

# THE COMMONWEAL

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## Anarchist Communism.

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[WEEKLY; ONE PENNY.]

### SPECIAL APPEAL.

WE must ask our friends to make another effort on our behalf. We are very short of money and in these winter months, the sale of our paper outdoor is not very brisk. Will our friends therefore send in subscriptions, however small to Guarantee Fund at once. Help is urgently needed if the paper is to continue as a weekly. Stamps and postal orders should be sent to the Secretary, Commonweal Group, City Road, 145.

### TO ARMS! WORKINGMEN, TO ARMS!

THE release of the convicts by the miners of Tennessee marks a new phase in the labour movement. It is clear, that a large and important section of the workers of America are disatisfied both with the policy of petty strikes and at the same time have lost faith in reforms by constitutional methods. There then remains but one way, the might of armed men, the good old way, the simple plan, which the middle classes have used repeatedly against the aristocracy is about to be used against them.

This is even acknowledged by the American capitalist press. The present situation is admirably summed up by "The Twentieth Century." "Twice have a band of thousands of cool headed miners successfully resisted the power of the State. These are somewhat dangerous precedents, if working people everywhere should happen to take it into their heads to follow the example of the Briceville miners, what would the State do? What would the monopolists—the employers of labour do? What will the outcome be? It is pretty evident, what the outcome would be. The capitalist system which is based upon the oppression and robbery of the people, would be overturned and mankind would be free from oppression, degradation, and robbery.

But to do this, the working people must be armed. At present they are an unarmed crowd. A flock of sheep, who could be butchered without resistance by the hired murderers of the rich. It is time they lost this harmless character. Their "leaders" though apparently, do not think so. If all the working people had and knew how to use, weapons, where would be the necessity for "leaders." We should not want any "Social Democratic Labour Candidates" either for Battersea or Chelsea. It certainly is funny to see people, who once upon time used to breathe out threatenings and slaughters, repudiating, one of their own followers merely because he carried: "a loaded revolver," to defend himself against the attacks of police ruffians, who on a similar occasion had murdered four workmen. Surely precautions for self defence ought not to be offensive to the leaders of Social Democracy! But then taking a loaded revolver to a public meeting might alienate the votes of respectable shopkeeper, who, like parliamentary candidates and other adepts at lying and cheating has a wholesome horror of physical force. But despite the outcries of these respectable persons, we repeat that the working people must arm themselves. They must prepare for the struggle. But how. Money is required. True and if Trade Unions who have spent thousands in the last few years in petty strikes had only devoted the money to purchase rifles, revolvers, and dynamite, the capitalists would not have smashed, so many unions, and have driven so many poor fellows into the streets to starve.

But what is done cannot be helped. Let us only do better for the future. We are approaching troublous times. Times when arms will not be only useful, but an absolute necessity for the working classes. The example of the Tennessee miners is likely to be followed as extensively in America, as the example of Bryant and May's match girls was among the sweated workers in England. If the unions will not purchase arms with their funds, let workmen form groups among themselves and collect and save their pence for the purpose. Young men with a taste for chemistry should join classes at once and learn how to make the cheapest of modern explosives.

And then if the capitalists persist in smashing unions, if they bludgeon and shoot down the workers, the workers may finish this pretty little game, by "smashing" the capitalists,

## THE STRIKE

A DRAMA BY LOUISE MICHEL.

### SCENE III.

*Marius and Zviriki* coming out of the room where they were hidden.

*Marius.* We must fight her with her own weapons. Let us distribute between wind, fire and water all their stolen powers, all their piled up wealth.

*Zviriki.* The food stored up to sell at a higher price during the coming famine will do for general stores during the fighting period—after that, the land cultivated by free and intelligent men will produce a hundred fold.

The first act of the avengers must be the annihilation of the wealth of the firm of Eleazar—for us, war is declared—war without truce or quarter. But will the father star with this monster if he wishes to follow us.

### SCENE IV.

*Marius, Zviriki, Esther, Eleazar.*

*Esther.* Zviriki, Marius, I am happy to meet; help me to convince the father—I would not like to have to run away: but however I must.

*Eleazar.* My poor children! We were so happy before! Marius, Esther, pardon me, there are immutable fates.  
(Songs outside.)

Ring! Ring! in the air! Ring!  
Tocsin of the iron age! Ring!  
Long live the strike!  
Long live the strike!

