

THE WORKERS' CALL.

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

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PRICE ONE CENT.

VICTORY

The French Proletariat Master of the Situation.

MAKES AND UNMAKES MINISTRIES

Socialists the Preservers of Order at the Grand Prix Races—A Capitalist Mob and a Proletarian Army—Overthrow of Dupuy Ministry—Lesson for American Laborers.

The eyes of the world are again centered upon Paris. As so often in the past so again today this city is the center of mighty social movements. But, as was pointed out last week, affairs are different there than ever before. The Parisian proletariat, ever the creature of violence and the inciter to riot today stands as the guardian of the peace of the French nation.

A week ago last Sunday President Loubet, who had aroused the hostility of the French bourgeoisie by attempting to secure justice to Dreyfus, was grossly insulted. On the next Sunday the Grand Prix races were to occur. Everyone felt that they would be made the occasion of further demonstrations and violence and that in all probability a revolution would be precipitated that would overturn the republic. The military and the police could not be depended upon as they were there, as everywhere, but the creatures of capitalism. But the socialists felt that for the present at least it was necessary that the republic be maintained. So they attended the races 150,000 strong, and insisted that order should be preserved. That they secured this even the capitalist press of America admit. But few realize how completely today the affairs of France are in their hands. Were they to relax their vigilance for a moment anarchy would rule supreme. Were they but to will it, the barricades would rise and the bourgeois of France be crushed like egg shells beneath a steam hammer. And the capitalist class of the world, reasoning from their own cowardly impulses to use all means to achieve their ends, are holding their breath lest the social revolution be inaugurated with a baptism of blood and the awful wrongs of suffering labor be expiated in capitalist gore. They realize that it was no idle boast that the socialists made as given by the Chicago Tribune's report of their meetings.

"At none of these meetings could there be detected the slightest desire for a disturbance. 'Of course,' said Jules Guesde, 'if any flippant little muscadins are foolish enough to insult the republic or attack us, why, they and all that belong to them will be crushed like caterpillars beneath the heel of the workingmen of Belleville.' 'We are getting tired of violence and insults, such as occurred last Sunday at Auteuil, whether committed by royalists with white carnations in their buttonholes or by nationalists with their red carnations. 'We have had enough of their nonsense. If the government can't put a stop to it we will end it ourselves.'"

It is indeed a marvelous sight that greets the world from Paris today. The representatives of "law and order"—the capitalists of France, aided by American snobocracy; clamoring for violence, mob rule or a military despotism to perpetuate the most diabolical injustice ever perpetrated by a whole nation upon a single man. On the other side stand those whom this same capitalist gang have always held up to view as lawbreakers, inciters to violence and an uncontrollable mob, quietly abiding their time, because they know that what they long for must come as a natural growth and not as something forced by revolution. Look well at the picture, you have long slandered the socialists of the world. See upon the one side a slick well-fed mob clothed in silks and broadcloth, shrieking like demons, trampling decency under their feet while they clamor for the perpetuation of injustice and privileges. Upon the other a quiet disciplined body of hungry, ill-clad, outraged laborers, with absolute power in their hands and in desperate need of the things that power would obtain, yet enforcing quiet and order because they feel that the fullness of time has not yet arrived.

It is a marvelous illustration of the power of the socialist philosophy to influence the actions of those who know its truths. It shows that a class-conscious proletariat can wait as well as fight, can be patient as well as eager for the fray when occasion demands. There are some powerful lessons in all this for America. We have the same contemptible ruling capitalist class in this country. An instance of their utter lack of anything approaching what they themselves call honor is seen in the actions of the press. In their fright lest the socialists might overturn capitalism they head their reports of the events of last Sunday "Socialists Protect France," as did the Chicago Tribune of the 11th inst., and even shower praise upon their actions in general. But they must carefully qualify this with misleading statements lest the laborers of America gain courage from the actions of their French comrades and move on to similar victories. Hence we find the Chicago Record, one of the most contemptible of American newspapers because of its straddling, conciliatory attitude in at-

tempting to pander to middle class reformers, while doing the dirty work for capitalism, speaking of Jules Guesde who is mentioned above, as an anarchist. We wonder how many of its readers saw the idiotic incongruity of speaking of an anarchist upholding law and order.

But there is a closer lesson in this for America. The reason why the most excitable body of people in the world were able to thus act as the preservers of peace and the protectors of persons is, as was stated before, because they were thoroughly aware of the social evolution through which their class must secure its victory. Nothing but the fact that the French workers were imbued with clear class-conscious socialism kept the gutters of Paris from again running red with blood to the Seine.

We are confronted in America with a similar crisis. The proletariat of America are not less oppressed or less rebellious than their French brothers, but they lack the knowledge of their class rights, duties and privileges that holds the latter to their present magnificent position. Were a similar crisis to arise in America today the economically bemuddled workers of this country would see no alternative but force, and bloodshed would result. More than once in the history of the last few years we have been perilously close to such a crisis. Such times will come again, and unless the workers of America are clearly impregnated with the conservative revolutionary doctrines of socialism the probabilities are not of a kind one cares to contemplate.

Therefore we urge again that there is no time to lose with fake schemes and plans. Time is too precious to spend in listening to economic ignoramus, no matter how "sincere" they may be. Let this fact be borne in mind by those philanthropic simpletons who are planning reforms—that they are meddling with fire and may some day have to answer for the fact that America's proletariat were compelled to wade through blood to freedom. The French laborers did not learn their economics from "Golden Rule Jones."

Since writing the above the news comes that once again the militant French comrades have pressed ahead. The cowardly Dupuy ministry has been overthrown by the actions of the socialists and the new ministry which will be formed will be pledged to prosecute with vigor those who have been instrumental in the persecution of Dreyfus.

This information is coupled in the American capitalist press with numerous statements to the effect that the socialists are combining with the Republicans. Needless to say that this is only true in so far as both at present desire the continuance of the Republic. But the Republicans will be treated just as unceremoniously as the royalists as soon as it comes to the question of capitalism.

Capitalist Justice.

"After a Cook county justice of the peace had given his testimony before the Baxter committee yesterday he was asked: 'Do you know that by your testimony you could be convicted in the Criminal Court?'"

"The justice might have answered that he knew very well he would not be convicted in the Criminal court on his own or any other person's testimony. 'It appeared that he had violated the law. But who suffered thereby? A widow whose sewing machine was her means of support; a woman whose husband was sick and who was unable to raise the \$4 for which she was sued.'"

"It is always quite safe to practice extortion on people of this sort. They are poor. They have no influential friends. They never fight and they seldom complain except to their neighbors. It is these people upon whom the constable strives. They know nothing of law. They are terrified by a show of authority. Robbing them is as safe as picking the pockets of children.'"

Yes, and they will continue to be robbed just so long as they permit the robbers to form the courts, make the laws, and interpret and enforce them. But the News forgets to mention that the justice shop is one of the least of the places where the poor are robbed. They are generally so thoroughly plundered in the workshop that not much is left for the little thieves. For laborers to protest against the robbery of the justice shops while that of the workshop remains would be as silly as for a man to complain about the presence of pickpockets in a gang of highway robbers who had just waylaid him.

The following from The Cleveland Citizen shows that the Ohio comrades are lifting on their corner of the burden:

"This evening the socialists will open their campaign with the new van at the post office. Dinger, Hayes, Kircher, Geiger, Bandlow, and others will speak. On Monday the van will start out on its tour through the state, in charge of Bros. Max S. Hayes and Nick Geiger. The first stop will be at South Lorain, where a meeting will be held Monday evening, opposite the office of the steel plant."

Why cannot Illinois do as much. A van with a good speaker would mean much to the movement here.

Taking into consideration the fact that we are at present suffering from universal prosperity, and that our philanthropic capitalist masters have decreed a general advance in wages, we would suggest to workingmen the propriety of investing their surplus in a year's subscription to The Workers' Call.

MANILLA

The Suppressed Rebellion Proves Very Much Alive.

PATRIOTISM AND MILITARISM.

Facts Leaking Out in Spite of the Censor Drift Toward Militarism—The Effort to Fill the Workers of America and Their Children With Capitalistic Patriotism—Military Drill for Children.

A few days ago the "rebellion" in the Philippines was about suppressed. The type-writer and the press censor had nearly chased poor Aguinaldo and his "half-naked savages" off the earth. The funny columns of the plutocratic press were overflowing with jokes (?) at Aguinaldo's achievements as a runner.

But now comes a call for fifty thousand men, and right on the heels of that a message slips by the censor that tells how the "rebels" are throwing shells into the outskirts of Manila. These poor, savage, ragged, unarmed crowds that were in hiding in the mountains are suddenly reported as in a battle with the American troops in which AMERICAN WARSHIPS TOOK PART. That means that the Philippines had driven the Americans clear to the coasts and under the cover of the guns of the navy. General Lawton, with his entire force, even according to the censored reports, was only able to drive the Filipinos to their intrenchments some 500 yards away.

