

MISSOURI SOCIALIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ST. LOUIS.

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Number 19.

Put Morgan to Work

An Interview With Prof. Geo. D. Herron.

The following extracts are taken from an interview with Prof. George D. Herron taken by Kate Carey for the Post-Dispatch:

"But what would you do with Mr. Morgan?" I asked.

"Put him to work," replied Professor Herron promptly. His voice was without emotion. Not so much as a ghost of a smile disturbed the serenity of his features.

"But he does work."

"He works for Mr. Morgan. I would put him to work for society."

"But suppose—"

"It is not until we learn to convert all energy into social service that we shall have an ideal state of society."

"But suppose Mr. Morgan was indifferent to the common good? Suppose, in a word, that he objected to working for anybody but Morgan?"

"Then the commonwealth would have to dispense with his services. But I have too much faith in human nature to believe that he or any other man would remain unresponsive to the new order, once established. He is simply the product of a vicious system."

"My imagination was constructing diverting pictures of Mr. Morgan being put to work." Also, Mr. Sage and a few other millionaires, including Mr. Rockefeller, which last name reminded me of something else.

"Have you read Mr. Rockefeller's remarks to his son's Bible class that the standard Oil Company has paid, in lump sum, nearly \$700,000,000 in thirty years, which Mr. Rockefeller considered the best kind of giving."

"Mr. Rockefeller neglects to explain," said Professor Herron, "by what alchemy he created deposits of oil under the mountains of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, or if he did not create them, by what right they became his property. In the absence of such an explanation the only comment necessary is that in so far as his money is paid to actual producers and distributors of oil, it is not 'given,' but is returned to those to whom it actually belongs."

"Mr. Rockefeller, by posing as a philanthropist on the strength of paying the market rate of wages—which means the lowest wages that men can be induced to work for—deserves thanks for furnishing such an instructive commentary on our industrial system."

"What is the greatest national sin of America?"

"The private ownership of the means and sources of production. Private ownership of the sources and soils of wealth is private ownership of souls and bodies."

"Do you think there will be a revolution in America?"

"Yes, but it will not necessarily be a violent one, but whether peacefully or not, there will be a Socialist revolution."

"How do you regard the Christian Church?"

"It is not Christian at all. In a short time there will be no church. As it stands it is one of the chief obstructions to the emancipation of mankind from all the evils of the present social system."

"Are you opposed to religion, then?"

"No, indeed; religion must be at the base of all sincere effort to regenerate the social system. As Amiel says: When Christianity has passed away the religion of Jesus will in all probability survive."

"The kingdom of Heaven that Jesus preached was a kingdom of Heaven on earth—the goal of all Socialist endeavor."

"Under a Socialist system, would the individual enjoy more freedom than he does now?"

"Eventually, yes. But not at first, perhaps. It would take time to adjust society to new conditions."

"For instance, what would be the preliminary steps?"

"To pave the way for any effective social change, the people must reclaim the power which they have ignorantly surrendered to their self-styled representatives. They must get possession of the powers of government, in order to initiate the co-operative commonwealth. Then the way would be clear for a peaceful revolution, which would be more in the nature of evolution."

"But while we wait the capitalists are forging new fetters for mankind, and the time arrives when the opportunity for peaceful revolt will be gone."

"And then?"

"There will be no help for it. Revolution there must be of one kind or the other. If it may not be peaceful, it cannot escape being a universal French revolution."

"What are your views on machinery?"

"Machinery? Under just economic conditions we cannot have too much of it. In the service of society, instead of the capitalist class, machinery would lighten the work, shorten hours and enable the working class to enjoy those things that alone make life worth living. Under our present system, all the advantages arising from the invention of labor-saving machinery are seized by the capitalist class, and the servitude of the worker is more complete than ever."

"Under a Socialist system, then, there would be shorter hours of work?"

"Yes, and longer hours of healthful

recreation and social intercourse and the pursuit of knowledge and all that goes to lift man above the brutes. There would be no class but a working class."

"Would there be any place for lawyers in your social system?"

"No."

"Or stockholders?"

"No, no parasites of any kind—no lawyers, no clergymen, no brokers, no gamblers in the economic necessities of life."

"Before Socialism can be established, will it not be necessary to educate the people to higher ideals?"

"It will be necessary to educate them in actual facts and forces. Socialists' ideals spring out of actual work and struggle for life, and nothing will prepare people for the responsibilities of Socialism save actual experience in Socialism. Liberty alone prepares for liberty."

Florida unionists have organized a State Federation of Labor.

You can hasten the spread of Socialism by spreading literature.

Let every member be at the next meeting of his ward branch.

Next week we will publish a list of books bearing on Socialism, that can be obtained from the Public Library of this city.

If you don't like to hear us talk about the class struggle just light in and help us do away with the existence of classes.

There are two classes in this and other civilized countries—the class who own the means of production and the class who do not; and the latter class must sell their labor power in the market to the former class for what it will bring. It is this that makes the one class slaves and the other class masters.

Chauncey Depew spoke before the Montauk club recently, and told his wealthy hearers that the rich people in this country are doing more to promote Socialism than any other agency because they are so "exclusive" and refuse to admit people into their social circles who have intellect but no money. You see, when the rich snub the intellectuals, the intellectuals begin to do some thinking along a new line, and they soon discover that the snub is based on dollars, and following up this line of thought they discover that the dollars which snubbed them were taken from the working class. The rich having ruled them out of their class the intellectuals take up the battles of the working class and soon become Socialists. Chauncey gave them a mighty straight tip that time, but the chances are they won't catch on.

There is work cut out for the Socialists of St. Louis to do. We have before us a field ripe for the harvest of Socialism. If we are active, if we push our organization work rapidly and enthusiastically, we can place the party on a footing in this city of which we can be proud. The city organizer, Comrade Wm. H. Baird, is now completing plans for the thorough organization of all wards. He has the assistance of several volunteers, and nothing will be left undone to get the entire organization in good working order within a few weeks. Every comrade should take a hand in this work. The one thing most essential is regular attendance at the meetings. He who knows the cause and the remedy for the present social conditions is charged with the duty of spreading the truth and is deserving of severe censure if he fails to do so. No member is justified in neglecting the meetings.

Work to Do.

BOOMERANGS.

You consider Socialism a dream, so you vote to continue the present nightmare.

You are afraid a man would not work under Socialism, so you vote to let him be worked by the present system.

You think that Socialism, though heavenly, is a long way off, so you vote for something which, though hellish, is near.

You fear the Socialists intend to "divide up," so you vote to let the capitalists do the dividing.

You think Socialism is a foreign idea, so you vote to continue the American brand of wage-slavery.

You believe in the survival of the fittest, but you wish to prolong the existence of the social system that is most unfit.

You praise Carnegie for giving libraries to the poor, but you shut your eyes when the poor give Carnegie three-fourths of what they produce.

You call Socialism an experiment that might possibly fail, you don't realize that capitalism is no longer an experiment, but a failure.

You want to know how genius will be rewarded under Socialism, you probably don't know that under the present system Milton received \$25 for writing "Paradise Lost."

Order a hundred extra of next week's issue. Will be a corker.

With but few exceptions, who but the laborer himself has ever dared to raise his voice in behalf of the workers? Have we not seen Homestead? Have we not seen Pana? Have we not seen Hazleton? Have we not had the massacre of June 10? Has not even capitalist press told us that the mill-bondage of New England is worse than the chattel slavery of the south? Do we not know that Siberian horrors pale into insignificance beside the outrages of Coeur d'Alene? Were not the miners of Shoshone county forced to sign away their rights as freemen and to renounce all allegiance to their trade unions? Yet what have the well-fed and well-groomed done in the midst of all this save to avert their eyes from scenes that shocked their nerves but missed their hearts and to close their nostrils to the stench of a decaying republic? Workingmen, there is no power on earth that will bring to you the liberty and the comforts of life to which you are entitled except your own voices, your own strength, your own votes.

Thoughts.

BY M. BALLARD DUNN.

The formation of trusts goes merrily on and along with it goes the breaking up of the middle class and their wholesale tumble into the working class. At the present rate how long will it take before there is only the working class and the capitalist class? Who then will say there is no class struggle? The struggle exists just the same today, only we don't all see it. But the trust is doing the work nicely.

The ignorant workingman believes that if it were not for the capitalist, "who gives him employment," that he would starve to death. Let us ask him what it is that enables the capitalist to "give" him employment, as he states it. The answer plainly is, that the capitalist owns the tools, and that he must have tools with which to work. Well, if the tools are all your own, then why not own them yourself and do away with the capitalist who so kindly "gives" you employment? True, you cannot work without tools, but you can own the tools. If you make up your mind to do so, vote for Socialism.

The Social Democratic Party is only a working class party and it represents only the interests of the working class, not "all the people," as some politicians would have you believe because "all the people" includes the capitalist class, and if the Social Democratic Party represents the working class it cannot represent the interests of any other class, because all other class interests are opposed to the working class interests and it is impossible to represent opposing interests and be true to either. It is like the old fable which says, "a man who sits between two stools will fall to the ground."

Workingmen of all countries unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to gain. Think this sentence over, workingmen. Don't you think it's about straight? Suppose you voted for Socialism tomorrow, even at the worst, you couldn't be any worse off than you are now, and it offers you "a world." Surely you cannot be worse off if you own your tools than if some one else owns them. Unite, that is the way is offered you, that is the only way to accomplish your freedom; no one else can do it or will do it for you. Own your tools; that is what you must do; that is Socialism, and it can come only through your efforts and your work.

The working class get their wages when they go to the grocery store to buy. The money they receive does not represent their wages. It is necessary that all workingmen should forget the money paid them and look at the food, clothing, etc., which they purchased with that money. They make ten pairs of shoes a day. Can they buy ten pairs of shoes with the money which is given them? If they can buy one they are lucky. They produce suits of clothes. Can they buy them all with the money they receive? No, and the portion they can buy represents their wages. Socialism promises not wages, not a portion, but all that is produced by labor.