*Eleazar* (clasping his children in his arms). What will become of us?

*Esther.* You must have courage, father. You must be brave.

*Eleazar.* What do you call 'being brave'?

(Song outside.)

Men and women! Comrades, come  
All of you in thousands come!  
The world is ours!  
The world is ours!

*Zviriki.* This is what we call being brave:—Separate yourself from a murderess who in your name starves the workers and who forces your children to leave their roof.

*Eleazar.* You will not go! Esther have pity on me.

*Esther.* Dear father, when we have gone, there will be on the contrary no further pretext for the odious and ridiculous marriages. They will leave you in peace to bewail our absence, or else you will follow us delivered.

*Eleazar.* Marius, I pray you, talk to your sister. Surely you, you would not like her to go away.

*Marius.* Dear father, she must really! Fate has entered this house and she will follow us until Justice has been done.

*Eleazar.* Don't talk like that of the baroness.

*Esther.* What does it matter about this woman. Come with us, father; throw away your cursed riches before they are torn away from you. Oh! if you only knew how fine it would be—a night of the 10th of August which would hold the destinies of the world.

*Eleazar* (wiping his eyes). This little woman would like to drag me off with her!

## SCENE V.

The same and Gertrude, who comes in at first holding her head high, but in perceiving Zmiriki she is troubled for an instant. Gertrude after this moment of confusion picks herself together and coldly salutes Zmiriki.

Gertrude (to Zmiriki). Without doubt, you are one of Marius' friends? (Aside.) Are they then not all buried yet?

Marius. Yes, Madam, a friend of mine.

Gertrude (to Eleazar). My dear Eleazar, you must make known your decisions to Marius and his sister. (Eleazar drops his head.) (Voices outside.)

Rise, workmen, in the dead of night,  
Their palaces we'll set alight  
With freedom's torch!  
With freedom's torch!

Eleazar. Listen.

Gertrude. It is one of those songs which have been sung since eternity; and which are even incapable of lifting the dead leaves.

Zmiriki. Do you think so, really, Madam?

Gertrude. So you are one of those fine fellows who look forward to a Universal Insurrection.

Zmiriki. At least to one bigger than that which took place some time ago at Warsaw. This time it will not be prevented by all the treason in the world, as that at Warsaw was smothered by a woman sixteen years ago.

Gertrude. I suppose they killed that woman?

Zmiriki. Not YET, Madam.

Gertrude. Do they know what became of her?

Zmiriki. She became the mistress of the Grand Duke, then she disappeared, but they have just found her again at the head of a large firm.

Gertrude. Ah! they have been telling you some impossible stories.

Zmiriki. I was at Warsaw sixteen years ago, Madam, and I have recognised her.

Gertrude. You are speaking to me of romantic circumstances.

Zmiriki. And above all, of terrible ones.

Marius (to Eleazar). Father, our departure negatives all the promises made for us in your name, let the fates do their decision.

Esther. Ah! we will recapture you (she embraces him).

Gertrude. So it is a declaration of war?

Marius. Yes! and a war without truce or quarter.

(Marius and Esther exeunt with Zmiriki.)

Gertrude (to Eleazar who seems to wish to follow them). Stop! Stop! What! Eleazar! You going to let the flight of your children be known? To make a great scandal which would dishonor your daughter above all?

Eleazar. What a horrible story of Warsaw they are whispering around me! It is not true, is it?

Gertrude. Are you mad, Eleazar? These ridiculous things cannot harm me. Have courage! Your children have nothing to fear. Some devoted men will follow them, and will warn me if there be need.

Eleazar. Fancy having them watched like criminals!

Gertrude. You reason as if you belonged to their gang. Perhaps you, too, have thoughts of liberty?

Eleazar. I had once. Who has not in their first youth? Even, since then, I have always recoiled from certain financial enterprises.

Gertrude. So then you have been deceiving me concerning your real views.

Eleazar. I loved you. I have never hesitated to obey you. I have never dreamt of disobeying you either in the past or in the future. Yes, I have love you madly.

Gertrude. And now, for the first time, you are unjust to me.

(Song outside.)

Tocsin! ring the signal-peal  
For the fight implacable.  
Ring! Tocsin, ring!  
Ring! Tocsin, ring!  
Tocsin! ring the funeral knell  
Let the old world in ruin reel.  
Let it perish!  
Let it perish!