The dispatches speak with admiration of the gunnery of the "rebels," who flung canister shells into the ranks of the poor, "embalmed-beef"-fed, fever-stricken, laborers from America, who had been deluded into becoming the tools for this great bandit raid.

There can be but one sequel to this. As is pointed out in another column, we are drifting on toward militarism at a rapid rate. There will now certainly be a cry for more troops. Thousands of American workers will be enthused with "patriotic" gush, and lured on by this in front, and driven by want at their heels, will offer themselves as cannon fodder to aid the dirty thievery of their masters.

But capitalism may overreach itself. Any such action as this causes men to think. Some of them will surely put two and two together and decide that their duty to themselves and their families is higher than that to their plunderers. If such a spirit appears among the workers of America, it would be difficult to get soldiers. Once that men see that when they are called upon to fight the battles of capitalism they are enlisting against all their own interests, that they are fighting to extend the slavery that now binds them, to include other people's, and to forge their own chains firmer, there will be a great falling out in enlistments.

It is the fear of this, either clearly seen or tacitly understood, that causes the capitalist class of America to make such desperate efforts to arouse patriotism and the military spirit. It is this that inaugurates "Dewey days," builds "Dewey parks" and agitates for "Dewey monuments" and "Dewey Houses." It is this capitalist class-consciousness that brings cannon to Lincoln park, Chicago, and glorifies any petty snob dressed in military toggery, and that puts "patriotic" songs and speeches into our schools. It is even possible that the recent leniency that is shown towards prize fighting is but an unconscious recognition that the more brutalized men become, the more readily they will do the beastly work of their masters.

But the children must be reached in other ways and inculcated with the military spirit and the impulses to butchery, snobbery and subservience, that go to make up good soldiers. The following clipping which appeared in one of the Chicago capitalist dailies, shows one of the ways in which this is done:

"Plans for the formation of an army of 15,000 boys, drilled and equipped in military style, to participate in the autumn festival were discussed at a meeting of the Anti-Cigarette League held last evening in the Woman's Temple. No definite action was taken upon the matter. The plan as outlined by the chairman of the meeting, Miss Lucy Page Gaston, calls for the formation of a company of boys in each ward, who pledge themselves to refrain from using tobacco. These companies are to be drilled by members of the national guard, who have offered their services. Several branch societies have been formed in the schools and in the large stores of the city where boys are employed."

There is a fine example of the way in which the "philanthropic" dupes of capitalism mix "morals" and brutality in just the proper proportions to catch the fancy of their masters, who furnish the funds. We sincerely hope that the laborers of America will have enough class-consciousness to raise a protest against their disgusting hypocritical proposal to drill their children for the future butchers of capitalism.

"St. Petersburg.—While famine is now threatening the southern provinces of Russia, the condition of the seven provinces of east European Russia is worse than it was during the famine of 1891 and 1892. Quite half a population of 11,000,000 are undergoing terrible sufferings, starvation and disease."

THE TOCSIN

Notice of Consolidation With The Workers' Call.

THE NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

A Move to Build Up One Very Strong Socialist Labor Party Organ in the Central States—Manner in Which The Workers' Call Is Controlled—A Call to Action.

We have never before intruded our personal affairs upon the front page, but we feel that we have something this week whose importance justifies the appropriation of this prominent space.

With this number The Tocsin of Minneapolis is consolidated with The Workers' Call. After an existence of a little over three-fourths of a year The Tocsin management has concluded that it would be for the best interest of the socialist movement of this country to unite their energies with the comrades of Chicago and endeavor to build up one very strong paper in the Central States.

During its existence The Tocsin was known as one of the brightest, keenest and clearest exponents of scientific socialism in America, and has made a multitude of friends. To those friends we would say that it is with a hope of inheriting that good feeling that we undertake the continuation of the work begun by our Minneapolis comrades.

As this is the first issue of The Workers' Call that has been seen by many of our readers we feel that a word of explanation regarding our history, purpose, management and character is necessary. The Workers' Call was started fifteen weeks ago by Section Chicago in the belief that a weekly paper standing by the principles held by the Socialist Labor Party of the United States was a necessity in the City of Chicago. The paper is absolutely under the control of the party, its editor is elected by Section Chicago and can be removed by it at any time. All profits that may ever accrue from its publication must be used to further the propaganda of the S. L. P.

The paper was started with a subscription list of about 300. It now has nearly 2,000 paid up subscribers and a bundle circulation of about 3,000, while nearly 1,000 sample copies are sent out each week, thus giving a total circulation during the past week of about 6,900 copies. The Tocsin will add about 2,500 names to our list of subscribers, and the increase during the past week and extra samples will give the present issue a circulation of about 10,000 copies.

The management of the paper have felt that the only object of its publication being the dissemination of socialist literature, every effort should be made to extend the circle of its readers. To this end the price on bundles and trial subscriptions has been reduced to practically the cost of paper and printing, and the subscription list has been depended upon to meet the expenses of publication. This plan will be continued indefinitely if the financial results will enable it to be done. So far, although there has, of course been a continual deficit, this has been cheerfully met by the comrades of Chicago, and today the paper has not a debt in the world, and has enough money in the treasury and outstanding pledges to insure its continued publication for considerable time under ordinary conditions even if no additional help is given us.

In the taking over of The Tocsin list we assume what will undoubtedly be in the end a great help in the circulation of the paper, but which just at present constitutes considerable of a burden. The Minneapolis comrades, like ourselves, and the publishers of all other socialist papers, were compelled to use up their subscription money as it was received. The consequence is that we receive no compensation whatever, aside from the numerous friends that we hope it may bring us, for the 2,500 additional papers that we will be required to send out. We have no doubt but that in the end these will prove the best of assets, but today we need the help of every comrade to carry us on for the next few weeks. We do not ask that this help shall come in the way of cash donations as we hope that such assistance can be dispensed with.

But we do ask that you send us as many subscribers as possible, and immediately. We ask for this extra effort for a double reason. We feel that just at this moment the workers of America need this additional circulation far more than does this paper. The present is a critical time for socialism in America. The economic movement, of which socialism is the child, has outrun the intellectual movement. Today we are confronted with a country in which capitalism is the most highly developed of anywhere in the world while socialism is still well-nigh unknown. Even worse yet—in the midst of the clearest cut economic development known to history the social movement is still in a most bemuddled condition. The workers of America are ready for socialism as those of no other country, and will grasp it if it is made known to them. If it is not they will

follow the will-o-the-wisp of reform fakes and will vote you and your children into longer slavery.

For these reasons we ask that you endeavor during the next few weeks to assist us in placing before as many as possible of the workers of America the truth that "shall make them free." For the purpose of assisting you in doing this we are making an extra offer to introduce our paper to new readers. We will send The Workers' Call in clubs of ten at the rate of ten cents for three months. To assist you in taking advantage of this offer we have prepared cards with just room for ten names and addresses. We will gladly supply you with all you can use of these and also as many sample copies as you can dispose of advantageously in the getting of subscribers. As this rate is very close to cost, and we intend to maintain the present high standard of mechanical excellence, we prefer that these blanks should be used in order that the expense of keeping books be reduced to the lowest possible point. Now if you are working at the present time do you not feel that you care enough for your own freedom and that of your family to send us one or two dollars or more, with the names of ten of your fellow workers for each dollar. If you will do this you will soon find socialists increasing in your neighborhood. It is better still, if you have the time to canvass your friends, neighbors, and shopmates and secure ten cents from each one, for a thing paid for is always more valued than a gift. If your section will take hold of the matter we will make still better rates on clubs of one-hundred or more. You may not be an eloquent speaker or a ready writer but you can help in this work. There is no socialist that cannot get at least one club of ten. Do not wait a moment after reading this but write to the office for blanks and instructions and get to work.

From promises that we already have from sections to whom this plan has been explained we feel sure that it will not be difficult to roll up a circulation of 50,000 readers before Fall, with a subscription list that will render the whole matter self-supporting and enable us to make still better bundle rates. If this is done it will be an impossibility for any reform movement to sidetrack the laborers of America in the next presidential campaign, and will mean that the co-operative commonwealth will be brought many steps nearer. We are waiting to hear from you. We have done our part. What will you do?

THE SCIENTIFIC MOTIVE.

Competition Not Needed As a Spur to Production Even Under Capitalism.

The following is taken from the editorial columns of the Chicago Tribune of June 14th, a paper that is notorious for its clear-cut capitalist position. Many times has it lectured its readers on the impossibility of socialism, because when competition was removed there would be no incentive to progress. As they have here given an excellent answer to their own argument we want to publish their position for the benefit of those who may have this objection to meet. Only please remember that under socialism the economic as well as the subjective reward would be received by him who earned it if he desired to take it. Whereas today the producer has generally to be satisfied with some sort of a "psychological reward" while all the material benefits go to the idler:

"While science as applied to industry and transportation has been enormously increasing the resources for supporting human life and raising its standard, medicine, approaching from the other side, has been fortifying life by defenses against death and pain. These forces have worked together toward the population and amenities of the present day.

