the two men who pleaded guilty to the charge yesterday. \* \* \* The meat stolen was a piece of tongue which one of the men abstracted from a barrel in the cellar at Swift's plant. Both were employed there, but had not steady work, and told the judge they were hungry when they took it. \* \* \* One of the men is said to be married."—Chicago Tribune, Dec. 11, 1906.

Exactly what is the punishment which the judge inflicted upon these men for taking the piece of meat? It is, of course, not merely an enforced separation from society for one year; but it means further that while one of the men is imprisoned, his wife and children (if there are any), may lack the necessities of life, and it may become necessary that they suffer the disintegration of family ties, or take to laborious and dangerous modes of earning a living. Moreover, when this man is discharged from prison, the chances are very great that he will find himself excluded from honorable means of getting a livelihood because of the odium attaching to the serving of a jail sentence—whether deserved or not. Here is physical labor for a year, and the possible alienation from family, all bestowed upon this man for stealing 18 cents' worth of ham. What retribution, pray, befalls men who probably steal more than 18 cents from every family in this city each day of the year by a disgraceful manipulation of the market? Are their children forced to sell papers upon the streets, and their wives driven to

scrub office floors? Are such offenders cut off from society for twelve months, and afterwards forbidden to engage in any legitimate occupation? No, indeed; we shall very likely find them what practically amounts to—eighteen cents! The gross, disgusting, heart-rending injustice of it all is beyond expression. Let us not concern ourselves about the inequity of French law or feel disturbed about the Dreyfus case, while we send a man with a family to prison for stealing 18 cents' worth of ham when he was hungry.

Here are several policemen who commit a brutal, revolting assault upon a helpless prisoner, and another one who takes his club and inflicts upon a helpless, half-witted, harmless man a death blow. Here is a man who rents at an exorbitant price to the poor, houses which he knows to be insanitary death traps, or knowingly permits his property to be rented for purposes of crime and debauchery. Here is a large business enterprise failing to provide proper appliances to guard the safety of its employees and then hurrying them off to its own hospital without reporting to the health authorities the accidents resulting from this criminal neglect; here is a man hiring women and children to sew on buttons at a rate almost too low to buy sustenance for a dog. Do the terrors of Joliet and of social ostracism lie in wait for these offenders against every impulse of decency and humanity? By no means, gentlemen of the jury and honorable judges; we will wait rather, and pour forth the accumulated thunders of our legal wrath upon the rascally purloiner of—18 cents' worth of ham! L. H. DANA.

# THE OLD SCRUB WOMAN

By JOSEPHINE CONGER KANEKA

At four o'clock in the morning, long hours before the sun is up, and while the world is cold from the frost of the long night, the scrub woman is on her knees with bent back and swollen hands, scrubbing. She scrubs up the dirt from floors where hundreds of human feet have trod.

Nothing could be lower in the scale of human service than this. To wipe up the dirt from the feet of one's fellow-men.

She is usually an old woman, whose real life lies buried in the past. It has been spent as the majority of poor women spend their lives—in loving, serving, sacrificing, suffering, bearing children, nursing them in sickness, parting from them when duty calls them to the world, or when they marry; putting them in their graves oftentimes; assisting the aging husband in eking out a living pittance, and maybe at the last burying him, paying for the sad rites out of an ever diminishing pocketbook.

It is an unusual picture that the old scrub woman presents to the eye of the easy liver. Unusual because of its peculiar pathos. It at once appeals and repulses. There are those who do not like to see her as she goes about with bent back, and with wisps of white hair—snowy locks, indicative of sanctity—

straying from their fastenings over her withered forehead. To the imaginative she suggests a cheerless room, cold, and scantily furnished with battered chairs and bed. This she calls home. She suggests a soul, too, with all the high lights dead. One in which dullness reigns supreme. An intolerable monotony of gray dullness. Any other shade would mean a cessation for the moment of the morbid oppression which surrounds her. But the scrub woman knows of no such moments. She must live, she must eat, hence she must toil incessantly. And there is no place for her, save at the bottom of the ladder. Under the very feet of those above her she clings grimly to the down-most rung.

Why does she cling? Why doesn't she let go, and end it all? It is a simple thing to let go—apparently. But habit is strong, and life held some sweetness once, even for her. When the time to let go comes, when she is forced by nature, she will let go, gladly, maybe. But until that time she will cling with her swollen, hye-eaten hands, literally wearing her fingers to the bone in the effort.