Eleazar. The insurrection is howling.

Gertrude. But force will bring the insurgents to reason.

Eleazar. I suppose you know that my children are with them. (Gertrude shrugs her shoulders.)

## SCENE VI.

The same. A servant brings in sealed despatch which Gertrude opens and reads.

Gertrude (to Eleazar after having read it.) Calm your fears. I receive the news I was telling you of. Esther and Marius are at the bottom of the park with the groups of Anarchists, to whom they are doing the honors of your domains. Be proud of yourself! It is your Esther who is haranguing them. She will go far, this little woman with the fine air of "Diana of the Reds." She has just thrown her diamonds in the sea. After all Baron Ulysses is rich enough to buy her some more. The word of honor between us cannot be broken for such mad freaks. (Eleazar does not answer; he seems annihilated.) What a lot of paternal folly you have Eleazar! Here come the guests.

(To be continued.)

(This play commenced in No. 281, all back Nos. kept in stock.)

## SWEATING AT BRAINTREE SILK MILLS.

ONE Wednesday November 21st the women and girls employed at Messrs. Courtauld and Co's silk mills at Braintree struck work owing to a reduction in the price paid. It appears that Mr. Carter the manager of this firm has posted up a notice, to the effect, that the weavers were to work two looms each and to be paid only 3s. 3d. per packet for their work. There are 74 yards and 78 yards of Crape to the packet and previously they were getting 6s. 9d. and 6s. 6. per packet. The women and girls at once stopped their looms, and refused to go on till they had seen the manager. He however said he would not see them till they agreed to go on with their work, but this they declined to do. He then saw a deputation of the women and girls, who told him that working the two looms was perfect slavery. He said this was "ridiculous." Other weavers were working two looms, and they would have to do the same or go home. They replied that they wanted to see Mr. Courtauld, but he said that he represented that gentleman, and that if they did not start their looms, he should strike them out. This did not frighten them, so at last he promised them an advance of 1s. till Christmas, but he told them that if they earned "too much" he should take it off again. The girls then went back to work. Mr. Courtauld saw the affair in the papers, came to the mill, saw some of his workers. He told them if he had been Mr. Carter, he should not have given them the advance. Since then, the manager has threatened them with vengeance. This is a very "benevolent" firm of slave drivers. They have a sick club for the "benefit" of their employees, but the girls never see a balance sheet. The firm has given a recreation ground and a drinking fountain to inhabitants of Braintree, but that does not prevent them from sweating their employees. Messrs. Courtauld and Company have accumulated large fortunes. They have a splendid mansion and grounds, a public road ran near this mansion, but these gentlemen did not wish the "vulgar public" to come "betwixt the wind and their nobility," so the road was blocked up, and a new one was made further away. And so the world goes on. Large fortunes are accumulated out of the labour of sweated women, that capitalists may have splendid mansions and grounds, and may present drinking fountains, and recreation grounds to a grateful public. Surely if these gentlemen have any superfluous benevolence to spare they might bestow some of it upon their workers. But this is quite out of the question. We are glad to hear the Women's Trade Union is going to organize these poor girls and women. There are 1600 women employed by this amiable sweater. May the social revolution soon come, which shall free them from their slavery. Messrs. Courtauld, Carter and Co. will then get notice to quif. They WILL HAVE TO GO, whether they like it or not.

## ANARCHIST-COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

Briefly, there is no remedy for the sufferings and injustices under which the working class groans, except

## THE OVERTHROW OF THE WHOLE SYSTEM

political and economical, a complete change in the organisation of society, as has happened at certain specially important epochs.

Workmen, in their daily struggle must not lose sight of that prospect; must never be induced by some small ephemeral amelioration, to increase the difficulties which lie in the way of their complete emancipation

## NO COMPROMISE

strictly conform your tactics to principles: don't be afraid of being called "unpractical." You will find out that what is called "practicality" is nothing better than short-sightedness and blundering.

## HOLD ALOOF FROM POLITICS

and soon you will feel the relief of having done with crawling politicians: the whole swarm of vote-hunters will leave you alone. Then you will be able to get rid of the

## CUMBERSOME AND COSTLY OFFICIALISM

in your unions. No more need of a Parliamentary Committee, nor of paid officials who, as in a recent case, meet to dispose of a sum of £26 to help a strike, only to find that they have spent the whole sum in their meeting itself.