"The century's progress in scientific medicine, as told by Henry Smith Williams, M. D., in the June Harper's, is a genuinely exciting tale of progress in a field of noble adventure. The story recites the laying of the foundation in the 'physical diagnosis' by Corvisart in Napoleon's time through the introduction of 'persussion' or chest-tapping, the identification in 1834 by a young Polish student of the 'itch' insect, the discovery in the next decade of ether by Morton, Pasteur's demonstration in the '60s that contagion is due to microorganisms, Lister's antiseptic defenses against these when directly accessible, and finally in this decade Behring's antitoxine treatment applied to them after their entrance into the circulatory system of the body.

"There naturally comes to one in going over this remarkable recital the reflection—though it does not seem to have occurred to the author—that these discoveries were made without the stimulus of 'letters patent' or the hope of any 'exclusive rights' in their results. Indeed, nothing could be farther from the sentiments of the profession than such an idea. When the medical profession makes a great discovery it becomes at once the free possession of all, both for use and for further improvement.

"This fact is interesting in connection with the confidence of certain thoughtful persons that the scientific motive is destined to be the great moralizing agent in the world. They point to the fact that many a scientist today is absolutely careless of all other considerations except the chance to pursue his work under favorable circumstances, and as regards those scientists—of whom there are assuredly some—who still give evidence of responding to the money-making spell, they are pointed to as exemplifying a transition stage—as responding to the new motive though not entirely freed from the old.

"The scientific spirit as a means of impelling men to strenuous effort and of expelling more common ambitions, not only opens up glowing fields to the imagination, but certainly has something more than imaginary fruits to show in the century's history of medicine."

PAUPER LABOR

American Labor the Cheapest in the World.

GERMAN ENGINEERS' STATEMENT

A Proposal to Import American Wage-Slaves to Germany Because They Are More Docile—Contract Labor Law Applies Only to Common Laborers—Some Probable Results.

Columbia University, with the assistance of the New York Chamber of Commerce, which guarantees \$10,000 to \$20,000 for the first five years is going to open up a "business department." This is but another step that shows how the capitalist class are striving to wipe out the salaried class of skilled slaves. The common laborer of America is now recognized as the most economical, which means the most exploited, of any laborer in the world.

In this connection a recent interview in the Inter Ocean of a couple of German engineers who are visiting America is extremely interesting. We clip a few extracts from their statements that might interest the American proletariat:

"Your methods of manufacture, whereby each factory is devoted to the manufacture of some one specialty, and frequently to the single part of one machine, results in greater perfection in the product and greater promptness in delivery. And the marvelous skill of your workmen insured that these parts, although they may be made in factories far apart, will fit together perfectly."

"A great manufacturing concern, Ludwig Loewes & Co. of Berlin, is erecting immense factories on the American plan, and proposes to send over here for American workmen and to do business on the plan you have found so successful, because as soon as the workmen get over there and observe the condition and methods of the German workmen, I have an idea that they will fall into their way of working and living and will adopt some of their ways. Our people, you know, do not believe that work and business energy is all there is to life, and they cannot be induced to spend all their time and strength in mere work and money getting. There we love music, art, and the theater, and do not believe that success in business or in our work is all there is to life. Ah, that is the secret of your success—that wonderful energy and the apparent contentment with which you spend all of your time and energy in work and money getting. I have an idea that when these American workmen get over there they will find the pleasure in the other side of life and will gradually fall into the ways of our workmen."

How do you like that, free wage-slaves of America? You are the "cheap pauper labor" of the world now and will soon be imported under contract to take the place of German laborers. You can be whipped to higher speed and robbed to a greater degree than any other people on this broad earth, and then you have the privilege of going to the ballot box each election and saying you want to be kicked harder.

But to get back to where we started. The common day laborer has been crushed further in America, relative to his productivity, of any worker in the world—that is he is the most efficient and economical slave known to modern time. But the "gentleman slave," the clerk the overseer and petty slave drivers—they still are scarce enough to command something more than subsistence wages. Hence they must be brought to terms. The capitalist class are accordingly calling for a "practical educational system." They are endorsing technical colleges, Armour Institutes, etc., and are now in a fair way to have the so-called "higher classes" of labor in the same boat with their unskilled brothers.

In this connection the following from a capitalist daily is of interest:

Milwaukee, Wis., June 7.—The United States Court of Appeals today handed down a decision holding the Alien labor law to apply solely to common laborers, exempting clerks and all kinds of skilled artisans.

You see they do not need the club of foreign competition on the unskilled fellows and are willing to lend them to the German ruling class to hammer the German proletariat into submission in exchange for a few graduates of the German technical schools and colleges to bring our "educated proletariat" to terms. It might be possible that this would not turn out altogether as our rulers wish. Germans do not take kindly to further crushing and they know how to make their protest count. In the German Reichstag today Bebel and the band of socialists that are with him are making "Crazy Billy" wonder what happened to his pet bill to crush strikes. But then you know German workers do not go to the ballot box two or three times a year and tell their masters to press a little harder. And perhaps if a few of those educated Germans are brought over here to help whip our little slave overseers into line they will tell the American workers a few things about the way they do it in Germany.

REMEMBER YOU HAVE AN ENGAGEMENT FOR JULY 27th, at 12th and Michigan Ave.—Gardner's Picnic for the benefit of The Workers' Call.

THE WORKERS' CALL.

Issued every Saturday, at 35 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. Entered as second class...

Subscription Rates.

Table with 2 columns: Subscription period (One year, Six months, Three months, Single copies) and Price (\$0.50, \$0.25, \$0.15, \$0.05).

Advertisements.

A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted. Rates will be made known upon application.

Editorial Announcements.

To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed. Communications must reach the office by Monday evening...

A. M. SIMONS, EDITOR.

The Socialist Vote.

Table showing the Socialist vote in various years from 1890 to 1898, with a total of 13,704.

Copies sold last week 5,320.

THROUGH NATIONALISM TO SOCIALISM.

It is sometimes stated by those who are not hopelessly muddled by Bellamyism so as to confuse state ownership of industry with capitalism...

you propose to overthrow. The more rapid concentration advances, the more rapid grows class-consciousness. The faster that monopoly develops, the keener grows class divisions...

LEADERS.

The old interpretation of history made it a series of biographies of great men. It was the generals who made the wars, statesmen who formed nations...

In the economic world this theory worked itself out in the idea that all men being born free and equal if they were but turned loose in an equal fight the best man would come to the top...

All this we are now growing to recognize. But still we find it hard to shake off the idea that somehow it is great men that make crises, and not the crises that drive great men to the front...

The same attitude of mind is seen in the actions of the reform element. Instead of setting to work to understand their troubles and to help themselves, they rush hither and thither looking for some man who will prove a deliverer...

This tendency toward hero worship constitutes a weakness from which all socialists are not free. There is a continual tendency born of the environment in which they live, to look for some great leader who shall block out a road through the wilderness and lead the suffering proletariat to a glorious victory...

elling forces in the great drama of facts that go to make up history. He should never allow himself to be led into blind worship of men or books, be they of the present or the past.

This lesson is brought home to us frequently in the disappearance of some one upon whom we had learned to depend. We thought for the moment when some especially strong comrade dropped out of the fight that our cause would stand still...

Our warning concerning a military conspiracy seems to be receiving additional corroboration every day. General Otis has now called for 50,000 men for the Philippines, and the word has gone out to enlist everything in sight...

Notice is hereby given to the comrades in Chicago that from now on all business in connection with the subscription department of this paper will be conducted upon a strictly cash basis.

Attention, Kansas City.

Section Kansas City will hold a special election on Thursday evening, July 13th, at headquarters, 220-222 Nelson building, Kansas City, Mo., to vote on the proposition presented by the National Executive Committee...

The Wage Worker.

With this number of The Workers' Call we undertake to fill the unexpired subscription of the Kansas City Wage Worker. The following statement is self-explanatory:

To Those Interested:—As The Wage Worker failed to meet expenses, and there is absolutely no hope for improvement at present, the Section has decided to suspend publication of the paper indefinitely.

Section Kansas City, S. L. P. Garnet Putvoje, Sec. Kansas City, Mo., June 9, '99. We would call the attention of the subscribers of the Wage Worker to our announcement of principles and statement of present needs and condition as given in another column, and ask them to co-operate in the work we are undertaking.

Liebkecht's Socialism.

In response to wide-spread and numerous requests, Mrs. May Wood Simons' translation of the pamphlet by William Liebkecht on "Socialism, What It Is and What It Seeks to Accomplish," which ran through the first four numbers of this paper, has been placed in pamphlet form.