When a Socialist speaks of a capitalist class, he does not mean any particular individual or set of individuals of capitalists. He does not mean simply Morgan, Rockefeller or Carnegie, banker or trust magnate, but he means the entire capitalist class, both large and small. A capitalist, in that sense, is any one who reaps a profit out of labor of another. In other words, if one man employs another to work for him at a certain wage he is a capitalist, because he takes all that is produced by that man except enough to enable him to live. Whether that portion is large or small, whether it comes as the result of the employment of one man or many men, whether he is employed by one man or by a corporation, that portion is profit, and profit-getters are capitalists. The interest of the working class is opposed to the profit-taker, because profits are a portion of the product of labor. Therefore, the interest of the working class is opposed to the interest of all capitalists, whether large or small, and they should fight their battles accordingly.

Extra copies of next week's issue will stir them up.

Organizer Morgan's Work

A Letter From J. P. M.'s Shadow on the Growth of the Trusts.

Dear Comrades: You need not imagine that you are the only men on the earth who are doing anything for Socialism. Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, to whom I am very much attached, is doing a few things that beats National Organizer Vall by a mile. If Socialism doesn't come within the next ten years it will not be his fault. A few years ago whenever you said anything about workmen owning and operating all the industries themselves some chump was sure to ask you how it was possible to even manage all these industries under one head. He doesn't ask any such fool questions now, for the simple reason that he doesn't want to go to the insane asylum. Mr. Morgan is doing his work up in fine style, and the way he is building up that international trust is defensible to behold. We gave them quite a scare when we landed on this side of the pond and gobbled up a few things. First we took in that steamship line. That made the Britishers gasp. Then we jumped over to the continent and spent a few days arranging for concessions on all the principal canals of Europe so that we can deliver the steel right at their doors. At Paris we had a conference with Andy Carnegie. Andy told the reporters that this steel trust was just a little beginning, and that we would soon have everything well organized into one big trust. I started to ask the reporter whether he saw Socialism coming or not, but Pierpont walked away just then, and being his shadow, I had to follow him, much to my regret, for since we got into this thing on such a big scale, I can't help doing a little propaganda work myself once in a while. I have such a strong sympathy for Socialism because like me it is bound to follow Morgan.

You probably noticed that we did a little business in the watch line by consolidating the Waltham, Elgin and other watch companies. This was done according to instructions we left when we started on this journey. I told Morgan he must be trying to get the whole world "on tick," but he didn't appreciate the joke.

I see that the assistant organizers at home are doing good work. The American Cigar Company will give the unions something to think about. The "Shovels and Spades" combine will make the proletariat dig for a living; but that five-million-dollar music combine will make them sing a new tune. The lead combine is just in time, for they will need lots of lead for the workingmen who go on strike this summer. The dredging trust being arranged by one of the boys is indispensable, and I am glad to hear its consummation is now assured. I am also glad to learn that the telegraph companies are getting together. These tactical differences among the forces of production can only retard progress, and the sooner they are settled the better. The cereal trust is no doubt destined to be a corker, and I'll wager there are no hayseeds in it.

I am rather rushed just now, as we have several schemes on foot, so can't write more, but will keep you posted from time to time. Keep up your courage. I know it's hard work to wake up the workingmen, but when we come back we'll open their eyes with a new deal that we have been thinking over. Pierpont doesn't agree with me in all my radical views, but then he is too engrossed in his work to think of what is to follow the trusts, while I, having nothing to do but follow him about, am at leisure to speculate on all these things. Yours fraternally,

MORGAN'S SHADOW.

Attack on Comrade Herron.

The capitalist press of America has broken its record for falsehood, garbling of facts, and general maliciousness in its recent attacks upon Comrade George D. Herron with reference to his personal affairs. When Comrade Herron delivered his address in this city last November, the five daily papers of St. Louis gave scanty notice to his remarks. The reason for this was obvious. Comrade Herron is advocating a social system entirely opposed to the interests of the owners of these papers. It was to be expected that they would ignore him.

But when an opportunity presented itself for an attack upon him in regard to his domestic affairs, a matter in which people readily jump to false conclusions, every daily paper in the city eagerly joined in the slanderous work and filled its columns with the mouthings of sleek, hypocritical tools of capitalism that pretend to follow in the footsteps of him who bade men of their ilk to throw the first stone.

Although the attack upon Comrade Herron is unparalleled in persistence, he has resolutely refused to say a word concerning the topic under discussion. In this he has acted wisely. All that he could say would not prevent the scandal-mongering press from distorting the truth in such a way as to discredit him in the eyes of the people, nor is any defense by him necessary to increase the confidence that his comrades repose in him.

It is noteworthy that the frenzied efforts of the entire capitalist press of the country has resulted in finding nothing more derogatory to his character than the hysterical utterances of a well-paid clergyman of New York who preaches soft-toned sermons to a congregation, none of whom, according to the one he calls Master, could enter the Kingdom of Heaven until a camel has performed the impossible

feat of passing through the eye of a needle.

Such work is to be expected more and more as the Socialist movement of America grows. While occasionally causing temporary drawbacks it will in the end result only in the working class fully realizing that the entire capitalist press, under whatever guise, is their enemy, and not to be trusted for a moment.

A Single Tax Notion.

"Justice," a single tax paper of Delaware, says:

"Under free conditions the present day factory would disappear along with the poorhouse and the penitentiary. So would any 'wage system' which implied inferiority. But the Socialist remedy for the factory system is to have the government run them and pay the wages. I beg to be excused. The government as a master, government officials as masters individuals as masters; the change of masters is not worth fighting for."

What a horrible conception of Socialism the editor of that paper must have. He evidently has some vague notion of a kind of state socialism wherein some sort of a monster, called "government," and entirely separate and distinct from the people, would direct the industries, pocket the profits, and act in every way just like our present masters. Well, brother, that is not what we are advocating. As a last resort, when he sees the tidal wave of Socialist sentiment sweeping over the land the capitalist will graciously offer us public ownership of industries through his government—the kind we now have. But that is not the kind of a government we propose to have under Socialism. We propose that government shall be absolutely under the direct control of the people, by means of the initiative and referendum and the imperative mandate.

If the editor of Justice should go out into the wilderness and start up a little industry in partnership with four other men they would have rules and regulations to govern their relations, and that would be government so far as those five men were concerned. Then if he should go into partnership with seventy million other people he certainly could not object to having rules and regulations—government—to direct the work of all parties concerned.

The Seeds Taking Root.

Rev. Scudder is pastor of the Jersey City Church, Baltimore, Md., and a prominent minister in the Congressional ranks. In an address a short time ago before an association of that institution, he made the following terse remarks, which it would be well for others to consider carefully:

"The motto of the American people during the nineteenth century was wealth. The alibi of the twentieth century will be commonwealth."

"To-day labor reads and thinks for itself, and it begins to show remarkable unanimity of opinion. It sees the swift centralization of wealth and the development of an industrial oligarchy. Civilization has degenerated into a new form of feudalism, in which the great employer is the lord and employee are forced to be vassals—on one side monetary giants, on the other industrial dwarfs. The lion's share of the profits of industry goes to the rich, and the poor must take whatever wage the price of labor brings in the open market."

"When workingmen see a Rockefeller, whose daily income is \$5,000 more than the annual salary of the President of the United States, and poor women making knee pants for 16 cents a dozen and children working 12 hours a day for \$1 a week; when they see a multimillionaire building a \$600,000 stable for his horses, and see two-thirds of all the human beings in New York in hovels, where the poor pay larger rent than the rich per cubic foot of space and air; when they see prosperous concerns paying 5 per cent dividends a month and paying workingmen 90 cents a day—no wonder they feel as if they somehow had been deceived. They have plenty of time for thinking, and the seed of discontent in the seeds of Socialism take root."

Jottings.

—Jingoism built from national conceit and leads to wholesale murder.

—The difference between highwayman and the captain of industry is just this: In exploiting mankind the former generally draws the line at children.

—You could hardly persuade a leaf on a branch that its welfare will increase with the mutilation of the other branches of the common parent. But you can a patriot.

—It is only fair that the Russian Church should refuse Tolstoi a Christian burial, for he would do the same if he had the burying of the Russian Church.

—When, in 1875, the two heretofore warring factions of the German Social Democracy amalgamated, they soon proved to the entire satisfaction of the Man of Blood and Iron—that in union there is strength.

W. WINCHEVSKY.

The Illinois Central Railroad Co. proposes to pension its employees. Oh, how good and kind the dear capitalists are! What would we do if there was no one to take the lion's share of the products of our toil during the years that we are able to work and then in our old age when we can no longer toil give us back a wee mite of what they have taken?

Combination

Leaders' Union

HOLDS ANOTHER SESSION

From Cleveland Citizen.

Combination Leaders' Union to order, and roll call showed all officers present except Business Agent Morgan, who had gone to England to adjust some matters. Minutes approved as read. Credentials received from the Woodmen Leg Trust, Umbrella Rib Trust and Balloon Trust and delegates obligated. Credentials of newly-organized Electric Light and Heat Trust were, upon protest, returned because it is a dual body.

Delegate H. C. Frick, business agent pro tem., reported that the telephone local are forming a big national union; that the agricultural implement manufacturers are being combined to relieve the burdens of the farmers in carrying too much money around; that the newly-formed tinware trust will be attached to the tin can combine, and requested that a boycott be placed on the new million-dollar independent tin can concern; that the Eastern and Western knit goods combines are being united, a number of other unions are being formed or are absorbing dual organizations. Request relative to dual tin can trust granted.

Communication from Business Agent Morgan, dated London, received stating that he was graciously received by Bro. Edward, of the Rulers' Union, and had promised assistance in the South African matter in return for aid in locating the common stock of the billion-dollar baby union. He had also incidentally picked up the Leyden Co., which controls the largest tonnage of ships in the world, and expected to secure the affiliation of the German iron and steel masters.

A request was received from Champion Jeffries requesting that the business agent be instructed to form a Pugnists Union, so that the business may be placed on a paying basis, as at present there were too many cheap "pugs" disgracing the profession by scabbing it. Granted.

Business Agent Hanna, of the Politicians' Union, wrote expressing thanks to Delegates Vanderbilt, Gould and other brothers for donating a train to haul President McKinley through the South and West, and promising in return to grant any favor asked. (Appause.)

Czar Nicholas, of the Rulers' Union, wrote that he is having an exciting time, as there is a big faction in his domain who wish to oust him from his job, but that he refuses to allow the matter to come to a vote, as it is unconstitutional. On motion vote of sympathy was sent.