The supersensitive look at her. They shudder, they turn away. And the old scrub woman goes about her work, dull, gray, unconscious, her face bent ever to the floor.

# A Song of Today

So long, O workers, as ye moil For master-hordes, who reap your toil, Receive what chance may hold. How can ye say: This is the day Of Liberty's triumphant sway Free to build homes and free to say The hunger and the cold?

So long, O masters, as the sun In all his course sees nothing done By you for human kind, How can ye pray: Give us this day The bread for which men bent and gray And babes their childhood worn away Die in your slavish grind?

So long as in this bounteous land There is one trembling toil-worn hand Outstretched for charity How can ye say: This is the day When human brotherhood holds sway, For which the Son of God made way On the accursed tree?

—Henry Ackley, Continental, Ohio.

# Be a Socialist

Before you discuss the theory of "surplus value," Before you talk of philosophy, deep and high, Before you write about the social goal, Before you preach to others what they should try, Be thyself a Socialist, first of all.

To be sympathetic to your fellow creatures, To be a good listener to other's misfortune, To have willing hands to offer to the needy, Means more than to be, in books, accomplished, Socialism of yours, then, will be heard and accepted.

—KIICHI KANEKO.

It beats all how getting fired tends to make a man see the evils of capitalism. As soon as Stuyvesant Fish lost his job as president of the Illinois Central he began to realize the abuses of great fortunes.



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Editor, A. M. Simons; Business Manager, Louis Daigaard; State Secretary, J. E. Smith; County Secretary, C. L. Breckon.

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Unions in Government Owned Industries

War has been declared by the ruling powers on the organization of the employes in government owned industries. We are told that such organizations are fighting the "public."

Now it is a fairly safe rule that when a man or paper begins to talk about the "public" that they will bear watching. In nine cases out of ten the "public" means CAPITALIST INTERESTS, and those who appeal to it are advocates of those interests, but are TRYING TO CONCEAL THAT FACT.

Government at present is owned and run by the capitalist class—absolutely as railroads, or the coal mines, or the packing-houses.

The employes of government belong to the class which is in sharpest antagonism to the class that controls the governmental machinery.

Therefore, those employes are not striking against the "public" any more than the employes of any private business.

To be sure these employes have votes, and can use them to change the conditions of government. But they cannot do it alone.

They must wait until the workers in other lines of industry have sense enough to vote as a class for their own interest.

Until that time comes, governmental employes must have recourse to the same weapons that are used in the class struggle everywhere—the union, the strike and the boycott.

There is no more reason why the teachers should not strike for better wages, than that the capitalists of the Merchants' Club should exploit the schools by stealing and wasting the school fund. It is no more criminal for the firemen to threaten to go out on strike and let a few buildings burn up than it was for the owners of the Troquois theatre to build a fire-trap that murdered hundreds of men, women and children.

We do not think that a strike on the part of either teachers or firemen would be justifiable in any wage controversy. Moreover, everyone knows that there is not the remotest idea of any such action on the part of either of these bodies. That idea was conceived and nourished in the minds of those who accused the teamsters of threatening to tie up funerals—and who then had nothing to say when the undertakers' trust did that very thing.

There is a reason, however, for this furious antagonism to organizations of governmental employes.

How is this for a suggestion of that reason:

When an employe of a municipality or the nation begins to ask for better conditions of work and life he quickly comes to see that the easiest way to get these things is to use his vote.

FROM THAT TO BECOMING A SOCIALIST IS SO SHORT A PATH THAT EVEN A BLIND MAN CAN FIND HIS WAY.

So it is that Socialism grows rapidly in every union of governmental workers.

THIS IS SUFFICIENT REASON TO ACCOUNT FOR THE FIERCE OPPOSITION WHICH THEY MEET.

Laborers and the Church

"Religion is a private matter," resolved a German Socialist Congress many years ago, and this phrase has been accepted as the motto of Socialist parties all over the world.

There are atheists and Catholics; agnostics and Presbyterians; Jews and Gentiles among Socialists, and none of these are disturbed on account of their religious beliefs.

To the Socialist, as such, religion is one of a host of other phenomena to be accepted or rejected according to individual inclination.

It is a fact, nowhere more thoroughly recognized than among the orthodox believers in religion, that for some reason or another the working class is leaving existing churches. This may be because the churches have ceased to be religious, or Christian, but with that we have nothing to do. Such questions must be settled by the theologians.