It is safe to say that there is no one pamphlet in the English language that is to be compared with this for a general accurate discussion of the German socialist movement, and a scientific but easily understood explanation of the socialist philosophy.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

If you don't believe that we are getting there look at the circulation of our paper as given on the first page of this number. It ought to inspire you. Make it 50,000 before the snow flies.

The Peace Conference at the Hague is being held in a building known as the "Huis Ten Bosch." "Bosh" is an extremely appropriate name for the whole outfit.

(Press dispatch, June 15th.) The U. S. Court of Appeals today handed down a decision holding the alien labor law to apply to common laborers, exempting clerks and all kinds of skilled artisans.

After they are here, the introduction of more perfected machinery and the increasing organization of trusts will make the clerks and all kinds of skilled artisans, common laborers—when they get a job.

The Cleveland street car men will undoubtedly realize what they have done for themselves during the present troubles. They voted for "good men," and the police under his command will prove his goodness to them.

In spite of the unctious Bishop of Buffalo, the ghost of the grain-shovelers' strike will not dawn. More "unction" please, gentlemen!

In the London (Canada) Daily News we see that the workmen of that city show a creditable solidarity in refusing to ride on the scab run street cars, even in pelting rains.

The Times-Herald of this city, one of the papers that froze out the organized stereotypers and filled their places with scabs, and the proprietor of which in his additional function of bakery owner refuses to employ union labor, has brought an alleged union man, one P. J. Maas, to attack our socialist comrade, I. Mahlon Barnes, by alleging that the tickets of admission to his lecture in Boston were not printed by union men.

But that is his business. The labor fakir of today knows well that his individual interests are one with those of the capitalist class; and P. J. Maas recognizing that he could not hold his job as editor of the Labor Column in the Times-Herald unless he sends in lying and slanderous statements about the S. L. P. and its members.

The strikers at Norton's can factory at Maywood having barred the socialists from their meetings about two months ago will now, under the leadership of the pure and simple, have time to spend the moneys obtained by their eminent "practicability," at the seaside and the mountains, while the factory may or may not be rebuilt.

Trades Unionists! When you read the foreign news in the papers, never mind about the Princess of Chimay, the Prince of Wales, or the Ascot races. Read the news from Germany: the anti-strike bill pending before the Reichstag pertains to your class interests.

The Canadian sections of the S. L. P. are at present taking a vote of the party membership on the seat of their National Executive Committee. The Canadian S. L. P. now has nine sections in eight different cities.

The socialist workmen of France have again shown that they will allow no backward step to be taken, even if our American darling Anna Gould has to be disappointed. The socialists will permit no middle class or feudal reaction. They understand that the day of the small capitalist is passing, and none of these fast dying interests must be permitted to become an obstacle in the way of the Social Revolution.

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The Party Press.

From the statement of the National Executive Committee, appearing in the last number of The People, it seems the national organs of the party, The People and Vorwarts, are in the control of the Socialist Co-operative Publishing Association, as they state that the "Association has always been and now is a sole organ of both The People and the 'Vorwarts' and everything connected with them, including the mailing list as well as the right of issuing the said organs in any form it may desire, and with or without a supplement, as it may think best."

Since this practically amounts to devoting the party in its control of its most vital organ—the party press—the N. E. C. have submitted the following question to a referendum vote: "Shall the Party sever all connections between it and the Socialist Co-operative Publishing Association; continue, through its National Executive Committee, the publication of its organs, The People and 'Vorwarts,' and demand from the said Association the unconditional surrender of all property belonging to the said organs, including their respective mailing lists and the amount of subscriptions paid in advance?"

Therefore the Sections of the Party are hereby called upon to take a vote on the above question; to report the vote cast, giving the exact number for and against, and send returns to the National Secretary.

Henry Kuhn, 184 William St., New York City, not later than August 1, 1899, on which day the vote shall close.

Under these conditions there is but one thing to do. It is not a question of taxation or of trades unionism, but simply one of shall the party control its press or shall the national organs be at the disposal of some irresponsible and perhaps directly hostile body of persons.

If the mailing lists of the party press are to be used to disseminate the opinions of individuals, then it is time they were taken from individual's control. This is the point under discussion and all other questions that may have previously arisen are now beside the point.

The question is considered of such great importance that a special meeting of the Illinois State Committee has been called, who will issue a statement defining their position in this regard which will be published in the next number of The Workers' Call.

Italy. A Story of Persecution, Toleration and Victory, for the Italian Comrades. The following telegrams to The Chicago Record tell their own story, especially to those who can read between the lines:

"Rome, June 11.—The Italian government is thoroughly scared by socialist activities and successes. The municipal elections in Milan, where thirteen months ago national troops shot down rioting political agitators by the score, have just resulted in a victory for the socialists, whose stronghold is in Lombardy."

"The government in its alarm sees no necessity where perhaps hitherto it has but seen advisability. Obstruction in parliament must stop. The bills for the maintenance of public order must become law. The ministry will seek to attain both ends Tuesday by authorizing the president of the chamber to limit debate."

"Rome, June 12.—In all the municipal elections throughout upper Italy the monarchists have suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of the socialists and clericals. The friends of the government are profoundly discouraged, and the opinion of the ministry precautionary repressive measures are imperative lest those who have carried the outworks of the government's position seek, as it were, to capture the citadel."

"Milan, June 12.—In the communal elections, yesterday the combined republican, radical and socialist ticket won a notable victory, securing 20,000 votes against 10,000 given for the moderates and irreconcilable clericals."

This marks another step gained by Italy's proletariat. A year ago the socialists of Italy were massacred like sheep on a slaughtering floor in hundreds of towns and cities. They were bayoneted when they resisted and shot down if they fled. Thousands of the brightest intellects of Italian universities were confined in dungeons or banished to half-savage African villages or lone Mediterranean islands.

It was thought that by this means the socialist movement would be stamped out forever. But a clear class-conscious revolt of the proletariat is never checked by violent measures. It was soon apparent that for every drop of proletarian blood that fell a socialist vote arose. So the government thought to try conciliatory means and began to talk about pardons. Just a few days ago they announced that all political prisoners were to be restored to freedom. But as is shown by the above reports the socialists were not to be caught with such chaff, and only voiced with still greater force the interests of the suffering laborers.

Now again the capitalist government turns in desperation toward repressive measures, and it remains to be seen to what extent they will carry their barbarity. But their triumph must be short as the days of capitalism are numbered. From every nation in the world where today capitalism is enthroned there sounds the tramp of the marching hosts of socialism moving on toward the inevitable proletarian triumph.

England insists on retaining the dum-dum bullet for her wars of Christian conquest, benevolent assimilation and missionary extension among savage tribes. This bullet is made by inclosing a hard core of steel inside a coating of lead which spreads out and tears and mutilates the person struck.

England has just proposed that the United States, Great Britain, Japan and Germany form a coalition to reorganize the Chinese army and put it on a war basis preparatory to a war with Russia.

Eleven Japanese scientists who were on an exploring expedition in China, probably in preparation for the above action, were murdered by Russian soldiers, and Japan demands satisfaction.

General Otis finds that the typewriter he inherited, together with the press censor from Weyler is not quite sufficient to civilize the Filipinos, so he calls for 50,000 more men.

Germany has just secured some islands in the Pacific from Spain for use as coaling stations, and is taking steps to greatly increase her navy.

Don't forget to ask those you work with to subscribe to The Workers' Call. Your grocer, butcher and baker might be persuaded to subscribe if you demonstrate to them that it will be to their interest to do so.

REMEMBER YOU HAVE AN ENGAGEMENT FOR JULY 5TH, at 1234 and Michigan Ave.—Gardner's Park—Picnic for the benefit of The Workers' Call.

The receipt of a sample copy is an invitation to subscribe.

Automobiles in Chicago.

Arrangements have been made by the Chicago branch of the automobile trust to place 2,000 electric vehicles on the streets in the next two months. If half that number are actually put into operation it will mean a longer step toward socialism than would be secured by many socialist speeches.

"No Tradesmen." The dental students of Ann Arbor, Mich., have just been having a small fit because one of the professors was reported to have said that the "dental profession was a trade." These young exorcises of snobocracy felt that their dignity was so compromised by this insinuation that they were not fully developed lackeys of capitalism instead of actually useful producers that they could no longer associate with the perpetrator of so vile an outrage.

So they petitioned the faculty to be allowed to take their examinations under some other professor. But the professor, like some others of his trade—beg a thousand pardons, profession—recanted. He solemnly swore he never said it, and if he did he did not mean it, and it was all a misunderstanding, anyhow.

So these choice specimens of American snobbery will go forth to starve for the next few years while looking for patients, content to know that they have vindicated their right to be professional instead of trade slaves.

If the society reporters are to be trusted, an entirely new fad in the way of doing good to the poor and "regulating their lives," is to be undertaken this summer in New York. Some of the swell women are to spend a week "right down in the slums" experiencing the discomforts of city life in summer and visiting particularly bad cases of want.