Roll call was responded to as follows:

American Biscuit Trust—Request that the best people everywhere be people and cake parties for charity's sake, so that the poor can buy bread. Also that flour combine lower prices, as wheat is raised for 3½ cents a bushel on-bonanza farms.

Billion-Dollar Trust—Business good. Absorbed several more enterprises. Had trouble with iron and steel workers, but they promised to be good until July.

Butchers' Combine—Skinning plenty of cattle—also some of the dear people.

Cigar Trust—Absorbing more plants and will raise capital to sixty millions.

Dry Goods Trust—Moving along nicely. Some small one-line concerns want to come into the union, but they are incompetent and weaklings and must go.

Fish Trust—Suckers still plentiful. Voted in favor of single tax on land.

Hard Coal Trust—Union nearly complete. Will save twenty million dollars a year by inaugurating a new system. Are making the miners strike locally so that their demand to be recognized won't have to be granted next year.

Leg Trust—Organized with five million capital and will control artificial limb business. Leg pulling has begun.

Milling Combine—Flour cannot be cheapened for fear of encouraging gluttenous and destroying incentives. Hungry people work cheaper and harder than when they are satiated and fat.

National Balloon Trust—Nearly all aeronauts in line and control valuable patents. Favor the single tax system.

Railroad Combine—Pennsylvania Co. claims to own 23 streets in Cleveland. Request that business agent demand that Cleveland be moved to Berea. Granted.

Rubber Trust—Business good. Thank business agent for compelling Weather Bureau to send recent big storm.

Standard Oil—Working the workingmen steadily and getting into Texas.

Umbrella Rib Trust—Started with a million capital and expect to control everything in the rib line.

Under new business, Manager Schwab, of the billion-dollar union, argued that wages of superintendents should be included in all statistics of wages paid, which would materially increase the averages. Thus, while he received one million dollars a year, he was satisfied to have the figures cut down—in the averaging business—and to have wages of employees raised, also in the averaging column. This system would make the poorest paid workers extremely happy.

After some discussion, the matter was referred to the locals with the recommendation that everything be done to swell the averages in the wage column.

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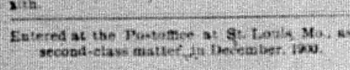
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EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: Communications must reach the office by Monday evening preceding the issue in which they are to appear.

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

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

Entered at the Postoffice at St. Louis, Mo., as second-class matter, in December, 1900.



Dear Comrades: Our Missouri Socialist has now been running sixteen weeks, and the cost of printing it has been borne by a few members whose names appear on the guarantee list.

These members cannot and you should not expect them to bear all, in fact, to be plain, we must have the assistance of all our members and of all Socialists interested in the welfare of this paper if its publication is to continue.

It is your paper and devoted to your interests, and this call should meet with your permanent aid until the renewal of its six months' subscriptions, which will be due in a few weeks. Send your contributions to E. Val Putnam, managing editor, 23 North Fourth street, WM. H. BAIRD, Chairman.

M. BALLARD DUNN, C. R. DAVIS, R. MURPHY, LOUIS KOBER, Board of Directors.

Next week's issue will contain a number of good things. You had better order a hundred extra for fifty cents.

Weekly Guarantee List.

The following comrades have determined to secure several thousand subscribers to Missouri Socialist before next January, and they have therefore agreed to purchase subscription cards to the amount set opposite their respective names every week until further notice. Every Socialist is expected to join in this effort to make our paper an unprecedented success. Send in your name:

- M. Ballard Dunn \$ 2.00
- W. H. Baird 1.00
- Richard Murphy 1.00
- Louis Kober 1.00
- M. Caffery .50
- Chas. Hager .25
- A. Winkler .25
- Wm. Eckart .25
- H. P. Nelson .50
- W. C. W. 1.00
- W. H. Scott .25
- J. H. Buttrick .25
- F. J. Commes .25
- Louis Toehlich .50
- E. D. Gomes .25
- Louis Meyer .25
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- Ans. Zimmerman .25
- W. Struckhoff .50
- C. P. O'Hare 2.00
- C. H. Meyer .50
- Wm. DeJen .25
- C. Schaeffer .50
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- J. W. Evans 1.00
- H. R. Pernam .50
- Wm. M. Brandt .50
- E. H. Hellman .25
- E. H. Mueller .25
- H. Benner .50
- John A. Kreis .25
- John P. Bergheim .50
- H. Slikerman .50
- Wm. Ruesche .50
- J. P. Larkin .25
- J. P. Larkin .25
- C. A. Nelson .25
- Frederick Spalt .25
- N. S. Frankel .25
- John U. Lyons 1.00
- A. Stone .25
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- Proletarian 2.50
- Henry Platzmeyer .25
- Wm. Stalheisch .25
- H. Klaus .25
- F. Tombridge 1.00
- Wm. Kaiser .25
- Wm. Voegel .25
- Schubert .25

The Fear of Want.

Heaven deserves our gratitude for anything we should thank God for the spirit of dissatisfaction that is working among the people. Can anyone who will take an unprejudiced view of the conditions which prevail, wonder that such is the case? Whether or no, it is a fact that the poor are growing more impoverished. It is the easiest thing in the world to show that, when we take the wonderfully increased facilities for production into consideration, the workers never received so small a proportion of the results of their toil as they do to-day.

With the rapid concentration of capital in gigantic corporations, it yearly becomes easier for trust barons to command labor at any wages they choose to give, and to set the price of com-

modities at any price which avarice may determine. A comparatively small number of men own the means of production; therefore, the mass of the people must humbly petition those for the privilege of living.

Men and women everywhere are haunted with the fear of want. It is said that "Poverty is no crime." Poverty is a crime, it is the stupendous wickedness of our modern society. In this country, where nature is so bounteous and our means of production so ample, for men to be anxious in regard to the necessities of life is both an absurdity and a libel against the Creator.

Picnic and Excursion.

The Central Committee has engaged Rinkel's Grove for a picnic, to be held on July 4. Details are not yet arranged, but the Committee on Arrangements has recommended that no admission be charged, depending on the returns from the refreshment stands, etc., to pay expenses. It is hoped to realize a neat sum to replenish the party treasury. The picnic will be pushed in connection with the excursion, being arranged by the publishers of the Arbeiter Zeitung for July 14. As no admission will be charged to the picnic on the 4th, it is believed that the two affairs so close together, will not interfere with one another, but will, instead, be all the more successful.

The Socialist Is Astir.

Says the Lowell (Mass.) Daily News: "The Socialists in Lowell are getting ready for an earnest campaign to bring about a social revolution. They are encouraged by the success of Socialism in Haverhill and Brockton, and they say that 'nowhere' does their cause lose ground. In all the combinations of capital they see arguments for Socialism and they promise that ideal Socialism will wipe out all the ills humanity now groans under. If they could put their plan in operation they could benefit 55 per cent of humanity and the other 45 per cent would get all that they are rightly entitled to. The workers are ready to hear the case the Socialists have to present. When mills can be suddenly shut down and thousands put out to go hungry or die, for all the rich care, at least those who are idle in the streets will listen to the remedy proposed by the Socialist. He is a man of peace, the Socialist, and his sole idea is to benefit his fellows and himself as well. He respectfully asks a hearing, and he should have a respectful hearing."

Isn't It Funny?

That the men who dig the coal from the earth have hard work keeping warm in winter?

That the men who make all the shoes are poorly shod?

That the cotton and woolen and silk mill hands who make fine fabrics are always cheaply dressed?

That the men who build palaces live in hovels?

That, in short, the creators of all wealth, the workers, have the least, while those who create nothing have the most?—Southern Socialist.

Socialists should remember that this is a capitalist government, run by capitalists, and that it will take earnest work to make any other kind of government out of it. Voting good men into office will not do it, unless the men so voted for are thorough Socialists. Then in all elections stand squarely by the principles you preach and let your vote be counted those principles. Your neighbor will probably urge you not to throw your vote away when there is so much at stake, but you ought to remember that your hopes of freedom are in forcing the adoption of the co-operative commonwealth, and every vote you give that does not tend toward bringing this about is thrown away.—Oklahoma Socialist.

Thirty-five cents a year in clubs of ten outside of St. Louis.

OUR BOOK LIST.

If you are interested in the study of Socialism and want to learn more about it, send us your order for one or more of the following list of good Socialist books. Don't remain ignorant any longer.

- Principles of Scientific Socialism, Rev. Chas. Vall, paper, \$0.35
- Modern Socialism, Rev. Chas. Vall, paper, .25
- Communist Manifesto, Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, cloth, 25
- The People's Marx, Deville, cloth \$1.50, paper .75
- History of the Commune of 1871, Lissagary, cloth, 1.00
- History of Paris Commune, Benjamin, cloth, 1.50
- Socialism, reply to the Pope, Blatchford, .50
- Mertie England, Blatchford, .10
- Wage-Labor and Capital, Karl Marx, .50
- Woman, and the Social Problem, May Wood Simons, .65
- The Evolution of the Class Struggle, Noyes, .65
- Imprudent Marriages, Blatchford, .65
- Packington, A. M. Simons, .65
- Realism in Literature and Art, Durrow, .65
- Single Tax vs. Socialism, A. M. Simons, .65
- The Man-Under-the-Machine, A. M. Simons, .65
- The Mission of the Working Class, Rev. Chas. Vall, .65
- Morals and Socialism, Chas. H. Kerr, .65
- No Compromise, Wm. Liebknecht, .10
- Socialism, Utopian and Scientific, Engels, .10
- The Trust Question, Rev. Chas. Vall, .65
- Liberty, Debs, .65
- Prison Labor, Debs, .65
- Socialism and Slavery, Hyndman, .65
- Oration on Voltaire, Hugs, .65
- Evolution of Industry, Watkins, .65
- Social Democratic Red Book, Health, .15

MISSOURI SOCIALIST, Room 9, 23 N. 4th St. St. Louis, Mo.



FERDINAND LASSALLE.

Ferdinand Lassalle was born in Breslau, April 11, 1825, of wealthy Jewish parents, and is regarded as the most romantic figure in the annals of Socialism. He was educated at the University of Breslau and developed a powerful intellect. His striking personality and wide knowledge soon attracted attention, and gained for him the friendship of some of the most remarkable men of his time, including Heine, Humboldt and Bismarck, and the latter made him flattering offers to remain a champion of the class from which he sprang, all of which he rejected and fought for the interests of the working class.