Some unions are dead-alive bodies, wire-pulled and managed by a few officials, the mass of the members taking no part in union business beyond paying their subscription. This is a terrible mistake; such unionists deserve to be made slaves of. If unionism is to be made a living force, a powerful instrument in the emancipation of the working classes, every unionist must feel the business of his union his own. Workmen must take their own affairs, the affairs of their trade, into their own hands, and trust nobody to act and think for them. Even

## IN STRIKES

there is a very dangerous tendency to put matters into the hands of some committee. Such committees have been the cause of many failures and much useless friction, and they always incline to compromise in order to shirk responsibility. What is needed is more of the

## WARLIKE SPIRIT

which inspired the early unions and made them successful; also

## A LARGER VIEW

of the social question, as implying the amelioration of the condition of all the working classes, from the very lowest upwards. Unionists should look with more brotherly eyes on unorganised workers, blacklegs, foreign paupers etc.; and realise the truth that only by helping such classes to rise, will they find themselves lifted up to a higher condition. In

fact whatever movement be it the unemployed agitation, be it the no-rent campaign amongst East End paupers and other people, or laborers strike,

WHATSOEVER MOVEMENT

may raise the very lowest ranks of society, should be not only supported but promoted by the unions. They should become the organisers and the agitators of the whole working community. They should fight their own battle on the unemployed and unskilled labour question.

Now such a feeling of revolutionary solidarity can only be entertained in the unions by extensive and continuous

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

This work must be considered as the very soul of the labour movement. To neglect educational work and to sink into into business agencies and benefit societies has been the greatest fault of the unions, and the cause of their losing grasp of the situation. The labour movement has shifted its centre more and more in the direction of Socialism. On the other hand State Socialism or Social Democracy has forsaken all its more revolutionary principles; which have been taken up by Anarchism. The same change has happened, very strangely, in regard to

THE MAY 1ST. AGITATION

Started in the United States by the labour unions with a view to enforce the 8 hours day; it acquired importance only by the Chicago Anarchists losing their lives in the struggle. In 1889 the suggestion was adopted by the Marxist congress in Paris, as a well sounding finish to its programme of palliatives. But even in its new and extremely mild form of a mere demonstration day, it proved too strong for German and other social democrats. Anarchists however, in those countries where they are sufficiently strong, have tried to make it the starting point for a general strike and possibility for insurrection. Indeed

THE ULTIMATE END

of the labour movement must be Social Revolution — No other issue is to be anticipated. All over the continent our brothers are earnestly preparing for such an event, which even to conservative statesmen appears near at hand and inevitable.

We English workers, only too often have foolishly identified our interests with those of our masters, when it was our interest and our duty to stretch both hands to our continental brothers "struggling to be free." The reward for our patriotic selfishness was the fearful and life destroying exploitation which we have experienced at the hands of the home capitalist, especially during the first half of this century.

(To be continued.)

## THE FOLLY OF JINGOISM.

The greatest error of all the jingoes exists in the belief that war is useful to the well-being of mankind. The highest ideal of human society ought to be to make life as agreeable as possible to all its members, and to guarantee the right of all to live.

War far from being necessary is inhuman, for it draws all the sacred rights of man and humanity into the mire. The happiest people are those who possess no warlike history, and the time is not far, when mankind will regard war as madness and barbarity, caused through avarice, the seat of all social ills. What good have the jingoes procured? The man who first thought to fasten two sticks to a wheel and so invented the wheelbarrow, has done a thousand times more for the people, than have all the generals that ever lived. We are taught that war is a necessary evil, that in order to live we must murder one another. But where is the common sense in that? The earth is large enough, to enable all to live, without the use of cannon. Nationalism and Militarism stand in direct opposition to civilization, and we cannot avail ourselves of either one or the other. Civilization will overcome barbarity. (We are not civilized yet.) The social war must take the place of the national one, for only by this can civilization be advanced. War against prejudice, superstition, authority, stupidity and demoralisation, and for the enlightenment and true education of the people. That is the war that we must preach. The victory of the latter means the decline of the former, but to arrive at victory we must act and think completely internationally. The exploitation and oppression of the masses, and the consequences following—misery and demoralisation are international, in attacking them we must also be international. The International of the Pariahs against the International of the Hangmen.—With pleasure we observe that every day we gain more adherence to these ideas, that individuals are no longer considered as members of this or that nation, but as members of humanity. The mass of the people are beginning to comprehend that this unnatural state of things cannot go on much longer, the happiness of millions of families must no longer be sacrificed to the pleasure of the royal gambling party or the princes drunken headache. Two great powers, science and socialism have already commenced the attack on the international butchery of men, the feeling of international solidarity is ever winning more space and will soon reach to its highest ideal, the brotherhood of men. The jingoes will soon sink back with all their bloody laurels into the morass, out of which it would have been better if they had never risen. That will be the setting of this unnaturally based world. Out of the fragments we will build a fresh one, a society without authority or force, the ideal of thoughtful Anarchy. This is the end of an endlessly long and painful song, full of tears and sighs, and instead springs up a fresh joyous melody, the song of Autonomy, independence, and equal rights for all men. War and force are the greatest stains on the progress of humanity, Anarchy its highest ideal.