To emphasize the picturesque-ness, they are to dress with becoming simplicity in white muslin caps, gray print gowns and blue neckerchiefs. The great pity of all this mockery is that the rich women who engage in it sincerely imagine that they are useful. It never occurs to them to ask why they, who add nothing to the wealth of the world and whose husbands add but little at the most, should be in a position to patronize even the humblest wealth producer of a city's slums.—The Public.

The following is an extract from a recent speech by Mary Ellen Lease as reported by the Social Democratic Herald:

The Social Democratic Party offers a logical, feasible, speedy solution of the problem, and its rapid gain in strength was wonderful. The principles of socialism were permeating everywhere, and millionaires were taking hold and helping in its accomplishment, believing in its principles. Among these were mentioned John Brisson Walker, editor of the Cosmopolitan; Washington Conner, multi-millionaire; and railroad magnate, and John Wanamaker, who was nearer heaven when he worked against Quay than ever he was in his Sunday school conventions."

If that is not "broad socialism" then we would like to know what it is. We will have to admit that we are "too narrow" to ever train with that crowd on the social question.

One of the most contemptible characters the recent plundering expedition of the United States has brought to light is General Gomez. A true representative of the capitalism of Cuba even capitalist morality no longer holds him, and he brushes aside the capitalist virtue of patriotism and rushes forward to sell his countrymen into a new slavery.

The attention of comrades is called to the grand picnic of the 23rd Ward Branch of Section Chicago for the benefit of the agitation fund. It will be held in Clody's Grove, 2213 N. Clark street, Sunday, June 18, 1899, beginning at 4 p. m. See advertisement on last page.

Chris Stow, unable to find work, chose death to privation. Last evening his wife found his dead body hanging from a rafter in the attic at their home, 964 Armitage avenue. Stow was 35 years old and a bricklayer.—Chicago Evening News.

How long, Oh how long must this awful tragedy and farce go on?

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Single Tax vs. Socialism

A Comparative Discussion

In the first place it would be well to have a clear idea of what is meant by Single Tax upon the one hand and Socialism upon the other before we attempt to compare them. The single tax theory is founded upon what is known as the Ricardian law of rent, so named because it was first formulated in its present form by Ricardo, a London banker who wrote during the first part of the present century. This law reads as follows: "The rent of any piece of land is determined by the amount which can be produced upon it over and above the amount that can be produced upon the poorest piece of land cultivated."

This is generally illustrated as follows: If there are three pieces of land in the same market and the poorest that can be cultivated will produce five bushels of wheat and the next one ten and the third fifteen, the rent of the second would be five bushels and the last ten. The amount produced upon the poorest one, says the Single Taxer, is exactly what labor and capital get in all cases. The rest goes to the landlord. The landlord thus takes to himself all the advantages coming from natural differences in location, character of the soil or social improvements. The landlord reduces all to a common level. Furthermore, whatever society does accrues to the benefit of the landlord. If a town is formed all the increase in value created by the association of great numbers of people goes to the owners of the soil. If a new method of transportation is developed its only effect is to increase the income of the landlord. Hence the statement from which the Bible of Single Tax takes its name that Progress and Poverty go hand in hand.

It is held further, that since rent is thus but a payment for the mere function of ownership it could be confiscated by society without injustice. It is from the method proposed for such confiscation that the theory takes its name. It is proposed to gradually shift all taxes on to land and then to increase them, if necessary, until they exactly equal the rent. But since rent is simply the measure of the earning power of the land, or in other words, since land values are simply capitalized rent, this would mean the confiscation of all land values by the community. From this proceeding it is claimed that most marvelous results would follow. It is held that all land being thus forced upon the market at its exact rental value, free opportunities would be opened to all who wished to take advantage of them. Capital and labor could then unite upon the "free land" and all would be beautiful.

Having now given a statement of what is meant by Single Tax before we attempt to compare it with Socialism it would be well to give a similar statement of the main principles of socialism. Socialism holds that at any time the social institutions are determined by the mode in which society gets its living—the manner in which goods are produced and distributed among members of society. It maintains that up to and including the present time this manner of production has been such as to render one class of society a ruling class of idlers, and the other a subject class of producers. This ruling class has determined all the institutions of society to suit itself and in its interests. But in every stage of society the manner of production upon which the whole of society rests has been changing, and when it reached a certain point it brought a class that had hitherto been subject into prominence in the production and distribution of goods. This gave them power with which to overthrow the then ruling class and form a new social organization in which they should be rulers. In every age of society the most prominent feature of the ruling class, and the one upon which their power was based, was that they OWNED THE ESSENTIAL FACTOR IN PRODUCTION. In the middle ages this was the land. The landlords were then supreme. Because they owned the land they owned the laborers who must use the land in order to live. It was not at all necessary that the landlords use their power as rulers to enact laws providing that the serf was legally attached to the land. He would have been just as firmly secured without such a law because he could not live without the use of the land. But about the close of this century another factor became of paramount importance. Up until this time, the tool had been of little importance. Each laborer owned his own tools, and if he could but get access to the land could produce. But now with the invention of the powerloom, the spinning-jenny, steam engine, etc., it was impossible for each laborer to own the tools with which he worked. The tool became transformed into the great factory, which now became the principle factor in production. The men who owned the factories now owned the thing that men must have in order to produce and to live and consequently they owned the men—the laborers. Because of this they were able to overthrow those who owned the now less important factor, the land, and the landlord gave way to the capitalist as the ruling class. Competition among the capitalists ending in combination and monopoly has divided society into two clearly defined classes, of capitalist and laborer, the former ruling because of his ownership of the essentials of production which makes the laborer his

slave. At the beginning of capitalism the most essential function in production was the organization of the new forces. This was done by the capitalist. But now that this organization is completed it is handed over to the laborers and the capitalist has no active function but confines himself to the passive action of drawing dividends because of his ownership. The laborers thus become the dominant factor in production. But when any class occupies this position it is a certainty that it will soon be the dominant class in society. So the socialist now holds that the next stage of society is to be the rule of the laboring class, of which all having become members class rule will be abolished. The manner in which the laborers will secure this victory will be through their political organization into class-conscious bodies to capture the powers of government, now in the possession of the capitalists. Having voted themselves into power they will then proceed to make laws in the interest of the producers instead of the idlers. The first of their acts will be the vesting of ownership of BOTH THE LAND AND THE TOOLS in all of society. This will forever render economic slavery, upon which all other forms of slavery are based, an impossibility. Just as ownership of the land by the landlord in the middle ages made him free and all others slaves, and just as ownership of the tools today makes the capitalist free and all others slaves, so ownership of the LAND AND TOOLS by ALL will make ALL FREE AND NONE SLAVES.

Having now the two philosophies before us we will proceed to compare them. In the first place it will be noted that the Single Tax is a scheme which it is proposed to enact upon present society. It takes no account of social evolution and utterly fails to recognize that social changes come through growth and not because they are proposed and worked out in some man's head. The Single Taxer does not seem to think but what their scheme can be applied at one time as well as another. They talk about its being adopted to save trouble when a society is just organizing upon new land and they advocate its acceptance in the midst of the oldest capitalistic societies. The socialist observes that social stages succeed one another in a regular order because one is the absolutely necessary preparation for the other. Therefore he does not advocate socialism until capitalism has first come.

Second, the Single Taxer advocates entirely overlook the fact of class rule. They utterly fail to see that at every social stage, all institutions are determined by the ruling class and that today that class is the capitalist class who have control of our government, press, pulpit, platform, and all modes of social control. So the Single Taxer seeks reform through our present government and other social institutions. He asks the capitalist government to destroy capitalism—that is supposing that Single Tax would do what they claim it would. The result of this in practical tactics always makes the Single Taxer appear ridiculous. They fuse first with one capitalist political party and then another. Old political fakirs stuff them on the one side and fool them on the other. They are continually made to believe that they are much stronger than they really are because they always count all the votes polled by the party who succeeded in bamboozling them into supporting it as being for Single Tax. When they really succeeded in making their fad an "issue," as in Delaware, they are practically infinitesimal.

Third, they depend wholly upon the power of ideas to convince men of the beauties of their philosophy. Now history has shown that social changes never come through the spread of ideas, but always through changes in the economic organization of society—through the introduction of new methods of getting a living. Chattel slavery was abolished, not because Garrison wrote and Wendell Phillips preached, but because wage-slavery was made more profitable. Expansion and benevolent assimilation were not undertaken because of the lurid speeches over Cuba's woes in the halls of congress and the wild appeals to patriotism in the public press, but because of the fact which inspired that oratory and paid for those effusions—that our capitalist rulers needed new markets. Now there is absolutely nothing in all the Single Tax writings that shows any comprehension of this fact. Nowhere is it even claimed that present economic development points toward the adoption of the Single Tax. On the contrary their propaganda has more effect in undeveloped countries like New Zealand than in those further advanced in economic development. They made no study of economic phenomena, but simply advocate the adoption of their scheme. Like a quack doctor, they are little troubled about the diagnosis of the disease if the patient will only take their remedy. But the socialist puts little dependence upon the spread of ideas. Although he endeavors by all possible means to spread the doctrines of socialism he knows full well that those doctrines will only spread in proportion to economic development. He knows that their adoption depends much less upon the vigor of his agitation than upon the ripeness, or rottenness, of capitalism. And above all else he knows that the logic of social evolution is arguing upon his side with all the power to convince that facts ever possess.