Lassalle's share in the revolution of '48 cost him six months' imprisonment. One of the prominent incidents of his

Class Government.

It Will be Impossible Under the Socialist Commonwealth.

Charles C. French, in Haverhill Social-Dem.

If our so-called representative governments be examined from a critical standpoint, it will be at once apparent that they are in fact permanent organizations of the rich to further their own interests and despoil labor of its hard earnings. The truth of the matter is, that we are so depraved by long established wage-slavery that we cannot imagine simple economic administration of public affairs without enormous and cumbersome complications with a police and military force to support them. Blind, indeed, is he who cannot perceive that our state and national governments are mere clubs of capitalists and their well-paid hirelings, legislating for their own profit.

Our legislators may be likened to the robber chiefs of old, who collected tribute from all who wished to travel in safety along the highways. The robbers, however, enforced their demands by threats of violence and risked their lives; but our rulers risk nothing and rob the public by cunningly devised falsehood and circumvention.

I need not tell you how Legislatures are made up and how little they represent the will of the people. We see on every hand how capitalism, and class government is transforming our vast population into slaves and slave owners. It would be difficult to exaggerate either the arrogance or the folly of the privileged upstarts whom capitalism and class government have rapidly brought into existence. Every day we hear of plutocrats, of both sexes, who undo Eastern Nabobs in their lavish profusion and vulgar ostentation. Your daily newspaper informs you that the wedding gown of Miss Somebody cost fifty thousand dollars and Mr. George So and So has bought a fishing-rod for five thousand dollars. The intelligence is also conveyed, through the same channel, that a railroad magnate's second son has ordered a steam yacht which is to cost over a million. On another column you read that Mrs. Naramore, driven insane by poverty, killed her family of six children to prevent them going to the poor-house. In these same newspapers are recorded a series of labor strikes which menace the industrial and social life of the whole nation.

These are the hearts of armies of discontented men, with revolutionary feelings against the privileged and law protected exploiters who devour their earnings and bestow their homes with famine and misery.

Do any of you know a fellow toiler who is satisfied with his lot? If you do, he must be a person much above or much below human nature. I know from personal observation and inquiry that there are very few, if any, operatives who are not painfully doubtful of a permanent means of subsistence. He who lives by his labor trembles lest he lose even the scanty pittance which enables him to exist. I am acquainted with intelligent and well informed workmen who have assured me that, many a time and oft, they cannot sleep at night owing to the long hours of exhausting heat and fatigue to which they have been subjected during the day. There are tens of thousands of people of both sexes who call themselves free, and yet are compelled by dire necessity to give themselves up to drudgery and health destroying conditions, which no Southerner, in days of old, would have imposed upon his slaves. He would have known that such barbarous treatment would have impaired the health and shortened the lives of his human chattels.

Our present circumstances are bad, say the vast majority, "but," they add, "our prospects are much worse. What have we left but hard, unnatural conditions of heavy, unhealthy, brutalizing labor?" To work hard, and yet gain nothing, with an arrogant and unscrupulous plutocracy

preying upon the lives of millions, and bringing upon their plundered slaves the weight of crushing poverty—this is the state of things we have reached to-day.

In spite of pretensions to the contrary, slavery in its most repulsive form exists in full vigor among us, but we do not see it. Custom, sham patriotism, and the suncombe with which the hirelings of capitalism have hypnotized the nation, prevent us from seeing the cruelty and injustice which task-masters and plunderers of all kinds are inflicting upon our fellowmen; just as our ancestors did not perceive any wrong in burning witches, and hanging a famished woman for stealing a loaf of bread.

It is all very well to affirm that the masses of the people are alone responsible for the crying evils of class government. "Why do the working men," it is asked, "send pettifogging, lawyers and degenerate politicians to the Legislature instead of men of their own class, who understand the wants of labor?" This question is easily answered by the fact that comparatively few workmen have leisure to think or reason upon questions which concern their most vital interests. Capitalism not only robs them, but strips them of the brightest qualities of humanity. It is no exaggeration to affirm that its exactions and burdens stupefy men to the level of timid and docile animals.

The foundations of society were never yet shaken as they are to-day. Dangers of the greatest magnitude are looming on the horizon. Armies of idle and desperate men are ripe for any mischief, and incapable of reasoning in consequences. The whole fabric of capitalism, rotten to the core, is tottering to its fall. It is doomed to destruction in the near future. Its infamous existence is an insult and disgrace to humanity. You, naturally, ask how are the people to be delivered from capitalistic bondage. Our Socialist at once answers by the advent of the co-operative Commonwealth now at hand and which simply means Socialism. It is a general name for a series of struggles to accomplish the economic and social deliverance of the working classes. Its intention is to root out capitalism, and introduce a system of industry, carried on co-operatively by workers, jointly controlling the means of production and exchange.

It might be well to note the fact now, for future reference when it becomes unbelievable, that such barbarity existed within a nation calling itself "Christian," that in this year of McKinley, A. D. 1901, the Salvation Army, one of the many similar organizations, finds it necessary to maintain feeding stations to furnish 110,000 means monthly to the destitute, as well as to provide nightly lodgings for 7,200 homeless who are denied the privilege of participating in the beautiful McKinley prosperity with which the country is supposed to be flooded.—Uncle Sam.

SOCIALISM VS. INDIVIDUALISM.

BY REV. CHAS. VALL.

The individualist method of abolishing social evils begins with the individual. The individualist sees that people are actuated by selfish motives, and so concludes that the social evils from which we suffer are due to the "ever selfish human heart." The clergy as a rule belong to this class. They seldom, if ever really inquire as to the cause of selfishness, much less take the time and study necessary to analyze present industrial conditions. They rather fall in with things as they are; that is, they are inclined to accept the present system as final and observing that their precepts are seldom practiced, they usually ascribe the cause to the perversity of human nature. It rarely occurs to a member of this class that there are envying forces which nullify all his efforts. Not being familiar with the economic question, he naturally traces all social evils to a man's selfishness, and his remedy, of course, is to preach and awaken the conscience. This is well as far as it goes, but if sermons were all that is necessary to elevate society, it would have been accomplished long ago. We have had 1,800 years of this method, and it is no wonder that our friends talk of the ever selfish human heart, for their method seems largely ineffective, in even bettering the individual to say nothing about society. The failure of their remedy to abolish social evils ought to suggest to them that there is something lacking in their method, and that possibly by beginning at the other end would be more effective. A man may go to church and listen to a fine discourse on the law of service and be moved to suggest to them that there is something lacking in their method, and that possibly by beginning at the other end of the problem they might create conditions, wherein their preaching be more effective. A man may go to church and listen to a fine discourse on the law of service and be moved to help his fellows, but he goes out into a world of competitive strife and is obliged to take advantage of those he comes in contact with or suffer failure himself.

The fact is, the "ever selfish human heart" is chiefly due to an ever selfish economic system. Under all forms of industry in the past individuals have been arrayed against each other, but in no system have the antagonisms been more pronounced than in the present order. There is scarcely a field to-day where selfish interests, begotten by a selfish system, do not dominate. Just so long as it is to man's interest to be dishonest and selfish, we need expect no improvement. There is no use lamenting this condition, so long as we retain a false organization of society. We ought not to expect the law of love to be practiced under an environment of the law of strife. Sermons will not extirpate the evils, they are too deep rooted—they inhere in the system itself. We may preach brotherly love, but let us not be so foolish as to expect it to be practiced to any extent under the present order.

Socialism would abolish all these evils by removing the cause. Selfishness is only possible when one man can gain at the expense of another. Under Socialism no one could thus gain, for the interests of every man would be identical with the interests of every other man. No one could serve his own interests without serving the interests of others, and conversely, no one could injure the interests of others without injuring himself. The solidarity of humanity so long preached, Socialism would realize. Socialism would make the interests of one identical with the interests of all and vice versa. Under such a system selfishness would be plucked up by the roots. The very first requisite, then, of the ideal state is the establishment of harmony in the industrial realm—the substitution of co-operation for competition.

"But," says our individualist friend, "you cannot make men honest and unselfish by legislation." Very true, we cannot directly, and no one expects to. What we do expect, is to surround men with a suitable environment—one conducive to honesty and unselfishness. We desire to so reconstruct society that if a man is inclined to be honest and unselfish he will not have to be dishonest and selfish in order to succeed. If a man is placed in an infectious district and compelled to remain there he will become sick. What we ought to expect to do by legislation, is not to prohibit his sickness, but to provide for his removal or the removal of the infectious environment. When we have removed by legislation the cause of the disease, the effect will disappear. So when we remove the infectious environment of capitalism its evil results will disappear.

Again, says our individualist friend, "You might completely change the machinery and procedure of society; we should only have a new tyranny, a new injustice, a new exploitation of man." Of just what this new tyranny, injustice and exploitation would consist has never been pointed out. I presume it would trouble our friend somewhat to give, even to himself, a satisfactory answer. The objection, however, betrays a failure to trace the evils to their source, and an utter inappreciation of the changed conditions which would exist under Socialism. As a matter of fact, these evils can only exist in an economic system of special privilege, where some, by virtue of their ownership of the instruments of production, are enabled to take advantage of their fellows. The source of all the economic dependence and exploitation is pressed upon the oppressor. The private ownership of land and tools with which to labor, means, for those not possessing these instruments, economic slavery. The basis, then, of every kind of servitude, social misery, political dependence and industrial tyranny is the dependence of men upon the monopolists of the implements of work and the sources of life. Socialism would destroy this economic power by the few, by placing the instrument of production in the hands of society. Socialize these means and laborers would

become their own masters and justice, liberty and freedom would be attained.

The fact is, as we have noted, to abolish social evils the individualist is at work at the wrong end of the problem, and the reason he supposes that a change in the procedure of society would effect no relief is due to his failure to trace the evils to their source. It is true that no change short of a complete abolition of our present system would be effective. All remedies of the mere reformer, whether religious or social, leave the internal mechanism untouched, and so fail to touch the root of the trouble. Society is an organism, and just as when the physical organism is out of order the various organs manifest themselves in various directions, so when the social organism is diseased, the symptoms take on various forms, expressing themselves as intemperance, crime, pauperism, prostitution, etc. All these symptoms evidence a diseased body, economic. There is but one solution, therefore, to all these problems—all are effects of the same cause.