PARIAH.

[From the Autonomie.]

## THE "BEDFORD" PROTEST MEETING.

On Sunday the 29th ult. a very large and successful meeting was held in Norwich market place, to protest against the candidature of Mr. J. Bedford, who one day sails under Liberal colours, and another day attempts to sail under the flag of Labor. The Liberal 400 claim that their pet is running as a Liberal, whilst Mr. Bedford himself, claims that he is the Labor candidate. In order to set matters on a proper footing a few active trades unionists have broken away from the old "fossils," and have done what the Norwich Trades Council seemed afraid to do, i.e. made enquiries from London trades unionists and members of the London Trades Council. The result of their enquiries led them to organise the above meeting, and to invite C. Harris A.S.T. and delegate to the London Trades Council, W. Votier, National Union of Boot & Shoe Operatives Union, also delegate to the L.T.C.: C. W. Mowbray, S.L. and A.S.T.; Mr. C. Freak of the N.B. & S. operatives union was also invited, but did not attend. Space forbids us to publish the speeches of the above. Though we must say, if any evidence had before been wanting to condemn Bedford as a sweater, it was supplied by Messrs Harris and Votier. So strong were the points made by these speakers, that the hangers-on of the Liberal 400, otherwise known as Colman's Lambs, became furious and attempted to create disorder. However their courage failed them when they realised that they were a mere handful in that vast assembly; so they contented themselves by putting up Mr. Gibson of the Yarmouth Radical Club, pretty well known in connection with Brown of the "Three Fishes," who became notorious as the "Radical Agent" of Yarmouth for the supply of Blacklegs, during the shipping strike at Liverpool. This gentleman appeared utterly unable to grasp the situation, and floundered about with his subject in such a manner that even his friends were heartily ashamed of their specially cured Yarmouth champion. A resolution was submitted to the meeting, and was carried by a tremendous majority, condemning Bedford and calling on him to withdraw his candidature in the Labor interest

Poor old "Trousers" the game is nearly up, in spite of the various attempts you have made to blacken the characters of Messrs. Gardiner, Royal, Votier, Harris and others who are what you never have been, i.e. staunch Trades Unionists, and honest workers in the cause of Labour.

Where was Harvey late of Ipswich and editor of the Eastern Star and Sweater's Puff, bottle-washer in chief to the Mustard King, Colman who is "not" a sweater as he pays able-bodied men 12s. a week; a sum which ought to enable them all to become landlords on a small scale.

Where was Harvey? we repeat. Why the sneaking libeller of the dead labor leaders of Chicago hides himself at home, and sends his son to the meeting for fear that someone might pull his nose. This is what he richly deserves at the hands of the workmen of Norwich whom he has deceived. Like most cowards, he prefers to sling ink on the quiet, instead of facing opposition on a public platform.

Poor Jimmy Mason, the local secretary of the Boot Trade, was also unfortunately absent: this "gentleman" it was who wrote to C. Freak telling him that he ought not to allow himself to be pulled about by Anarchists. There has been no pulling about by anarchists, Jimmy. It was not anarchists who organised the meeting at Kay Street Radical Club, where Mr. Freaque made a speech which has already appeared in these columns, and we shall take care to reprint if occasion demands it.

Is it true Jimmy that you have tated to many people, that you cannot "conscientiously vote for Bedford," if so why don't you be a man (if that is possible) and own up. I am afraid you are in as great a mess as poor "Trousers" or you would not have charged us with breaking up trade union meetings in Norwich, but his political insanity renders him oblivious of the part we played in Porkys strike, and others which took place during the time the anarchist and socialist movement was being carried on in Norwich, by Mowbray and others.

