

ST. LOUIS LABOR

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Workingmen of All Countries, UNITE!

You Have Nothing to Lose But Your Chains, and A WORLD TO GAIN!

VOL. VI

ST. LOUIS, MO., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1907

NO. 360.

ATTENTION!

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MR. VAN CLEAVE OF THE CITIZENS' INDUSTRIAL ALLIANCE HAS APPLIED FOR AND SECURED A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION WHEREBY THE A. F. OF L. SHALL BE PREVENTED FROM PUBLISHING THE BUCK'S STOVE & RANGE CO. ON THE "UNFAIR LIST." WE ASK THE QUESTION: CAN MR. VAN CLEAVE OR ANY SUPREME COURT PREVENT ANY UNION MAN OR UNION WOMAN FROM REPEATING A THOUSAND TIMES: "I WILL NOT BUY BUCK'S STOVES AND RANGES UNTIL MR. VAN CLEAVE GRANTS THE FAIR AND REASONABLE DEMANDS OF ORGANIZED LABOR?"

WORKINGMEN, AWAKE!

Organize Politically to Safeguard Your Rights and Prepare for the Greater Struggle for Emancipation.

(By Max Hayes.)

The boycott is an illegal conspiracy!

The National Association of Manufacturers and its score of allied employers' organizations secured their first victory in the great legal battle that has been in progress in the Equity Court of the District of Columbia for several months.

A dispatch from Washington on Tuesday says:

"Of far-reaching importance to labor and business interests throughout the country was a decision announced today by Justice Gould of the Equity Court of the District of Columbia, enjoining the American Federation of Labor, with its membership of 2,000,000 or more, from boycotting the Buck's Stove & Range Co. of St. Louis, and from printing in its official organ the company's name in 'unfair' and 'we don't patronize' lists. The decision arraigns the action of the Federation as an illegal conspiracy.

"The injunction granted today, while of a temporary character, was allowed in a decision in which Judge Gould exhaustively reviewed the case, made copious citations of authorities, quoted precedents as to boycott definitions, and said there was no room for argument as to the conspiracy alleged being established. The question of a permanent injunction will come in a few days, and whichever side wins in the final settlement, the case, it is believed, will be appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

"Judge Gould pointed out from the bench today that he had not, in his decision, taken up the question of inhibition of the boycott under the Sherman anti-trust law or the interstate commerce act.

"Attorney J. H. Ralston of counsel for the Federation, said tonight he had no opinion to express regarding the decision, that the injunction was a temporary one, and that in so far as the question as to the Sherman law or the interstate commerce law was concerned, he regarded the decision, as affecting that phase of the case, a victory for the defense.

"Former Assistant Attorney General Buck, for the prosecution, regarded the decision as a sweeping victory for the opponents of the boycott.

"Judge Gould also handed down two opinion granting permanent injunctions in the case of Bender against the Bakers' and Confectioners' Union, and Lawton against the International Carriage and Wagon Workers, two local cases, which the court decided along the same lines as the stove company case."

From the foregoing report of a most momentous decision we may assume that, if the boycott is an "illegal conspiracy," those who instigate and advocate boycotting may be not only liable for damages sustained, but may also be prosecuted in the criminal courts and penalized accordingly.

Everybody in the labor movement knows that the moment the Supreme Court confirms the decision of the lower court, and prohibits workingmen from notifying their fellows and sympathizers who is unfair and whose products to "let alone," that moment spells the doom of the present form of trade unions. Rob the workers of the right to act in concert to resist the encroachments of their oppressors and you take from labor its most efficient weapon of defense.

We can hardly realize that capitalism will abuse its power to the limit of prohibiting labor from exercising its rights of free speech and a free press to make known those who deal unfairly with union working people.

And yet, when we consider the historical fact that in all ages the privileged few in control of the governing powers utilized their every opportunity to brutalize and tyrannize the masses, we need not feel surprised if the American plutocracy resorts to every method within reach to subjugate the workers.

The truth of the matter is, past experience has proven that the higher law cases are carried the less chance the common people have to obtain justice in accordance with their interpretation of equity. Therefore, we have small hope that the United States Supreme Court will reverse the decision of the Equity Court of the District of Columbia.

In view of this latest blow at Organized Labor, let us hear no more of the maudlin twaddle that there are no classes in this country. The capitalist class is in control of the government and uses its great powers to prohibit the workers from doing the very thing that capitalism is practicing daily.

The time has come for the working people, who are the overwhelming majority, to wrest control of the governing forces from the capitalists to safeguard their rights and perpetuate liberty for posterity.

Organize politically!

SOCIALISTS EVERYWHERE, PREPARE for the national campaign of 1908. Organize! organize! It is organization that will tell in the coming political struggle. Without a solid party organization we can not carry on a successful campaign. Organize! organize! Circulate the Socialist press!

HENRY LAURENS CALL IN ST. LOUIS.

Sunday evening, Jan. 5, at 8 o'clock, Comrade Henry Laurens Call of Boston will lecture on "The Concentration of Wealth," under the auspices of the Socialist Party of St. Louis. The meeting will be held at Aschenbroedel Hall, 3535 Pine street. Announcement cards for this meeting are ready for distribution. Call at headquarters, 324 Chestnut street. These cards should be distributed in the factories and shops, and in the union meetings.

New Year's Inspiration

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

However the battle is ended,
Though proudly the victor comes
With fluttering flags and prancing nags
And echoing roll of drums,
Still truth proclaims this motto
In letters of living light—
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

Though the heel of the strong oppressor
May grind the weak in the dust,
And the voices of fame with one acclaim
May call him great and just,
Let those who applaud take warning,
And keep this motto in sight—
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

Let those who have failed take courage.