We need to recognize that economic conditions give color and shape to social and political institutions, and even affect intellectual and moral tendencies. The Socialist method of abolishing social evils is based upon this scientific fact. It demands betterment of economic conditions. The present condition of all classes of society—whether the poverty and hardship of the poor, the worry and anxiety of the middle class, or the idleness and luxury of the rich—are fatal to a noble life.

An unselfish heart will not save a man from the evils of our perverse economic order. Many a man of ideal character is a victim of our system of grab and greed. And even were all unselfish—a thing impossible under capitalism—the very fact that business must be conducted on the competitive principle would necessitate the existence of these very conditions against which we protest. The evils are social and can only be removed by social readjustment.

The Socialist offers the only effective method of uplifting society. He proposes to begin with the economic conditions. He recognizes the scientific fact that man is a creature of circumstances. What man is depends largely upon its surroundings. While heredity is important in regard to special talents, environment is the chief factor in moulding character. This fact has been demonstrated by social experiments. Socialism proposes to better economic conditions and establish an environment favorable to the development of moral qualities.

The Socialist has faith in human nature. The great majority of men are not bad. Separate them from their economic interests and you will find that they are morally sound. Human history shows that according to the light which men have had they have done grandly well. Socialism would secure to human nature proper soil and environment. It will guarantee men the physical basis of life, give to each the full product of his toil, and secure leisure to all. Until this is accomplished there is no use talking about teaching science, art and literature to the masses. These fields are barred to all who do not possess the requisite— the millions of the overworked and of work.

The Socialist presents the only effective method by which to abolish the social evils. And even the end which the church seeks, that of personal righteousness, can only be realized to any extent in such an environment as Socialism proposes. The church should aid in establishing the new order as the first step toward the realization of its ideal. The whole competitive struggle for existence leaves scarcely any margin for the practice of a real Christianity. The basis of our industrial system is unjust and unrighteous, its operation unchristian, and its results damnable. The social and industrial evils from which we suffer are inherent in the present system of production, and can only be abolished by the abolition of the system itself.

Speed the day of the new order of brotherhood, of universal justice—the Co-operative Commonwealth.

NOTICE TO COMRADES.

By forming a class we will now be able to take the lessons of the Chicago School of Social Economy at a cost of only \$1 per member. As this course comprises twenty lessons and all of them of the highest order any Socialist will find it of great assistance to become a member of a class. All comrades who are interested are requested to communicate with me at once, and a class will be formed immediately.

R. MURPHY, Room 9, 23 North Fourth street.

CAMPAIGN FUND.

John C. Gosdeker, Julius Finlinger, Ludwig Winter, Charles Schneider.

The city central committee has the following books for sale:

- 1. Mertie England, by Robert Blatchford, 10c;
- 2. Socialism and the Labor Problem, by Father T. McGrady, 10c;
- 3. A Paradox Explained, by George A. Eastman, 10c;
- 4. To What Are Trusts Leading, by James Smiley, 10c;
- 5. The Mission of the Working Class, by Rev. Charles H. Vall, 5c;
- 6. The Trust Question, by Rev. Charles H. Vall, 5c;
- 7. Wage-Labor and Capital, by Karl Marx, 5c.

Special rates will be made on lots of five or more. Comrades, get in your orders for literature now. Address William Detjen, agent, 22 N. 4th St., Room No. 7.

There will be a meeting at 2541 Benton street, Saturday evening, May 11, to organize a branch composed of Socialists of the Second, Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Twentieth Wards. The indications are that this branch will soon prove to be the strongest in the city, as there are many good workers in it. Socialists of these wards are requested to attend.

The Herwegh Singing Society will hold its picnic and flag dedication at Ostenslein's Grove, 5800 Easton avenue, Sunday, June 2.

Extra copies, 50 cents a hundred.

HOW WE STAND.

We consider strikes and boycotts as historically necessary weapons to obtain the demands of trades unionism; we further recognize in the union label an important factor in strengthening the power of organization, and enabling the public to demonstrate in a practical way its sympathy and assistance to the cause of labor; and we therefore endorse all the labels of the bona fide trades unions, earnestly recommend to the membership of the Social Democratic Party to patronize only such concerns selling products bearing the same.

Resolutions S. D. P. National Convention.

Fifty-two speeches for 50 cents is a big bargain, but Missouri Socialist will make that many on Socialism to your neighbor if you will pay the bill.

The Parable of The Water Tank.

FROM BELLAMY'S "EQUALITY."

There was a certain very dry land, and the people thereof were in sore need of water. And they did nothing but to seek after water from morning until night, and many perished because they could not find it.

Howbeit, there were certain men in that land who were more crafty and diligent than the rest, and these had gathered stores of water where others could find none, and the name of these men was called capitalists.

And it came to pass that the people of the land came upon the capitalists and prayed them that they would give them of the water they had gathered, that they might drink, for their need was sore. But the capitalists answered them and said:

"Go to, ye silly people! Why should we give you of the water which we have gathered, for then we should become even as ye are, and perish with you? But behold what we will do unto you. Be ye our servants and ye shall have water."

And the people said, "Only give us to drink and we will be your servants, we and our children." And it was so.

THE SLICK CAPITALISTS.

Now, the capitalists were men of understanding, and wise in their generation. They ordered the people who were their servants in bands with capitalists and officers, and some they put at the springs to dip, and others did they make to carry the water, and others did they cause to seek for new springs. And all the water was brought together in one place, and there did the capitalists make a great tank for to hold it, and the tank was called the Market, for it was there that the people, even the servants of the capitalists, came to get water. And the capitalists said unto the people:

"For every bucket of water that ye bring to us, that we may pour it into the tank, which is the Market, behold, we will give you a penny, but for every bucket that we shall draw forth to give unto you that ye may drink of it, ye and your wives and your children, ye shall give to us two pennies, and the difference shall be our profit, seeing that if it were not for this profit we would not do this thing for you, but ye should all perish."

And it was good in the people's eyes, for they were dull of understanding, and they diligently brought water unto the tank for many days, and for every bucket which they did bring the capitalists gave them every man a penny; but for every bucket that the capitalists drew forth from the tank to give again unto the people, behold! the people rendered to the capitalists two pennies.

OVERPRODUCTION.

And after many days the water tank, which was the Market, overflowed at the top, seeing that for every bucket the people poured in they received only so much as would buy again half of a bucket. And because of the excess that was left of every bucket, did the tank overflow, for the people were many, but the capitalists were few, and could drink no more than others. Therefore did the tank overflow.

And when the capitalists saw that the water overflowed, they said to the people:

"See ye not the tank, which is the Market, doth overflow? Sit ye down, therefore, and be patient, for ye shall bring us no more water till the tank be empty."

HARD TIMES.

But when the people no more received the pennies of the capitalists for the water they brought, they could buy no more water from the capitalists, having naught wherewith to buy. And when the capitalists saw that they had no more profit because no man brought water of them, they were troubled, and they sent forth men in the highways, the by-ways, and the hedges, crying, "If any thirst let him come to the tank and buy water of us, for it doth overflow." For they said among themselves, "Behold! the times are hard; we must advertise."

But the people answered, saying, "How can we buy unless ye hire us, for how else shall we have wherewithal to buy? Hire ye us, therefore, as before, and we will gladly buy water for our thirst, and ye will have no need to advertise." But the capitalists said to the people, "Shall we hire you to bring water when the tank, which is the Market, doth already overflow? Buy ye, therefore, first the water, and when the tank is empty, through your buying, will we hire you again." And so it was because the capitalists hired them no more to bring water that the people could not buy the water they had brought already, and became the people could not buy the water they had brought already, the capitalists no more hired them to bring water. And the saying went abroad: "It is a crisis."

CAPITALISTS OWN ALL MEANS OF PRODUCTION.

And the thirst of the people was great, for it was not now as it had been in the days of their fathers, when the land was open before them, for every one to seek water for himself, seeing that the capitalists had taken all the springs, and the wells, and the water wheels, and the vessels and the buckets, so that no man might come by water save from the tank, which was the Market. And the people murmured against the capitalists and said, "Behold, the tank runneth over, and we die of thirst. Give us, therefore, of the water, that we perish not."

But the capitalists answered, "Not so. The water is ours. Ye shall not drink unless ye buy it of us with pennies." And they confirmed it with an oath, saying after their manner, "Business is business."

But the capitalists were disquieted, that the people bought no more water, whereby they had no more any profits, and they spake one to another, saying, "It seemeth that our profits have stopped our profits, and by reason of the profits we have made, we can

make no more profits. How is it that our profits are become unprofitable to us, and our gains do make us poor? Let us, therefore, send for the soothsayers, that they may interpret this thing unto us," and they sent for them.

THE LEARNED PROFESSORS.

Now, the soothsayers were men learned in dark sayings, who joined themselves to the capitalists by reason of the water of the capitalists, that they might have thereof and live, they and their children. And they spake for the capitalists unto the people, and did their embassies for them, seeing that the capitalists were not a folk of understanding, neither ready of speech.

And the capitalists demanded of the soothsayers that they should interpret this thing unto them, wherefore it was that the people bought no more water of them, although the tank was full. And certain of the soothsayers answered and said: "It is by reason of overproduction," and some said, "It is glut," but the signification of the two words is the same. And the others said, "Nay, but this is by reason of the spots on the sun." And yet others answered, saying: "It is neither by reason of glut nor yet of spots on the sun, that this evil hath come to pass, but because of lack of confidence."

And while the soothsayers contended among themselves, according to their manner, the men of profit did slumber and sleep, and when they awoke they said to the soothsayers: "It is enough. Ye have spoken comfortably unto us. Now go ye forth and speak comfortably likewise unto this people, so that they be at rest and leave us also in peace."

NEED FULL-BELIEVED AUDIENCES.

But the soothsayers, even the men of the dismal science—for so they were named of some—were loath to go forth to the people lest they should be stoned, for the people loved them not. And they said to the capitalists:

"Masters, it is a mystery of our craft that if man be full and thirst not but be at rest, then shall they find comfort in our speech, even as ye. Yet if they thirst and be empty, and they no comfort therein, but rather mock us, for it seemeth that unless a man be full our wisdom appeareth unto him but emptiness." But the capitalists said: "Go ye forth. Are ye not our men to do our embassies?"