## NOTES.

James Bedford, Sweater.

It will doubtless be news to John Burns, to hear that his friend and patron James Bedford is notorious in the sweating trade in the East End for the low wages he pays. We were told only last week by an East End Tailor, that Bedford takes the very worst and cheapest work in the trade. He sublets this work to a Jewish sweater, who employs Jewish girls to do the work. Their labour is almost as cheap as that of the newly imported "greener," the novice fresh from Russia. Thus Mr. Bedford is able to produce goods that are a marvel of cheapness; at the same time Dr. Adler tells us, that prostitution, once almost unknown among Jewish women, is increasing at an alarming rate. Whether the low wages paid by people like Bedford has anything to do with this, we leave Mr. Burns and his Fabian friends to determine. They are all students of political economy. Bye the bye, Bedford has obtained the benediction of George Howell! Brassey's flunkey, who is unanimously repudiated by the workmen of the Bethnal Green Division of Hackney. Who will doubt now, that Bedford is not a "bona fide labor candidate." People who believe in an "independent labor party" should be very suspicious of a man who can only get Liberal hacks to back him. Why does he get a testimonial from Sweater Brunner. We suppose it would not be possible to get another from John Burns' late comrade and companion H. H. Champion. We really think that the Labour Elector ought to be re-started again for the benefit of John Burns.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## CARPENTER REPLIES TO CREGGHE.

Certainly, Comrade Cregghe, I stick up for the Fabians and the Trade Unions just as I do for the Anarchist, I have never disavowed the Anarchists. What can be more obvious? We are all travelling along the same road. Why should we be snarling at one another's heels? I know that some of the Fabians look upon the Anarchists as bloody fools, and I tell them that I disagree with them; and I know that some of the Anarchists (so-called) would like to send all Trade Unionists and Fabians to the devil, and I tell them that I disagree with them. Hence much trouble and misunderstanding. After all there are ever so many sections among the Anarchists. There are the Anarchists who denounce the blackleg (I am the blackleg this time!) and the Anarchists who cherish and embrace the blackleg; then there are the Academic Anarchists (as Cregghe calls them), and the Tarnation Anarchists, and the Bloody Anarchists the real B. A.'s of whom I suppose Cregghe is one. I take it we have all our work to do in our own time. For goodness sake let us do it without so much jaw!

ED. CARPENTER.

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

## FRANCE.

The group "Initiative individuelle" of Paris who are in regular correspondence with the same French group at the Autonomie here, after reading the objections of some speakers to physical force, on the 11th of November at South Place Institute, remark that it is time to prevent these milk and water orators speaking in the name of Anarchy if we do not wish to fall into a greater slumber than we are already.

The letter goes on to state that it must be left to the individual to judge whether the revolution is not upon him already, and all those who suffer know it. Knowing, or rather, feeling this, he will come to the conclusion that the existence of one Anarchist has more value than a thousand bourgeois and he will not hesitate in stopping trains and plundering the wealthy passengers of their money, to carry on propaganda by deed, as Comrades Pini, Duval and Reinsdorf understood it. Either society is right and we must submit to its laws, or it is wrong and in that case let us fight it, not with manifestoes and songs, but with anything, the individual may think best to strike terror in the brains and bodies of the usurpers of our freedom. [Letter from Paris.] A. C.

## SPAIN.

This is worth reading.

In Arenys de Mar the hatters went on strike, one of the firms, Puig and Company known as a sweating den, would not even listen to the demands of the men, hearing this, the men went back into their den, but only to destroy machinery and materials belonging to their master after which most of them left the town.

Out of the 25 Comrades arrested in Cadiz for throwing a bomb on the 1st of May, nine have been sentenced to imprisonment varying from 3 months to 4 years. No voice speaks so loud as dynamite and we are glad to see that it is getting into use all over the place. A. C.

Good news! We hear that not less than 35,000 soldiers have deserted the ranks of the German army last year. This is an official statement, and the figures speak for themselves, and if we consider that 20 years ago the number of deserters was under 10,000 we may say that the sacred respect for patriotism is going to the dogs.

Here you have thousands of workers that have understood that the army is a curse, a gang of murderers to shoot the workers in order that the parasites may live in idleness and debauchery. Our circulars to the army have made good work indeed. A. C.