There is scarcely a day, however, that we do not receive a communication from some one, generally a clergyman, asking why, in our opinion, workingmen are leaving the church.

Recent events in this city may perhaps offer an answer to this question.

The Typographical Union has worked for years to obtain decent conditions for the men who do the mechanical work of sending out the printed word among men. The members of that union have sacrificed and suffered that the hours of labor for themselves and workers of succeeding generations should be such as to enable them to live like human beings.

That union has established benefits for its sick and disabled and aged members. Few churches can show an equal record in the care of the weak. It has erected and maintained a home for those whom advancing years or physical weakness have rendered incapable of longer continuing at their trade. It has a camp where treatment is given to such of its members as are fighting for life against the attack of the "great white plague"—consumption.

Under the fierce stress of competition it has been shown that such a union can thrive and protect its members and carry on its activities only on condition that those members have a right to say who shall be their associates in their daily work—at least to the extent that they shall not be forced to work with men who are bending all their energies to tear down the defenses the union has created against aggression.

If this is not done, the employer is forced by competition to discriminate in favor of the cheaper non-union man and against the organized worker.

This is the real reason for the demand for the CLOSED SHOP.

What has all this to do with the church and the working man, it may well be asked?

Just this: When the Typographical Union asked for an eight-



ANOTHER SUFFERER FROM THE INCREASED COST OF LIVING. Mr. House of Representatives—Wonder if the Boss will gimme a raise. All the laboring men are getting an increase in salary, and I am sure I'm one of the hardest talking fell ws in the counry.

hour day the Book Concern of the Methodist Episcopal Church joined hands with the Typotheta, as the Employers' Organization is called, to fight the union. This publication office of the church filled its offices with men who, while seeking to enjoy all the benefits conferred by the union, avoided all its burdens and lent themselves to all the efforts of the employers to break up the Typographical Union.

When finally, one after another of the private printing concerns were forced to yield to this progressive step, the church still hung back, and to-day one of the hardest fights of the Typographical Union is being waged against this church publishing house.

During the last week that union has circulated tens of thousands of copies of a circular calling upon its members to boycott this Methodist Book Concern as one of the bitterest enemies of organized labor's effort to better the conditions of life under which the working printer must live.

These circulars had to be printed and mailed secretly to avoid an injunction which was threatened by this same firm.

DO YOU THINK THAT THE MEN WHO CIRCULATED THOSE POSTERS, OR WHO SEE THEM EVERY DAY IN THE SHOPS WHERE THEY WORK WILL RUSH TO ATTEND SERVICES IN THE METHODIST CHURCH?

One more fact: The Teachers' Federation of Chicago is fighting fiercely against the looters of school funds and the dodgers of taxes, who are trying to hold the teachers down to a wage scale lower than is paid the union janitors of the schools.

YET THE CHURCHES OF CHICAGO ARE HOLDING MEETINGS DENOUNCING THOSE TEACHERS.

These are simple facts. They are not arguments. They really seem to have little connection with religion, and certainly not with Christianity.

YET THEY MAY EXPLAIN WHY WORKINGMEN DO NOT GO TO CHURCH.

Lest We Forget

Do not forget, as the Christmas time comes round, that in an Idaho jail there are three men whose only crime is that they loved their fellow men and fought to make them free.

Whenever you hear of lawlessness charged to unions remember that Justice McKenna of the Supreme Court says that the States of Idaho and Colorado were guilty of illegally kidnaping these men.

When you hear strenuous Teddy prating about morality and honesty remember that he has refused to raise a finger of protest against this crime.

When you sit down to your Christmas dinner next Tuesday remember that the crippled wife and little child of William D. Haywood are spending a cheerless day in their Denver home far from the father and husband.

When you remember these things consider whether you are doing your share toward bringing about a condition where these things would be impossible.

Professional Sluggers in Uniform

A tremendous wave of righteous indignation is being carefully waved across the country by the hot air of capitalist newspaper writers concerning the slugging by union laborers during the Shea trial.

Nothing is being said in these papers about the five thousand professional sluggers kept constantly employed under the name of "private police" by the employers of this city.

Here is an army of irresponsible brutes, hired to beat anyone who may be pointed out as a "trespasser" by their masters.

Here is a relic of the days of private feuds, when each little king or lord or baron kept his private army.