And the soothsayers went forth to the people and expounded to them the mystery of overproduction, and how it was that they must needs perish of thirst because there was overmuch water, and how there could not be enough, because there was too much. And likewise spoke they unto the people concerning the sun spots, and also wherefore it was that these things had come upon them by reason of lack of confidence. And it was even as the soothsayers had said, for to the people their wisdom seemed emptiness. And the people reviled them, saying: "Go up, ye bald-heads! Will ye mock us? Doth plenty breed famine? Doth nothing come out of much?" And they took up stones to stone them.

THE PREACHER CALLED IN.

And when the capitalists saw that the people still murmured, and would not give ear to the soothsayers, and because also they feared lest they should come upon the tank and take of the water by force, they brought forth to them certain holy men (but they were false priests), who spake unto the people that they should be quiet and trouble not the capitalists because they thirsted. And these holy men, who were false priests, testified to the people that this affliction was sent to them of God for the healing of their souls, and that if they should hear it in patience and lust not after the water, neither trouble the capitalists, it would come to pass that after they had given up the ghost they would come to a country where there should be no capitalists, but an abundance of water. Howbeit, there were certain true prophets of God also, and these had compassion on the people, and would not prophesy for the capitalists, but rather spake constantly against them.

CHARITY DISPENSED.

Now, when the capitalists saw that the people still murmured and would not be still, neither of the words of the soothsayers nor of the false priests, they came forth themselves unto them and put the ends of their fingers in the water that overflowed in the tank and wet the tips thereof, and they scattered the drops from the tips of their fingers abroad upon the people who thronged the tank, and the name of the drops of water was charity, and they were exceedingly bitter.

MILITIA ORGANIZED.

And when the capitalists saw yet again that neither for the words of the soothsayers, nor of the holy men who were false priests, nor yet for the drops that were called charity, would the people be still, but raged the more, and crowded upon the tank as if they would take it by force, then took they counsel together and sent men privily forth among the people. And these men sought out the mightiest among the people, and all who had skill in war, and took them apart and spake craftily with them, saying:

"Come, now, why cast ye not your lot in with the capitalists? If ye will lot in with the capitalists they will give to you and serve them against the people that they break not in upon the tank, then shall ye have abundance of water, that ye perish not, ye and your children."

And the mighty men and they who were skilled in war hearkened unto this speech and suffered themselves to be persuaded, for their thirst conked, and they went within strained them, and they became put men, and staves and were put into the hands of the capitalists and smote the people when they thronged upon the tank.

THE CRISIS OVER.

And after many days the water was low in the tank, for the capitalists did make fountains and fish ponds of the water thereof, and did bathe therein, they and their wives and their children, and did waste the water for their pleasure.

And when the capitalists saw that the tank was empty, they said: "The crisis is ended," and they sent forth and hired the people that they should bring water to fill it again. And for the water that the people brought to the tank they received for every bucket a penny, but for the water which the capitalists drew forth from the tank to give again to the people, they received two pennies; that they might have their profit. And after a time did the tank again overflow even as before.

WICKED SOCIALISTS ARISE.

And now, when many times people had filled the tank until it overflowed and had thirsted until the water therein had been wasted by the capitalists, it came to pass that there arose in the land certain men who were called agitators, for that they did stir up the people, and they spake to the people, saying that they should associate, and then would they have no need to be servants of the capitalists, and should thirst no more for water. And in the eyes of the capitalists were the agitators pestilent fellows, and they would have crucified them, but durst not for fear of the people.

And the words of the agitators which they spake to the people were on this wise:

"Ye foolish people, how long will ye be deceived by a lie and believe to your hurt that which is not? For behold all these things that have been said unto you by the capitalists and by the soothsayers are cunning devised fables. And likewise the holy men, who say that it is the will of God that ye should always be poor and miserable and athirst; behold! They do blaspheme God and are liars, whom He will bitterly judge though He forgive all others. How cometh it that ye may not come by the water in the tank? Is it not because ye have no money? And why have ye no money? Is it not because ye receive but one penny for every bucket that ye bring to the tank, which is the Market, but must render two pennies for every bucket ye take out, so that the capitalists may have their profit? See ye not how by this means the tank must overflow, being filled by that ye lack and made to abound out of your emptiness? See ye not also that the harder ye toil and the more diligently ye seek and bring the water, the worse and not the better it shall be for you by reason of the profit, and that forever?"

THE PEOPLE WAKE UP.

After this manner spake the agitators for many days unto the people, and none heeded them, but it was so that after a time the people hearkened. And they answered and said unto the agitators:

"Ye say truth. It is because of the capitalists and of their profits that we want, seeing that by reason of them and their profits we may by no means come by the fruit of our labor, so that our labor is in vain, and the more we toil to fill the tank the sooner doth it overflow, and we may receive nothing because there is too much according to the words of the soothsayers. But behold, the capitalists are hard men and their tender mercies are cruel. Tell us if ye know any way whereby we may deliver ourselves out of our bondage unto them. But if ye know of no certain way of deliverance, we beseech you to hold your peace and let us alone, that we may forget our misery."

And the agitators answered and said: "We know a way."

And the people said: "Deceive us not, for this thing hath been from the beginning, and none hath found a way of deliverance until now, though many have sought it carefully with tears. But if ye know a way, speak unto us quickly."

THE CAPITALISTS USELESS.

Then the agitators spake unto the people and said:

"Behold, what need have ye at all of these capitalists, that ye should yield them profits upon your labor? What great things do they wherefore ye render them this tribute? Lo! it is only because they do order you in bands and lead you out and in and set your tasks and afterward give you a little of the water yourselves brought and not they. Now, behold the way out of this bondage! Do ye for yourselves that which is done for the capitalists—namely, the ordering of your labor, and the marshaling of your bands, and the dividing of your tasks. So shall ye have no need at all of the capitalists, and no more yield to them any profit, but all the fruit of your labor shall ye share as brethren, every one having the same; and so shall the tank never overflow until every man is full and would not wag the tongue for more; and afterward shall ye, with the overflow, make pleasant fountains and fish ponds to delight yourselves withal, even as did the capitalists; and these shall be for the delight of all."

DEMOCRATIC INDUSTRY.

And the people answered: "How shall we go about to do this thing, for it seemeth good to us?"

And the agitators answered: "Choose ye discreet men to go in and out before you and to marshal your bands and order your labor, and these men shall be as the capitalists were; but, behold, they shall not be your masters as the capitalists are, but your brethren and officers who do your will, and they shall not take any profits, but every man his share like the others; that there may be no more masters and servants among you, but brethren only. And from time to time, as ye see fit, ye shall choose other discreet men, in place of the first to order the labor."

And the people hearkened, and the thing was very good to them. Likewise, seemed it not a hard thing, and with one voice they cried out: "So let it be as ye have said, for we will do it!"

THE ROBBERS TERRIFIED.

And the capitalists heard the noise of the shouting and what the people said, and the soothsayers heard it also, and likewise the false priest and the mighty men of war, who were a defense unto the capitalists; and when they heard they trembled exceedingly, so that their knees smoth together, and

they said one to another: "It is the end of us!"

Howbeit, there were certain true priests of the living God who would not prophesy for the capitalists, but had compassion on the people; and when they heard the shouting of the people and what they said, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy, and gave thanks to God because of the deliverance.

THE SOCIALISTS WERE RIGHT.

And the people went and did all the things that were told them of the agitators to do. And it came to pass as the agitators had said, even according to all their words. And there was no more any thirst in that land, neither any that was hungered, nor naked, nor cold, nor in any manner of want; and every man said unto his fellow: "My brother," and every woman said unto her companion: "My sister," and so were they with one another as brethren and sisters which do dwell together in unity. And the blessing of God rested upon that land forever.

Lost, Strayed or Stolen.

BY PETER E. BURROWS.

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!—
Lost, strayed, or invested: The honesty that we used to print before we came to Washington. Should anybody happen to find it, he is earnestly requested to use it himself or send it to some private asylum until we are expelled from office, when we shall be ready to claim it once more as an asset of the Republican party.

Lost, strayed, or stolen: All the bright young men with splendid prospects; all the messenger boys that were to have become millionaires; all the highly gifted plungers and others who have passed through Wall street's curriculum, and all those young Americans who have cared for nothing but being rich, and are now lost, strayed, or stolen.

Lost, strayed, or kidnapped: America, as we sang it after a good dinner or a missionary meeting. It was last seen in the custody of its two uncles, the Republican and Democratic parties, who were leading it into a dark wood, with blood in their eyes. Please bury the remains and say nothing.

Lost, strayed, or stolen: The true successor of the late Henry Ward Beecher of Brooklyn. This is to give notice that if any one should find him, he isn't wanted in Brooklyn, where we can use only business men's pastors.

Lost, strayed, or stolen: Any one thing the working class needs for its liberty, comfort and security, which the Constitution of the United States makes constitutional, or is able to keep constitutional while judges are for hire; also the method of discovering judges who are not for hire, under a competitive property system whose two only open doors lead to the two criminal conditions of extreme poverty and extreme riches.

Lost, strayed, or stolen: The wits of the gentleman who succeeded the late Emperor of Germany; the patience which well meaning people used to have with the liberal tendencies of several late emperors of Russia; and the hopes which men formerly entertained of seeing liberty and democracy established in America by any other means than a social revolution.

Lost, strayed, or stolen: The chance of getting anything into the newspapers or getting anything out of them, which has not come through that great subsidized board of censors known as "The Associated Press"; the possibility of knowing what is really taking place in Russia, Peking, or any other centers of social unrest where the issues are between property and labor, power and weakness, slavery and freedom.

Lost, strayed, or stolen: The means by which an ordinary man can tell the difference between a French republic and a Russian aristocracy, or between an American ditto and an English monarchy; or between the diplomatic intellect of a Republican minister in a foreign court and any other minister. Outside the Socialist camp the means by which these men are known is lost, strayed, or stolen.

Lost, strayed, or stolen: The Republican party's pious devotion to the doctrines of a protective tariff all round; also the loyalty of the Democrats to the doctrines of free trade all round; also the antipathy which these old parties formerly had to one another; and any further reason why they should come together in the bonds of an unholy wedlock—lost, strayed, or stolen.