## BULGARIA.

A political agent of M. Stambouloff, the Bulgarian Premier, named Spiro Kostoff, was fired at three times in the streets of Belgrade on November 22 by a man who is supposed to be a Bulgarian refugee.

Details are given by the Bosnian papers of the strange career of a woman named Mila who has been sentenced to death by the district court of Pozarevac, in Servia. This woman has far ten years been the terror of North Eastern Servia. In 1881 a prize of two hundred ducats was offered for her capture; two years later five hundred was offered, and in 1890 the promised reward was increased to a thousand ducats. She had a band of devoted Haiducks with whom she committed her depredations. She never went about otherwise than in man's dress, with all her weapons in her belt and a rifle over her shoulder. Young, handsome, and a crack shot, she was the beau ideal of her band. She had a lover named Petrovitch, who fell ill some time ago, and whom she nursed with devotion in a cave on the Roumanian frontier. Her people told her in good time that she was watched and must fly for safety, but she refused to abandon her sick lover. After a battle with the gendarmes, two of whom she killed, she was captured. In the court she spoke for over an hour in her defence, and when sentence was pronounced listened to it with stolid indifference. N. HOWARD.

## AMERICA.

A meeting of the National Convention of Tailors, held in Boston, U. S. A. declared that the Hirsch Fund would be a certain cause of sweating in the Tailoring trade, because the directors of the fund were paying master workmen for instructing new-comers at the rate of twenty dollars for each arrival, thus flooding the market with workmen. N. HOWARD.

## SOUTH AMERICA.

South America for ever!—No sooner is there one revolution over, than another appears to the world. On Sunday night, the 10th of November, a revolt broke out in Monte Video, but as usual it was nipped in the bud. But when it was a bourgeois revolution and therefore no one will be hanged.

Dictator Latorre had been kicked down some time ago and now the priests wanted to kick him up again, and gave their money freely, but without avail, their prayers to heaven were of no use and they will have to begin again. Now they say their God to hell may fly! Poor Good! he will soon be boycotted all over the place. A. C.

## REPORT.

## MANCHESTER.

WE have held some excellent meetings during the past month. We have had quite a boom at our Chicago Celebrations. Though we were too poor to take a hall, we held three very successful meetings and made a record sale of "Chicago Speeches" selling 54 copies. Good sale of Commonweal and Freedom at our meetings.

## NOTICES.

## LONDON.

*Socialist Co-operative Federation* 7 Lamb's Conduit Street W.C. Lectures every Sunday evening, at 8 o'clock  
*Club Autonomie*.—6, Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road. Young Anarchists meet every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.  
*International Club*.—40, Berner Street, Commercial Road, E. Discussion Class every Tuesday evening at 8.30.  
*South London*.—Socialist Society, 149, Manor Place, S.E. All communications should be addressed to F. A. Fox, Secretary.  
*Forwards Club*.—Charles Square, Hoxton. "The Commonweal Group" meets every Wednesday at 8 sharp, for business and discussion all comrades are asked to turn up. D. J. Nicoll, Secretary.  
*Mantle Cutters and Pressers Union*.—Falcon Hotel, Falcon Square. Business meetings every Monday at 8 p. m. H. Green, Secretary; D. Morgan, Treasurer. Members please make this known.