Why is this work, so far as it is legitimate watchmen's service, not performed by the municipality?

It would seem to be a good idea to MUNICIPALIZE THE POLICE FORCE.

The Merchants' Club and the Commercial Club of Chicago having settled their jurisdiction controversies and combined, it will be up to them to make it hot for "scabs" attempting to work along those lines.

While reading about the Lincoln Bank failure please remember that the Socialist party of Illinois demands that the state shall conduct savings banks so long as such institutions are necessary.

FOR OUR PRESS

When Bismarck suppressed free speech and the free press, our comrades in Germany published their official organ, "Der Sozialdemokrat," in Switzerland. When the Iron Chancellor forced the little Alpine republic to exile the Socialist editor, Bernstein, and thus prohibit the further publication of "Sozialdemokrat" within Swiss territory, the insignificant-looking little German Socialist paper "emigrated" to England, to the country where a Maria Stuart, a Charles I. and George III. had lived their lives of pride and power and died in impotence and humiliation.

There, in the great city of London, "Der Sozialdemokrat" was printed with the very life blood of the German proletariat. Hundreds of thousands of copies had to be smuggled into Germany every week. Some were sent by express as "dry goods" to some German merchant. From there brave Socialist working women would get the Socialist "dry goods" in the bottom of their market basket to their homes, where the Socialist district organizers and propaganda managers would attend to the rest.

To be caught circulating the "Sozialdemokrat" meant imprisonment or exile to some other city, or banishment from Germany. Thousands of Socialist families were driven from their homes, from their country. In foreign countries poverty, misery and suffering would await them.

But the good work went on. The little Socialist paper could not be kept out of Germany. A hundred thousand police agents could not prevent it. Socialism and the labor movement grew more powerful every day. Persecution could not prevent it.

To the surprise of the civilized world, Bismarck, the most powerful statesman of Europe, was buried under 1,000,000 Socialist votes. His anti-Socialist laws were sneered at by our German comrades. Bismarck stepped down and out. Socialism occupied the front seats on the political stage of Germany. From one million Socialist votes in 1890 we increased to over 4,000,000 votes in 1903.

Today Germany has about sixty daily Socialist papers, of which the Berlin "Vorwaerts" has a daily circulation of 120,000!

It was the Socialist press that revolutionized the minds of those millions of German wage-workers and citizens who follow the red banner of Bebel today.

In America the Socialist press is gradually recognized as a powerful factor. The time will come—must come—when the workingmen of this country will also appreciate and support their own labor press. Yellow sensationalism, prize and dog fights will then no longer monopolize their attention. Socialism and the labor problem will become the topic attracting their interest and attention. We shall see the days when our fellow workers in this country will sacrifice for their own press with the same sincerity, perseverance and enthusiasm as their German brothers and sisters.—St. Louis Labor.

The report of the comptroller of the currency, which has just appeared, states that fifty per cent of the number of banks in existence have a capital of between \$50,000 and \$100,000, but that their total capital makes up only one-fourth of the banking capital of the country. Almost exactly the same amount of capital is controlled by one per cent of the number of banks having a capitalization of \$1,000,000 or over each.

If the Senate will just put that salary increase back in the bill, that body will stand a great deal higher in the good graces of the House than it used to.

THE STORY OF THE CHICAGO SCHOOL FIGHT

By MAY WOOD SIMONS

The Teachers' Federation has been denounced by every representative of capitalism. The fear of solidarity among public servants has taken possession of the ruling powers. Employes of corporations and private concerns for years have found that they can only deal with employers by dealing as a union of men. These unions are the expression of the struggle of the classes. A considerable part of the people occupy places as public servants. These are the police, the soldiers, the post office employes and the teachers. It was fondly hoped by the capitalist class that these men and women would not discover that it is the same exploiting power that controls the governmental and public positions and that is crushing the working man. It was hoped that these men and women would stay with the ruling powers in their sympathies and help to shape public opinion in the interest of vested power, and that they could be used as pliant tools to do the work of the corporate interests. The capitalist has always tried to put a gulf of distinction in superiority between these two classes of workers and thus destroy any danger of a solidarity of labor. It is this class that cries, with Nicholas Butler, that the country is threatened if public servants organize. It dreads the time when these public servants will see that there is no difference in being exploited by a capitalist corporation or a class owned government.