In the next place the Single Taxer entirely ignores the existence of the class struggle. They take no note of the fact that in our present society one

class, and that the ruling one, are interested in maintaining conditions as they are at present. However much they might possibly be benefited as individuals the capitalist class as a class, depends upon the continuance of present conditions. Now if the Single Tax is going to effect any great change (which we think it will not), it must destroy this class. But history has yet to show an instance where a ruling class surrendered a privilege it once possessed. Individuals may give up advantages, but a whole class never. The socialist therefore looks to see what class interests are in accord with social advance and then appeals to that class. In this case he sees that the laborers are the greatest sufferers under the present system, that they are the only elements out of which a new society can be formed, and finally because of their numbers they are the ones who control political action and through whose assistance alone society can be saved from its present troubles. Therefore he wastes no time in appealing to either the ruling capitalist class or the dying middle class, but goes straight to the root of things and calls upon the workers to unite for their own salvation. Recognizing in production the only right to the product he regards the producers as the only persons with any economic rights to be considered. Observing that all progress in the past has been through class struggles and victories he concludes that the same will be true today. Recognizing that ideas are but the reflections of existing conditions he puts himself in accord with the development of conditions and does not attempt to upset facts with schemes.

The Single Taxer on the contrary appeals to the middle and upper classes to commit suicide, shuts his eyes alike to class struggles and historical lessons and paying no heed to economic development seeks to upset facts, reverse history, and overturn conditions to suit the plans of its leaders.

These points may at first seem to be beside the question but if studied they will be seen to be basic and really of far greater importance than defects in the plan itself. However next week we shall proceed to review the Single Tax theory and point out its defects and contradictions and endeavor to show that even if they could cut society to fit their plan it would only be a botch at the most.

PEACE CONFERENCE.

Savagery, Cant, and Hypocrisy Poured Forth in Disgusting Abundance.

It is significant that the great powers in conference at the Hague have drawn up a series of rules which must be conformed to by the inhabitants of an invaded country who are resisting invasion if they are to be entitled to the protection of the laws of war. These conditions run as follows:

"First, that they have some one at their head who will be responsible for their acts."
 "Second, that they bear some distinctive sign that they belong to an insurrectionary corps."
 "Third, that they carry arms openly."
 "Fourth, that they conform in all their operations to the laws and customs of war."

Of course it is evident at a glance that any weaker country when invaded would find it impossible to conform to these conditions and the invaders would thus be free to murder prisoners and commit any such outrages as they might think necessary to bring them to terms. But of course the main idea is that in savage warfare it is ridiculous to expect the inhabitants of the plundered country from even knowing of all the "laws and customs of war" as they are determined at the grand farce now being held at The Hague, and so "civilizing wars" like those of England in Africa and India will be free to desecrate tombs and blow "savages" from the mouths of cannon, and the United States can be at liberty to slaughter Filipinos and commit outrages upon the few it permits to live.

The beastly character of this so-called Peace Conference is brought out with startling vividness in this action and in that of permitting the continuance of the "dum-dum" bullet in savage warfare. It shows that the whole disgusting farce is simply a league for plunder, and that such plunder shall be freed from all restrictions as to brutality and ferocity. But then that is capitalism pure and simple.

The Trust and Labor Troubles

A report from Joliet, Ill., says that a wire and steel mills there have shut down for a few weeks throwing over 2,000 out of work. This is ostensibly to reduce a surplus stock, and yet we are told by the financial journals that the steel mills of this country are weeks behind in their orders. To one who is at all familiar with the methods of the trusts in regard to their employees another explanation is much more probable. The steel trust now has a number of mills in which production is being carried on. Ultimately these will all be closed save one or two that can produce the cheapest. But first all will be run until the laborers have been disciplined. One by one they will be shut down until the workers get good and hungry. They will then be more "reasonable" in their demands and their unions can be broken up and wages reduced to the proper point. This can be repeated at different points until all are rendered sufficiently docile. The trust will then have so "cheapened production" that it will be ready to go into the markets of the world and undersell the "pauper labor" of any other nation on earth. And the laborers will all step up to the ballot box at the next election and say they like it and want some more out of the same bottle. That is the larger portion of them will. Some of them will do a little kicking at the ballot box by dropping in a Socialist Labor Party ticket. Will you be one of them?

DIGNITY OF LABOR

How Labor Gets the Dignity and Capital Gets the Product.

"Ye good men of the Commons, who vainly stand and beg At the feet of the old parties, while they gently pull your leg. Come make a circle round me, and heed my tale with care, A tale of the wealth which your labor creates, but in which, owing to the mysterious decrees of Providence, the shrewdness of your masters, and your own stupidity, you are not permitted to share."

Dear Friends:— It is an undeniable, joyous and exhilarating fact, that we are at present living in the midst of an era of unexampled prosperity. If you don't believe this, look at the newspapers. But then, an honest man always believes what he is told, and you are all honest men. The goddess of plenty has poured from her cornucopia an abundance of good things, the voice of the boomer is heard in the land—and you have plenty of "work."

"Work" is not only a blessing, but it also confers dignity upon the worker. You are so keenly alive to the appreciation of this truth, that millions of you are constantly seeking "work," in order that you may be blessed and dignified. So firmly has this idea of the blessings of "work" taken hold of you, that I have frequently heard many of you say that if you had about \$10,000 you would never do another stroke of it in your life.

There are many impracticable, visionary persons in our present society, who do not entirely agree with these fundamental truths. They hold that the results of "work" are really of more importance to the workers, than the actual "work" itself, and that the workers should secure those results for themselves, instead of, as now, being content with the dignity alone. Also they do not consider "work," (under present conditions) as either blessed or dignified.

But they are dreamers, and you are practical, up-to-date people, who know that these things always were so, and must remain so, and you laugh their ideas to scorn.

About the dignity of "work," there can be no question. So universally has this truth been grasped, that the phrase "Dignity of Labor," (which means the same thing) has become a household word.

There are many non-workers in the community, who consequently are deprived of the dignity and blessing which you enjoy. They are therefore much to be pitied.

Being laborers yourselves, you are so accustomed to being enshrouded in this mantle of dignity, that it becomes commonplace, and sometimes you doubt its existence.

But it is there, my friends, all the time, and I can point out many facts to verify this statement.

The non-workers, those unhappy beings who do not possess this privilege, and who stand in awe and trembling, before the dignity of Labor, are a living proof of this.

Feeling uncomfortable and bewildered before the might, majesty and dignity of Labor, they hasten to get as far away from your presence as possible.

Conscious of their inferiority, they crowd into the boulevards, residence districts, etc., and even go to London, Paris, and other European capitals, to escape your awe-inspiring presence.

Where laborers "most do congregate," dignity is immensely multiplied, and shines forth with a dazzling effulgence that no non-worker may endure. As a necessary consequence they avoid these places as they would a pestilence. The dignity-laden atmosphere of such localities as the Stockyards district, South Chicago, Pullman, etc., is too rich for their blood.

Only the other day I witnessed an incident, which bears strong testimony to the facts that I have laid before you.

Riding upon the street car with one of those curious visionary people, who call themselves socialists, we perceived a laborer, in somewhat ancient and threadbare garb, but sweating dignity at every pore, seat himself, with grave staidness, near two or three of those inferior creatures who do not enjoy the blessed privileges which Labor confers. They shrank away from him at once, overpowered by the dignity of his presence, as from a being of a superior order.

When I pointed this out to my impracticable socialist acquaintance, he laughed scornfully, and intimated, in the disagreeable manner common to such people, that I was an ass.

His theory of the shrinking, which I am almost ashamed to place before you, so senseless and absurd does it appear, was as follows:

He said that the laborer's boots were covered with lime, that his garments were soiled and ragged, his hat was unfashionable and wasn't on straight, there was an odor of cheap tobacco about his person, his tin dinner pail was highly objectionable, and that on the whole, he was neither a thing of beauty nor a joy forever. Hence the shrinking.

How can such a preposterous reason convince any man?

We may be certain that such arguments can never be universally accepted until human nature is changed.