## PROVINCES.

*Aberdeen*.—Revolutionary Socialist Federation. Meetings are held in Oddfellows Small Hall, Crooked Lane, on Tuesday evenings at 8.  
*Dundee*.—Anarchist-Communist Group. For information apply to Wm. Reekie, 15 Ann Street.  
*Edinburgh*.—Scottish Socialist Federation. Club Rooms, 333 High Street, Edinburgh. J. Pearson, Secretary.  
*Glasgow*.—The Socialist League meets in the Hall 20 Adelphi Street, S. S., every alternate Friday evening at 8 p. m. Lectures and Discussions.—French Class every Wednesday evening at 8.30 in 105 London Street. Fee (voluntary) to be devoted to the Anarchist School.  
*Hull*.—Club Liberty, 1 Beets Court, Blanket Row.  
*Leeds*.—Socialist League Club, 1 Clarendon Buildings and Front Row, Victoria Road. Open every evening. Business meeting Fridays at 8.—International Educational Club, near St. James's Hall, York Street. Open every evening. Lectures every Saturday at 4. All kinds of Socialist literature for sale at both clubs.  
*Leicester*.—Room No. 7, Co-operative Hall, High Street. Members meet on Friday at 8 p. m. Lecture in the Spiritualist Hall, Silver Street, every Sunday at 6.30.  
*Leytonstone*.—Anarchist-Communist Group meets at Gouldings, 2 St. Georges Villas, Montague Road, every Sunday at 8 p. m. Green, every Sunday at 7.30.  
*Manchester*.—International Club, 25, Bury New Road, Strangeways. Open every evening. Weekly meeting on Tuesdays at 8.  
*Newcastle*.—Anarchist-Communist Group. Open-air meetings every Sunday morning on the Quay. Discussion every Monday at 8.30 p. m. in Lockhart's Cocoa Rooms, Bigg Market.  
*Nottingham*.—Socialist Club, Woodland Place, Upper Parliament Street. Club contribution, 1d. per week; Dancing every Wednesday, 8 till 10.30—fee 3d.  
*Norwich*.—Members' meeting held every Tuesday at 8.30, at 65, Pitt Street.  
*Oxford*.—Temperance Hall, 25½ Pembroke Street. First Friday in every month, at 8.30 p. m.  
*Sheffield*.—Socialist Club, 47 Westbar Green. French Class, Tuesday at 8.30. Discussion Class, Wednesday at 8.30.  
*Walsall*.—Socialist Club, 18 Goodall Street, Walsall. Meetings every night.  
*Yarmouth*.—Socialist League Club, 56 Row, Market Place. Open every evening Business Meeting, Tuesday at 8. Singing Practice, Wednesday at 8.30. Discussion Class, Thursday at 8.30. Elocution Class, Friday at 8.30.

## OPEN-AIR PROPAGANDA.

*London*.—Sunday: Regent's Park and Tottenham at 11.30; Hyde Park and Victoria Park at 3.30. Walworth at 7.30 Saturday Hyde Park at 7.30 Thursdays; Hoxton Church at 8.15  
*Aberdeen*.—Sunday: Castle Street, at 6.45 p. m.  
*Edinburgh*.—Sunday: Leith Links at 2; Meadows at 6.  
*Glasgow*.—Sunday evening, Parkhead Cross and St. George's Cross at 5 p. m.  
*Leeds*.—Sunday: Market Gates, Kirkgate, at 11.30 a. m. and 7 p. m.  
*Leicester*.—Sunday: Russell Square, at 10.45 a. m., Market Place at 6.15, and Humberstone Gate at 8 p. m.  
*Liverpool*.—Landing Stage, Sundays at 11.30 a. m. and 3 p. m.  
*Manchester*.—Sunday: Phillips Park Gates, at 11.30; Stevenson Square, at 3.  
*Nottingham*.—Sunday: Sneyton Market, at 11 a. m.; Great Market, at 7 p. m.  
*Norwich*.—Saturday: Haymarket, at 8. Sunday: Market Place at 11, 3, and 7.30.  
*Sheffield*.—Sunday: Monolith, Fargate, at 11.30; West Bar, at 11.30; Newhall Road, Attercliffe, at 11.30; Grimsthorpe, at 11.30; Rotherham, at 3; Woodhouse, at 3; West Bar, at 8; Attercliffe Road, at 8.  
*Yarmouth*.—Sunday: Priory Plain, at 11; Fish Wharf, at 3; Hall Quay, at 7.

OWING to the success of our last Distribution of Prizes we have decided to again give our Comrades and Friends an opportunity of getting valuable Books and Pamphlets the price of which keep many of them out of their hands. Therefore a Distribution will take place on Christ mas Eve, of 30£ worth of Books at 8.30 at the Forwards Club, Charles Square, Hoxton. Among the Prizes will be found the following: 20 Elements of Social Science, neatly bound.—12 News from Nowhere, neatly bound.—12 News from Nowhere, paper.—12 Vols. Bound Commonweals.—100 Copies Essay on Love and Marriage, paper.—100 Labor Day, Engraving by W. Crane.—100 Engraving of Mrs. Parsons.—100 Engraving "Vive la Commune," by W. Crane.—100 Utopia by Petzler.—100 Sets of 6 Pamphlets, Socialist and Freethought.—And many others.—Compleat list in future numbers. Secretaries of Socialist and Anarchist groups please note and send.