Chinese Mother's Song.

O hush your cries, my baby,
And rest your tired head,
For every tiny thing has crept
Into its cozy bed.
O hush! the winds of night will bear
Your plaintive cries about,
And the Christian man will get you
If you don't watch out.

O hush your cries, your father dear
Is hiding from the hills,
Our fields run bloody rills,
With Bible and with musket they're
Converting all about.
The mission man will get you if you
Don't watch out.

And if you're caught, the love where-with
The Buddha fills the mind,
They'll turn to smiling falsehood,
Covering hatred of your kind;
O hush! with cross and Bible they
Are prowling all about—
And they'll civilize you, baby, if you
Don't watch out!

—Frederick Manley, in Life.

OPEN AIR MEETINGS.

Will be held by the Agitation Committee:
Every Sunday night at 13th and Franklin avenue and
Every Saturday night at 12th and Olive streets.

POEMS OF LABOR.

Ninety and Nine,

There are ninety and nine who work
and die
In want and hunger and cold,
That one may live in luxury,
And be lapped in the silken fold!
And ninety and nine in their hovels
bare,
And one in a palace of riches rare.

From the sweat of their brows the desert blooms.
And the forest before them falls;
Their labor has bulled humble homes,
And cities with lofty halls,
And the one owns cities and houses
and land,
And the ninety and nine have empty
hands.

But the night so dreary and dark and long,
At last shall the morning bring;
And over the land the victor's song
Of the ninety and nine shall ring,
And echo afar, from zone to zone,
"Rejoice, for labor shall have its
own!"
—ANON.

The Song of the Toilers.

We plow and sow; we're so very, very
low
That we delve in the earthly clay
Till we bless the plain with the golden
grain.
And the vale with the fragrant hay,
Our only place we know—we're so
very, very low.
—Tis down at the landlord's feet;
We're not too low the grain to grow,
But too low the bread to eat.

We're low, we're low, mere rabble, we
know,
But at our plastic power
The world at the lordling's feet will
grow
Into palace and church and tower,
Then prostrate fall in the rich man's
door;
We're not too low to build the wall,
But too low to tread the floor.

Down, down we go, we're so very, very
low,
To the depth of the deep sunk mines;
But we gather the product gems that
glow
When the brow of a despot shines,
And whenever he lacks, upon our
backs
Fresh loads he deigns to lay;
We're far too low to veto the tax,
But not too low to pay.

We're low, we're low, we're very, very
low,
Yet from our fingers glide
The silken flow and the robes that
glow
Round the limbs of the sons of
pride.
And what we get and what we give
We know; and we know our share;
We're not too low the cloth to weave,
But too low the cloth to wear.

A Lady and a Woman.

A bell's loud brazen mouth in mighty
tone
The midnight hour in diapason
rolled
I stood beside a lordly house of stone,
The palace of some prince, of wealth
untold,
Against an open window which was
screened,
With flowing drapery of dainty lace—
A wealthy dame her pallid forehead
leaned,
Gems in her hair but sadness in her
face.

I stepped within a graceful porch,
nearly
By somber shadows of the night con-
cealed
I heard that wealthy dame in sorrow
sigh,
As, in these words her anguish she
revealed,
"Oh! aimless round of pleasure, empty
life,
Dance, music, dresses, jewels, every-
where,
No earne aim to seek, no noble strife
No purifying love, no chastening
care."

I bent my head in meditation low,
And as I wandered on, I pondered
why
That wealthy lady should such sorrow
know,
Then, looking upward, I saw looming
high
A lofty tenement, squalid and grim
A ballid working girl with low bent
head
Toiled in a workroom which was poor
and dim

And in despairing tones these plaints
she said:
"Oh! living death of work that never
ends,
Toil, want and foulness seeming
everywhere
Faint is the voice of hope here, where
it blends
Feebly with thousand tongues crying
despair;
Love slain by want within my breast
is dead,
And care, want's brother fiend, ruth-
lessly stole
Black hair and rosy lips from my face
and head;
They only left to me my despairing
soul."
—W. D. HOWELS.

The workmen must first realize
their class interests and act accordingly
by voting for them at the polls "and
all things else will be added unto"
them.—The Workers' Call.

In order that there may be one rich
there must be many poor; and the afflu-
ence of the few presupposes the indig-
ence of the many.—Adam Smith.

The story running in the International
Socialist Review, under the title,
"The Charity Girl," is charming. Send
us a dollar and we will get you the
Review for a year, beginning with the
first instalment.

AMONG THE UNIONS.

All the union carpenters and plumb-
ers at Saginaw, Mich., struck for higher
wages on May 1.
Albany (N. Y.) street car men are
out, 1,000 strong. They have the entire
city tied up.

Coal miners, near Belleville, struck
because the company wasn't feeding its
mules properly. The company yielded.

Fourteen hundred employees of the
Government printing office threatened
to strike because four women would
not join the union. The women joined.

500 weavers' strike at Scranton, Pa.,
has been won by the girls. The strik-
ers held a big parade and were ad-
dressed by Mother Jones and William
Mally, of the New York Worker.

A prominent iceman at Saginaw,
Mich., had his house painted by a non-
union painter and the workmen
wouldn't buy his ice. It became too
warm for him and he paid a fine and
the boycott was lifted.

The coal miners of Pennsylvania
elected a legislature to kill labor bills
and now twenty-five thousand of the
miners are going to march on the
State Capital to find out why in the
blazes the legislature is doing what it
was elected to do.

The Chicago Federation of Labor
will post the names of legislators who
voted against labor bills on the black
list. If it will place the names of all
political parties that are hostile to
labor on the black list and then be care-
ful to vote for the only one that is
not on the list, their boycott will prove
effective.

Two thousand cigarmakers in the
United States and Canada are either
on strike or awaiting permission to quit
work for an increase in wages. Eight
cities are affected—Montreal, where
600 are out; Philadelphia, Wilkesbarre,
Ottawa, Ill., Buffalo, Utica, N. Y., and
Nashua, N. H. President George W.
Perkins of the international union an-
nounced recently that there are more
strikes on and contemplated in the
trade than at any time since 1891.

The class struggle is becoming very
lively and big things are likely to hap-
pen soon. A press dispatch from San
Francisco, California, says: There
was formed yesterday the Merchants'
Mutual Protective Association, the ob-
ject of which is to prevent strikes
among employees of all commercial
houses. Most of the large firms of San
Francisco have joined the movement,
and \$50 was put in for running ex-
penses and emergencies. An executive
committee of five were chosen, to
whom all strikes in firms of members
must be referred. It will be optional
with the committee whether they set-
tle the strike themselves or select an
arbitration committee. The associa-
tion also includes many allied in-
terests, like steamship companies, dry-
men and others. It is so powerful and
has such capital at its command that it
can crush any combination of labor
that may be formed, as it will be fully
able to import hands from Eastern
cities in any emergency. It is believed
to be the most powerful anti-union
combination ever formed in this coun-
try.

The seventh annual convention of
the Amalgamated Association of Street
Railway Employees is in session in
Buffalo, N. Y. President W. D. Mahon,
in his annual report, stated that dur-
ing the last year seventy-six new
branches were organized, making a to-
tal of 184 affiliated with the associa-
tion. Wages have been increased and
the workday shortened by over forty
unions. Since the last convention two
years ago in Louisville there have been
twenty-three strikes called, several of
which are still on. President Mahon
recommended that the convention es-
tablish a defense to protect the mem-
bers during lockouts and strikes. He
He also reported that the Postoffice
Department had issued an order pro-
hibiting street railway companies from
displaying "United States Mail" signs
on cars other than those on which mail
is actually carried. In conclusion Pres-
ident Mahon said: "We have had to
face conditions with which no other
class of workers in America have had
to contend. But with all the opposi-
tion we have gained, and as we review
the work of the past two years we can
congratulate ourselves on our present
membership and strength as a labor
organization."

About 1,000 men have joined in the
strike of the brick and tile workers of
Cheltenham and several of the plants
have closed temporarily, while the others
are running with short forces.

The operations are confined almost
exclusively to kiln burning, which has
the sanction of the strikers. In ac-
cases, when the men struck, they in-
structed the kiln burners to stay at
their posts until the kilns should be
burned sufficiently, this position being
taken because the men did not wish to
destroy property and abandoning the
kilns prematurely would result in their
loss.

The headquarters of the strikers is
at the North Italy American Club at
Cooper and Swan avenues.

The Missouri Fire Pressed Brick Co.
is working with one-half force. Its full
force is sixty men. Nearly all of them
quit Monday, but some returned upon
the promise of the company to pay
the day laborer's \$1.50 a day until an
adjustment of the trouble should be
made. The company has also promised
to abide by the schedule adopted by
the other manufacturers.

At the Winle Terra Cotta Works 175
men out of 250 are out. Mitchell's plant
is practically closed, as nearly its full
corps of 50 men is out.
The St. Louis plant is also practically
idle, its 50 men having gone out Sat-
urday.
The 400 men employed at Evans &
Howard's plant are out, as are 300 of
those employed at the Laclede plant.

BEYOND THE SEAS.

ITALY.

Rome, May 6.—The dock laborers at Genoa inaugurated a general strike today. They demand shorter hours.

LUXEMBOURG.

This is one of the smallest states of Europe, which was formerly united to Holland, but now has a Grand Duke of its own, as the Salic law prevails there. It has a Parliament of its own of 45 members and X. Brasseur has just been elected member for Esch; there are already two Socialists in the assembly.

SERVIA.

The Socialist Party was much persecuted by Milan's Government, but recently there have not been so many prosecutions. A newspaper, the workmen's paper, Radnicki List, has just been founded and is doing well. Till now the movement has been confined to Belgrade, but it is now spreading in the agricultural districts.

HOLLAND.

The seventh annual conference of the Social-Democratic Labor Party in Holland, held at Utrecht, commenced on Easter Sunday, 28 branches being represented. Comrade Henry Polak presided, and in his opening address he drew attention to the fact that Social-Democracy became every year in all countries more powerful. Its influence reaches beyond the members enrolled in its ranks. In the district of Amsterdam, where he lately was defeated by a small majority, more than 1,000 unmistakable Socialist votes were given to him, notwithstanding there were only 100 members of the party. The party has only a little more than 4,000 members, but does work and has influence for 40,000 at least. The bourgeois parties are forced to recognize that fact. It was the Social-Democrats in Holland that aroused the present agitation for universal suffrage, which caused the split-up of the Liberal Party. And the reason why Liberals and Clericals are so utterly afraid to extend the electorate is because they know very well that the Social-Democrats must win by that enormously.