This latter remark I made to my companion, but he only laughed again. And he furthermore said, that the dignified workers of this land were remarkably stupid, and he compared them to the dog, who, crossing the plank over the river with a piece of meat in his mouth, grasped at the shadow of the meat, reflected in the water, and thereby lost his dinner. He said that the dignity of Labor was the shadow, and the results of labor the substance, and that so long as the

workers were contented with dignity, it would always be forthcoming, because it was marvellously cheap, and didn't cost anything. From these premises he drew the curious conclusion that it was therefore worthless. And he explained at some length, that if the workers wished to enjoy the results of their labor, they must necessarily constitute themselves supreme in the political councils of the nation, and make collective property of the tools and materials by and on which labor is exerted. These things, if I remember rightly, he called "means of production," and he said that the socialist movement was the instrument necessary to carry out these changes.

Not being prepared to argue the question just then, I explained that it was necessary for me to catch a train at once, a device which I learned from an excellent and worthy person named Gompers, who often uses it with great success, as a weapon to destroy the positions of his socialist adversaries; and I need hardly say that this gentleman is also a firm believer in the dignity of Labor.

But now that you surely understand how utterly senseless the arguments used by the socialists are, it is not necessary to bring you any more proofs. The dignity of Labor is dwelt upon in thousands of books suitable for family reading, books which contain not one line that is calculated to bring a blush to the cheek of the young person, and which were written by good honest men who knew just what they were writing about. This latter statement is particularly true.

What then need you care about the results of your labor, so long as all the dignity is yours? Why trouble about food, clothing, fuel, houses, books, leisure and recreation, and such vulgar things? Leave them to the class that do not labor and therefore have no dignity. Your intelligence is unquestioned. Is it not admitted all the world over, that you are head and shoulders above the inhabitants of all other lands? Your skill, enterprise, forethought, ability and knowledge, are a by-word amongst the nations. You work harder and produce more, man for man, than any other people on the earth, and though the results you secure are proportionately smaller, the dignity never decreases.

"Surely ye are the people, and wisdom shall die with you."

Right here it is prudent to stop. I might be tempted into saying something un-American.

J. Wanhope.

More "Burdens" in Sight.

The Chicago Record reports that "the feeling in favor of annexation to the United States is growing stronger throughout the British West Indies." Hold on, this thing is getting serious. Great Britain carries a pretty large side line of "benevolent assimilation" herself and will undoubtedly object to any competition even by a "sister nation." The United States ought to be ashamed of herself anyhow. Have we not always heard that there was honor even among thieves, but then this proverb says nothing about capitalists.

San Francisco.

The following is taken from a San Francisco capitalist paper, and is one of the many signs of a very active movement among the California comrades:

An anti-imperialist meeting was held at Metropolitan Hall, Tuesday evening, May 23rd, under the auspices of the Socialist Labor Party. The meeting was well attended, many non-socialists being among the audience, though the speakers were all of the socialist party. Thomas Berford presided and made the opening speech, being followed by Miss Stella Verner, who sang, G. B. Benham was the second speaker. Mr. Benham said there was a good deal of talk of treason now abroad in the land and it seemed to be treason to send speeches of United States senators through the mails. He reminded his hearers that Mme. Roland and Thomas Moore went to the block on charges of treason and that the name was on every Tory lip in regard to the American rebels. "Those Filipinos are doing their very best to win freedom for themselves," he said, "and the Cubans are refusing to take the gold for which was sold their honor. No one can uphold our war against those who are fighting for their liberty. Our country's flag waves over scenes of despotism and murder in the Philippine islands. The Cubans, so far as the exercise of their sovereignty is concerned, are in the same condition as they were under Spain. The Filipinos were charged to stand and deliver their liberty or their lives and 20,000 chose to surrender their lives. We have been told from this very platform that there is no comparison between the Filipinos and the American revolutionists. Are we to measure the love of liberty by the costumes men wear? Probably the half-clothed savages of the Philippines are quite as appropriately dressed for their climate as were our revolutionary forefathers when their shoeless feet stained with blood the snows of Valley Forge. We are told that England is with us. Go trace the colonial policy of England. You will have no difficulty for the trail of blood is wide and the channel of misery is deep. We have proved that all Spain said of our motives was true. A great nation has broken its word."

E. T. Kingsley devoted himself to the commercialism of the war which he called a "bargain-counter war." A. K. Andre denounced the peace conference and the newspapers and dwelt on the contrast between Japan, groaning under Dutch, and India under English rule. M. W. Wilkins spoke of the coming war of the "robber nations" on China, in which the United States would probably join. Miss Martha Aspdren closed the evening with a violin solo.

A recent entertainment and dance given by the Young Woman's Educational Club of Section San Francisco netted over \$25.00 to the agitation fund of the party.

Any comrade knowing the address of Danish or Norwegian socialists should send their names and addresses to this office, that they may be sent copies of the socialist paper, "The Arbejderen," the organ of the S. L. P. in those languages.

LABOR'S BATTLES.

Echoes of the Class Struggle From the Economic Field.

The employees of the Cleveland street railways are now out on strike. They make the following demands:

First, the recognition by the company of their union, which is a part of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees of America; second, a just board of arbitration to pass upon alleged violations of company rules; third, an abatement of "swing" runs; fourth, the city's speed ordinance lived up to.

Scabs are being brought in from other cities and the usual rioting is taking place, although the strikers have thus far maintained a very conservative attitude for men whose means of living is being taken from them by traitors to the army of labor, who are in turn being forced by economic necessity to play the despicable part they are. Fifty deputy sheriffs have been sworn in by the employers acting in their capacity as government, and the city police are also performing their duties as capitalist slaves. Altogether it is an inspiring and typical sight. Union slaves throwing eggs and bricks at non-union slaves and being clubbed by uniformed slaves, and then all going to the ballot box next election and voting for some more slavery. No, not quite all, for the Cleveland Citizen and the S. L. P. has been doing a little educating down there for the past year, and the Cleveland Central Labor Union has recently endorsed the S. L. P., and unless we are mistaken will put in a few blows at the polls this fall that will hit where they will do much more good than the missiles they are now throwing.

The usual stories of police brutality are coming to the front. The Chicago Tribune correspondent, in speaking of the treatment accorded an iceman who had stopped his wagon in front of a scab driven car, says:

"Four policemen reached the iceman at the same instant, and they pulled him in two directions getting him off the seat. When they got him to the ground they clubbed him a few times."

Besides this the "sidewalk" ordinance was rigidly enforced and citizens were taught that the walks as well as the driveways of the streets belonged to their masters and must not be used for standing room.

But with all this zeal on the part of the blue-coated slaves, the masters were not satisfied and the report goes on to say:

"A large number of detectives from Chicago are here in the employ of the big consolidated street railway company to keep watch on the police as well as the strikers, for the purpose of obtaining evidence that insufficient protection is being afforded by the city authorities and thus form a basis for a demand on the federal court for an injunction."

Under the President's new civil service ruling there were fourteen places to be filled at the Chicago headquarters. There had been up to last Sunday 4,000 applications for those 14 places. There is a little more significance in this than at first appears. Most of these places were clerical ones. Now if property is scanty for the unskilled laborer it is a mocking farce for those who have commonly held themselves to belong in the salaried class.

The formation of a trust means the abolition of all but one set of general officers, and the discharge of all advertising agencies, drummers, etc. This means that a great body of "educated laborers" are set out in the cold, cold world. It is from these that the 14,000 referred to above have come. The turning of this great body of intelligent workers out to battle with the stern realities of life will force home to them their common interests with all laborers and compel them to array themselves with the socialist workers of the world in their battle for freedom.

The dock strike at Buffalo that has been "satisfactorily settled" several times has broken out again and 1,000 men are on strike. From present appearances another tie-up of freight boats is imminent. This will place a little inconvenience on the employers and cut a few cents off their dividends while many a sailor will work the free lunch route next winter, to pay for it. But if they do not strike they will have to work the same route with the added burden of having toiled hard all summer. It looks like a case of starve if you do and starve if you don't and you cast your ballot and the capitalist takes his choice.

The stone for the new Chicago post office is being cut with imported, contract, Italian labor in spite of all agreements to the contrary. There is much talk on the part of the union stone-cutters of mobbing the poor, ignorant Italians, but we do not expect any of them will get desperate enough to vote against those who deceived them into coming here.

Eight thousand jacket-makers in New York have gone on a strike to endeavor to raise the miserable wages they are now receiving. They are making the extravagant and outrageous demand that they be given \$12 a week and ten hours a day, but it is felt that such luxurious wages cannot be afforded at the present time as it might endanger prosperity.

The news comes from Manhattan, Kansas, that the entire faculty of the Agricultural College has been removed by the Republican administration because of their populist leanings. Among those fired is Prof. E. W. Bemis, who received a similar bonus for similar reasons from Chicago University a few years ago. Perhaps he may learn sometime, if kicked frequently enough, that his half-way measures are not the proper things with which to combat capitalism.

Are YOU still hustling for subscribers?

Public Meetings.