This will relate how in one city, Chicago, the teachers of the public schools were made conscious of their class interests and the bitter fight that has been waged against them. It will tell how the supervising force of the schools lent itself a willing tool to the business interests to do their work and aid in forcing down the wages of the teachers.

The struggle of the teachers in Chicago is not an isolated one. It is a part of the class struggle that is making itself felt around the world. The teachers of Chicago will go on record as the first body of men and women from that class of workers to declare their recognition of this struggle. It is this consciousness of the unity of labor's interests that the ruling powers fear.

The Teachers' Federation of Chicago was organized in March, 1897. It was the direct result of the attempt of the supervising force to break down the Teachers' Pension Law. This law was passed by the legislature in 1895 and went into effect in January, 1896. The fund for the teachers' pensions was to be created by deducting 1 per cent from the salaries of all teachers and principals.

The principals objected to having this tax laid on their wages. They did not feel any need of a pension for themselves as their salaries were sufficient to enable them to live and save. In early March, 1897, a mass meeting of teachers was called at Central Music Hall. It resulted in the organization of the Teachers' Federation.

The Federation recognized from the first that the crying need of the schools was to better the material condition of the grade teachers. In twenty years the salaries of the supervising force and officials had increased from 14 to 100 per cent, but the wages of teachers had risen less than 7 per cent.

The object of the Federation was stated in its platform. It was formed to secure for teachers all the rights and privileges to which they are entitled; to support the pension law, and for the consideration of such other objects as the Federation might deem advisable, such as the number of children in a room and the professional training of teachers.

The results of the "business administration" of the School Fund Lands was beginning to make itself felt. Chicago population was increasing, and an increase in the teaching force was needed, but the money to pay salaries was not forthcoming. Already wages were at the bare living point. The first move of the Teachers' Federation was to ask for a raise in wages. Through the representation of this Federation, early in 1898, the Board of Education adopted a new salary schedule, giving each teacher of more than seven years' experience a \$75 rise that year and promising a further rise in 1899 and 1900.

Business interests decided that the supervising power must be put in the hand of a man who could handle this Federation. Benjamin Andrews was brought here to do this work, in 1898. At this time the Teachers' Federation contained 4,000 members and Mr. Andrews said that the only thing he feared was this Federation.

In order to carry on the work of disciplining the teachers properly it was necessary to have the control of the entire school system turned over to the superintendent. For this purpose a commission was appointed by Harrison, known as the Harrison Educational Commission. On this commission were Dr. W. R. Harper and Messrs. Duddelston, W. Wacker, the brewer; Simon McPherson, J. Stol and Bernard Rogers of the Board of Education.

This committee prepared the Harper Bill that was passed by the legislature and that turned the supervision of the schools entirely over to the superintendent.

It has been objected that the Teachers' Federation never went on record as opposed to the Harper Bill. That they did not was due to the fact that so skilfully had Mr. Andrews done his work that the officers of the Federation would not allow the ranks of the teachers to be heard. The Teachers' Federation was in the curious condition of possessing an organization but was unable to state its position because its officers were no longer in sympathy with the body of the teachers. Miss Elizabeth Burdick, president of the Federation at the time, was replaced in the spring of 1899 and immediately left the Federation. Miss Catherine Goggen became the new president.

The promised raise in salary of the teachers in 1898 was paid. The raise promised for 1899 was not made, and in 1900 the salaries were cut. In 1902 there was another cut and the schedule of 1898 was abolished. The reason for this reduction of wages was given as lack of funds.

This led the Teachers' Federation to investigate the sources of public revenue. The investigation revealed a wholesale evasion of taxes on the part of the public utility corporations, that hold franchises.

The famous tax suit began. The three corporations, against whom action was taken, were the street car companies, the electric light company and the People's Gas Co. It was found that property to the extent of \$235,000,000 avoided taxation in 1899. This partially explained why the value of assessed property in Chicago had not increased materially since 1870. The result of the suit was to add \$598,000 back taxes for 1900 which was paid into the treasury in 1902 and almost the same amount every year since. The Board of Education received \$249,000 of these back taxes.

This showed the corporations of Chicago the power of workers organized intelligently. It met with the disapproval of the business interests that controlled the school board. Mr. Andrews had proven himself incapable of grappling with the situation and had not succeeded in disrupting the teachers' organization. Business men cast about them for some one who could do the work. Mr. Cooley was discovered. Out of the nowhere he came into the somewhere. The schools passed into his control in July, 1900.