The Social-Democratic Labor Party has now cleared the way of all anarchistic obstacles, which for many years hindered the development of Socialist principles in Holland. The resolutions adopted were all of importance. It was decided that in the next general election candidates are to be run independently of other parties, and in the second ballot those candidates supported who favor the revision of the Constitution to clear the way to universal suffrage. A committee was appointed to inquire into and make study of the Colonial programme brought forward by Van Kol. A lengthy report is to be published before the next conference, to be held at Groningen.

The conference declared its sympathy with the anti-militarist propaganda and the organization of the youth on the lines of the influential Jeunes Gardes in Belgium. Our lady friend, Henriette Roland-Holst, interests herself much in this branch of the general propaganda. The question of the federation of the trades unions and co-operative organizations with the party was long debated. A few days before this conference a special meeting of the leaders in the trade union movement was held to consider this question. After much discussion and display of different opinions, a resolution was carried wherein it was stated that those three organizations should be recognized as mere parts of the one organization of labor in the class struggle, and that they should work together more and more so as to arrive at a lasting alliance. This resolution was sanctioned by the Social-Democratic conference.

The election conference was held the following day, 100 organizations being represented, and Comrade Polak again occupied the chair. A long election programme was accepted and approved by many trades unions represented. The chief item, long discussed, on the programme, was the agrarian question. Our friends of the Nieuwe Tijd strongly opposed, as of a reactionary tendency, the clause providing that assistance should be given to small farmers. These farmers were also exploiters of labor, it was said, and they should not be strengthened in their position, by Social-Democrats, as private owners or employers. On the other hand, it was argued by Comrades Troelstra and Van Kol that it was all very well to fix their hopes on the Socialist ideal of nationalization of the land, etc., but if they in the meantime were starved all hope would be in vain. And the object aimed at was that the municipalities should own the land and the farmers should co-operate, and the laborers on the land could do so also. The conference agreed that it would not be well to settle such an important question after a half-day's debate, and advised that the subject should be studied for the next year very closely.

Comrade Troelstra was again appointed chief speaker of the Daily Het Volk, and the delegates departed, after two days' hard work, strengthened and refreshed with hope and activity for the fight at the next elections. VAN DER VEER.

DENMARK.

Social-Demokraten, official organ of the Danish Social-Democratic Party and leading Danish daily comments on the passing of the old year as follows: "In the year just passed away we have seen on the one side conservatism and reaction make a last desperate stand, which only resulted in the breaking up of the Conservative Party; and on the other side we have seen the Social-Democratic Party more firmly entrenched and conquering one position after another. One ministry had to retire, and Mr. Estrup, the Danish Crispin, was again called into power and named by the King as a member of the lands-thing. The Crown Prince appeared in public on three different occasions, and defended the tactics of the government party and appealed to the people to be

patriotic, to stand by the King and the country, which he said was one and the same thing.

"The year 1900 was an election year. It began with city and town elections, and proved that the government party (the right party) no longer has a majority in the city councils throughout the land. Out of 401 seats the government party only obtained 192, while 209 fell into the hands of the opposition. The Social-Democrats were victorious in all large cities and in quite a number of smaller ones. Fifty-six Social-Democrats were elected and received 24,303 votes, as against 10 Social-Democrats elected by 9,999 votes, at the last election in 1894.

"At the election in Copenhagen, which took place in the month of March, the Social-Democratic Party polled 15,000 votes, as against 11,000 for the government party, and re-elected one candidate and elected four new members of the city administration.

"At elections held in several towns, in the months of August and September, the Social-Democratic Party polled a big vote and elected 74 representatives for minor offices.

"In the last quarter of the year elections were held in half of the villages throughout the country, and the result, 170 Social-Democrats elected, against 30 in 1894. This goes to prove that Socialism has taken hold of the rural population.

"The Social-Democrats held at the beginning of the year 1900 280 communal mandates, and at the close of the year had increased the number to 556.

"A compulsory arbitration law has been passed, and the state has been forced to recognize the trade union as the representative organ of the working class. In Copenhagen is now established communal labor bureaus.

"The party was duly represented at the international congress held in Paris last summer, and the programme and resolutions adopted there shows accordance with the facts of the Danish Socialists.

"The party press has made great progress during the year. Social-Demokraten, the party's leading organ, has, since March 24, issued special editions with offices in the towns of Lyngby, Helsingor, Roskilde, Holbek, Naksø and Rønde.

"Since July 1 new papers have appeared in the towns of Silkeborg and Rinkjoberg.

"Besides Social-Demokraten the party now publishes 14 papers in the provinces, and it is estimated that 89,000 copies of the Danish Social-Democratic press is issued daily.

"The party has lately obtained its own building, in Norrefarimaget street, in Copenhagen, where Social-Demokraten is issued from its own printing presses.

"During the year several buildings have been obtained for meeting places in many cities. A co-operative meat market has been established in the city of Aarhus, and in Fredericia a park has been bought for picnics and for holding open-air meetings. In Falkets Hus, one of the party's buildings in Copenhagen, theatrical performances are now held several times a week.

"Several red flags have been dedicated during the year, and hundreds of Socialist meetings have been carried on in country and towns. One hundred thousand workers took part in the First of May demonstration.

"Dr. Gustav Bang has lately given a series of lectures on Socialism in the University of Copenhagen, which have been well attended.

"All in all, it can be said that the Socialist movement in Denmark through the past year has proved to be on a sound and solid basis."

"Ninth Ward Branch, S. D. P., will hold its regular meeting at 13th and Wyoming streets, Tuesday evening, May 14th. Good speakers will be present to address the meeting. Bring your friends.

SPECIAL OFFER.

We are anxious to extend the circulation of the Missouri Socialist to all parts of the country. Heretofore we have confined our efforts mainly to this city in order to build up the local movement, but we now intend to secure a foothold for the paper in every state in the union.

In order to make a beginning we will allow a special rate of thirty-five cents a year to outside subscribers when sent in clubs of ten. All our outside readers are urged to make a note of this and send in a club at the earliest possible moment.

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Is a fearless advocate of public ownership of all means of production and exchange. 16 pages monthly. Price, 50c per year. Sample free. Address: WAGE WORKER PUBLISHING CO., 22 Congress St., W., Detroit, Mich.

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NATIONAL PLATFORM.

Social Democratic Party of America.

The Social Democratic Party of the United States, in convention assembled, reaffirms its allegiance to the revolutionary principles of international Socialism and declares the supreme political issue in America today to be the contest between the working class and the capitalist class for the possession of the powers of government. The party pursues its steadfast purpose to use those powers, once achieved, to destroy wage-slavery, abolish the institution of private property in the means of production, and establish the Co-operative Commonwealth.

In the United States, as in all other civilized countries, the natural order of economic development has separated society into two antagonistic classes—the capitalist, a comparatively small class, the possessors of all the modern means of production and distribution—land, mines, machinery, and means of transportation and communication; and the large and ever increasing class of wage-workers, possessing no means of production.

This economic supremacy has secured for the dominant class the control of the government, the school, the church, and the public press; it has thus made the capitalist class the arbiter of the fate of the workers, whom it is reducing to a condition of dependence, economically exploited and oppressed, intellectually and physically crippled and degraded, and their political equality rendered a bitter mockery.

The contest between these two classes grows ever sharper. Hand in hand with the growth of monopolies goes the annihilation of smaller units, and of the middle class depending upon them; ever larger grows the multitude of destitute wage-workers and of the unemployed, and ever fiercer the struggle between the class of the exploiters and the exploited, the capitalists and the wage-workers.

The evil effects of capitalist production are intensified by the recurring industrial crises which render the existing order of the greater part of the population still more precarious and uncertain.

These facts amply prove that the modern means of production have outgrown the existing order—based on production for profit.

Human energy and natural resources are wasted for individual gain. Ignorance is fostered, and wage-slavery may be perpetuated. Science and invention are perverted to the exploitation of men, women and children.

The lives and liberties of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit. Wars are fomented between nations; indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged; the destruction of whole races is sanctioned, in order that the capitalist class may extend its commercial dominion abroad and enhance its supremacy at home.

The introduction of a new and higher order of society is the historic mission of the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are interested in upholding the system of private property in the means of production. The Democratic, Republican, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike the tools of the capitalist class. Their political injuries to the interests of the working class, which can be served only by the abolition of the profit system.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective power of the capitalist class only by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

We, therefore, call upon the wage-workers of the United States, without distinction of color, race, sex, or creed, and upon all citizens in sympathy with the historic mission of the working class, to organize under the banner of the Social Democratic Party, as a party truly representing the interests of the masses, and to wage uncompromising war upon the capitalist class, until the system of wage-slavery shall be abolished and the Co-operative Commonwealth shall be established. Pending the accomplishment of this, our ultimate purpose, we pledge every effort to the Social Democratic Party for the immediate improvement of the condition of labor and for the security of its progressive demands.

As steps in that direction, we make the following demands:

- First—Revision of our federal constitution, in order to remove the obstacles to complete control of government by the people, in respect of taxation, and of the public ownership of all industries controlled by the monopolies, trusts and combines.
- Second—The public ownership of all railroads, telegraphs, and telephones; all means of transportation and communication; all waterworks, gas and electric plants and other public utilities.
- Third—The public ownership of all gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, coal, and other mines, and all oil and gas wells.
- Fourth—The reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production.
- Fifth—The inauguration of a system of public works and improvements for the employment of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose.
- Sixth—Useful inventions to be free; the inventor to be remunerated by the public.
- Seventh—Labor legislation to be national, instead of local, and international, when possible.
- Eighth—National insurance of working people against accidents, lack of employment, and want in old age.
- Ninth—Equal civil and political rights for men and women, and the abolition of all laws discriminating against women.
- Tenth—The adoption of the initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and the right of recall of representatives by the voters.
- Eleventh—Abolition of war and the introduction of international arbitration.

"Workmenmen of all countries, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains. You have a world to gain."

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