Below is given a list of the out-door meetings to be held in Chicago this week. Every socialist should make it a point to attend, as many of these are possible to assist in making the meeting a success:

The 5th Ward Branch holds out-door agitation meetings at 31st St. and Fifth Ave., every Sunday at 7:30 p. m.

Tenth Ward Branch at California Ave. and Madison St. every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Wards at California and North Ave., every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

Sixteenth Ward holds meetings every Saturday at 8 p. m. at the corner of Milwaukee and Center Aves.

Eighteenth Ward, Peoria and Madison Sts., every Sunday at 8 p. m.

Thirteenth Ward—Corner of Western and Grand Aves., every Thursday evening.

Twenty-fourth Ward—Washington Square, Clark street and Walton place, every Thursday at 8 p. m.

31st Ward, 63rd and Sangamon every Wednesday at 8 p. m., and Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

Thirty-third Ward Branch will hold an agitation meeting at the corner of 92d street and commercial avenue every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock.

Speakers for June 10, Comrades Pepin and Klenkie.

Thirty-fourth Ward will hold a meeting Saturday eve., June 17th, at the corner of 120th and Wallace Sts.

Twenty-third Ward—outdoor meetings Wednesday evening, 8 p. m., Oak and Sedwick streets.

Blue Island avenue and Taylor street every Friday night.

Milwaukee and Center avenues every Saturday night.

Paulina street and Milwaukee avenue every Saturday night.

Rockwell street and North avenue every Saturday night.

Good speakers present at all meetings. Everyone invited. Free discussion.

Stock Yards Meeting.

There will be a meeting held at the corner of 47th and Ashland avenue next Sunday afternoon at 3 p. m. Let all comrades and friends living in the neighborhood make it a point to be present and bring their friends with them.

Uncertainty.

Never was there such a feeling of uneasiness as there is at present. In the midst of what is in many respects for capitalism a period of prosperity everyone walks with caution. On every side there is a feeling that present conditions cannot last. The merchant closes his books at night not knowing but what tomorrow's sun will see the beginning of his ruin by some newly established department store, even though today's sales were the largest known. The manufacturer, even while he looks at his over-filled order book sees between him and its pages the notice of the formation of a trust that drives him to want. The cabman shivers every time anyone says automobile, while the mention of liquid air sends a convulsion through the whole industrial fabric.

The air is full of the idea and fact of change. Society progresses at such a rate that the brain grows dizzy in attempting to follow it. Three years ago the United States was an insular power. The Monroe doctrine was a universal tenet of belief. War was a far-away nightmare. Colonial troubles belonged to the antipodes, and colonial wars were carried on with as little concern as if they had been the ordinary thing for centuries. Whole masses of people have performed a half dozen intellectual and "moral" summer-saults in these few months. They have passed from rabid patriots and jingo humanitarians clamoring for a "war of humanity" and cheering themselves hoarse about the glorious victories of "our" troops, into anti-expansionists and traitors.

All this we repeat serves to turn society into one great trembling interrogation point that continually asks of its frightened self "Whither are we tending?" What though for the moment in the midst of all this there is one body that stands cool and collected, realizing that the conditions in which we are have sprung from the operation of social laws and forces that must bring from present turmoil an equilibrium upon a new base. These are the socialists who see in present conditions only a fulfillment of their prophecies and a verification of the laws they have discovered. They see in these movements but the final stages in a long series of evolutions of which the co-operative commonwealth is the next step. They see in concentration but a step to socialization, in imperialism but a movement toward internationalism, in confusion only preparation for order.

In the conflicting class interests they see the explanation of the confused political, and social conditions. In the befuddled state of the public mind and its eager seeking for light, they see the opportunity for education. In the whole tremendous turmoil of competition and monopoly they see the preparation for the great co-operation, and common interests. ment failures are fewer than for years, every business man feels that a universal business crisis is at hand. What though trades unions are developing a hitherto undreamed of strength—the old time fakirs feel such a sense of insecurity that they are flying to cover from every direction like bats at the flash of sunlight. All this finds its image in the pic-

cal world. Old political heeled see their fences crumbling on every hand and note the rapid disappearance of hitherto stable landmarks. The radical demands of yesterday are the battle-cries of the conservative heeler of today, while the would-be leader of reform forces finds himself trailing at the rear of established facts.

Everywhere there is a feeling that society is today actually above the social volcano of which rhetorical alarmists have so long talked, and that the crust beneath our feet is extremely thin. There is continual talk that while the "masses" have never been so quiet as today, it is really the quiet that precedes the storm and that we are upon the verge of revolution. Reformers, fakes and freaks meet in conventions on all imaginable subjects and adjourn only to meet again in renewed greater confusion.

Authorized Agents.

The following comrades are duly authorized agents for The Workers' Call and are entitled to receive money for subscriptions and advertisements.

- Chicago Agents: 4th Ward—N. Krogh, 3850 La Salle St. 5th Ward—Joseph Keldel, 812 35th St. 7th Ward—Jas. Smith, 267 W. Madison St. 10th Ward—H. Almbadt, 700 California A. 13th Ward—Paul Schubert, 1013 Washington St. 14th Ward—R. Edelson, 40 Julian St. 14th Ward (Danish)—L. Olson, 744 Artesian Ave. 15th Ward—L. Schur, 82 Stave St. 23d Ward—Edw. Ware, 238 Elm St. 26th Ward—Henry Kranz, 851 Clifton Ave. 30th Ward (Scandinavian)—A. Basunson, 6947 Ada St. 31st Ward—J. W. Saunders, 5924 S. Halsted St. 33rd Ward—J. C. Petersen, 636 97th St. 34th Ward—J. Osterling, 528 Fulton St., Pullman. At Large: 1st Ward—Trentz, 359 34th St. Atlanta, Ga.—S. M. White, 439 E. Fair St. Du Quoin, Ill.—Herman Shabunberg. Glen Carbon—Matthew Straub. Pekin—G. F. Smith, 512 Court St. Murphysboro—Daniel W. Boone. Quincy—Al. S. Battery, 882 Broadway. Genoa—E. Fransen. Belleville—William Jansen, 918 W. 1st St. Collinsville—Joseph T. Brocka. Moline—T. T. Dugan. Joliet—Chas. E. Anderson. Jacksonville—J. De Castro. Rock Island—F. Singleman, 708, 9th Ave. Freeburg—Geo. Hill. Syracuse, N. Y.—Geo. F. Whaley, 115 Amy St. San Francisco, Cal.—G. B. Benham, 38 Turk St. Peoria, Ill.—H. Jungheim, 3410 S. Adams St. New Britain, Conn.—Leonard C. Thompson. Philadelphia, Pa.—Chas. Drews, 415 Ritner St. Vancouver, B. C.—Geo. Brooks. Davenport, Iowa—S. Pinkus, 404 W. St. Malden, Mass.—C. Claus, 1 Lombard St. Pittsburgh, Penn.—J. S. Bergman, 70 Congress St. Auburn, N. Y.—Dr. C. W. House, 6 John St. Sections or branches not yet having a duly elected agent are requested to select one at once and send his name to this office.

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Socialist Labor Party

OF THE United States.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-asserts the inalienable rights of all men to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of Democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may ignore and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children. Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming when, in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

IMMEDIATE DEMANDS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

- 1. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production. 2. The United States shall obtain possession of the railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under the control of the Federal government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons. 3. The municipalities shall obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under the control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employees shall be discharged for political reasons. 4. The public lands declared inalienable. Revocation of all and grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with. 5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money. 6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country. 7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation. 8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt. 9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary. 10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination. 11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor system. 12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation). 13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed. 14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law. 15. The people to have the right to propose laws and vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle. 16. Abolition of the veto power of the executive (national, state and municipal) wherever it exists. 17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers. 18. Municipal self-government. 19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced. 20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies. 21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

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- SIXTEENTH WARD, meets 1st and 3rd Saturdays each month at 171 Noble St., 8 p. m.; Sec. M. Pisch, 53 Elston Ave. SIXTEENTH WARD, meets 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month at 571 Noble St., 8 p. m.; Sec. A. Gembacki, 11 Chapin St.

- THIRTY-THIRD WARD (South Chicago) meet every Saturday at 81.6 Superior Ave., 8 p. m.; Sec. I. Rogowicz, 815 Green Bay Ave.

- LADIES SOCIALIST BRANCH, meets 1st and 3rd Sundays each month at 668 N. Paulina (Comrade Odaski's house), 3 p. m.; Sec. M. Tylicko, 709 W. 21st Pl.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

- PEORIA, every Tuesday evening, 3123 South Washington street. COLLINSVILLE, every Sunday, 2:00 p. m., Gayer Building, Main street. BELLEVILLE, second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month at Fisher's Hall, corner of Spill streets. QUINCY, first Wednesday in each month at Fink's Hall, 613 Main street. MURPHYSBORO, every Thursday evening.

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