Tho' the enemy seems to have won,
Though his ranks are strong, if he be in the wrong,

The battle is not yet done;
For sure as the morning follows
The darkest hour of the night,
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

O man bowed down with labor!
O woman young, yet old!
O heart oppressed in the toiler's breast

And crushed by the power of gold!
Keep on with your weary battle
Against triumphant might;
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

BUCK STOVE RESOLUTION

Unanimously Adopted by the St. Louis Central Trades and Labor Union, December 22, at Aschenbroedel Club Hall.

At its last regular meeting, held Sunday, Dec. 22, at Aschenbroedel Hall, the St. Louis Central Trades & Labor Union, on motion of Vice-President George Bechtold, adopted the following resolution by unanimous vote:

Resolution.

Whereas, It has come to our knowledge that J. W. Van Cleave, president of the Buck Stove & Range Co. of this city, has secured a temporary restraining order prohibiting the officers of the American Federation of Labor from publishing the name of the Buck Stove & Range Co. in the "We don't patronize" list, and

Whereas, The National Manufacturers' Association, of which the said J. W. Van Cleave is president, has undertaken to raise a fund of \$500,000 per year for the alleged purpose of educating the working people, but which at the present time is being used under the direction of said J. W. Van Cleave in an attempt to disrupt the labor organizations of the country and in particular the foundry employes, metal polishers, stove mounters and steel range workers, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Central Trades & Labor Union of St. Louis and Vicinity is hereby respectfully requested to appoint a committee who shall conduct and manage a "Campaign of Education" among the membership affiliated with the Central Trades & Labor Union as well as dealers in stoves and ranges in their locality, and thoroughly inform them as to the attitude of J. W. Van Cleave and the Manufacturers' Association towards Organized Labor, and be it further

Resolved, That the delegates in the meeting assembled hereby reindorse the boycott on the Buck Stove & Range Co. and use every lawful means at their command to bring about an adjustment of the existing controversy.

SPECIAL MEETING

LOCAL ST. LOUIS SOCIALIST PARTY

MONDAY, DEC. 30, 1907,

At Delabar's Hall, Broadway and Elm Street

Local St. Louis will hold a special meeting Monday night, Dec. 30, at 8 o'clock sharp, at Delabar Hall, Broadway and Elm street.

Order of Business: The annual election of officers, to be followed by discussion of presidential campaign work.

Notice: It requires 50 members to constitute a quorum, hence members are urged to attend so the meeting can be opened promptly. Bring your membership card. **Otto Kaemmerer, Sec.**

THE LATEST "DIVIDE AND CONQUER" TRICK OF THE MINE OWNERS.

"Divide and conquer" has always been the motto of the tyrant. Having sent out hair-raising reports about digging up rifles, discovering plots to blow up mines and predicting impending conflicts from day to day, the hirelings of the Mine Operators' Association at Goldfield, Nev., have evidently learned that the public regards them as a pack of liars. Therefore, a new story is sprung. Now we are told that a committee representing A. F. of L. members has been to see the swashbuckler Gen. Funston, who threatened to shoot down the people of San Francisco, and declared that they had been in fear of their lives and were greatly pleased that the troops had been brought to Goldfield and hoped they would remain. In reply Gen. Funston announced that at least one-half of the troops would remain indefinitely. No particulars are given about who the members of the alleged committee were or who they represented in the A. F. of L. That some of the spies and thugs employed by the mine owners may have secured union cards in various international organizations is not disputed. If a committee really waited upon Funston—and it is difficult to believe anything that worthy says after his Aguinaldo exploits—then such committee was composed of traitors and strike breakers, no matter whether they are in the pay of the mine owners or not to carry union cards or not. A union card can not protect any man's scoundrelism, no matter how much he may flash that card or parade his counterfeit unionism. A leopard can not change his spots.

PETITION TO CONGRESS

Sent by the Western Federation of Miners, May Have Induced Roosevelt to Issue Order Recalling Troops.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 12, 1907.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.:

Gentlemen—Your petitioners the executive board of the Western Federation of Miners, respectfully represent to this honorable Congress that they represent large numbers of the men engaged in metalliferous mining throughout all the western states, and that these men follow mining as a vocation from which they gain their livelihood and support themselves and their families.

Your petitioners further represent to this honorable Congress that they are advised that an attempt is now being made to have Congress enact a measure into law, whereby the holders of unpatented mineral claims shall be relieved of performing the amount of annual work and labor as is required now by law to be performed upon such claims for the purpose of holding them during a given period of time.

And your petitioners are further advised that the reason assigned to induce Congress to enact such a law is the so-called money stringency alleged to be now existing.

Your petitioners represent that the laws of the United States governing the location of mineral claims are now very liberal and the requirement, while not at all burdensome upon the locator, proves beneficial to him as well as beneficial to the country at large, for it is only by the development work that the mineral can be found; and no one can tell what stroke of the miner's pick will open up a body of ore for the locator which will not only enrich him but furnish large numbers of men with employment and put into commerce great quantities of valuable mineral; and should such a law be enacted, there will be no possibility of such a discovery being made, and a large number of men will be deprived of their usual employment and commerce will suffer from the lack of those rich discoveries that occur by reason of the development work, and, instead of the stringency of money being relieved, it necessarily will be increased. Moreover, it allows a person to hold undeveloped prospects and deprives all others who would, by their industry, relocate and develop them, from having such an opportunity, and yet the locator has done nothing which would entitle him to such consideration at the hands of the government, as he seeks to hold the very best mineral-bearing portion of a section without having given the government any adequate consideration, and to thus prevent other citizens from relocating and developing claims possessing valuable minerals, is an injury and a wrong imposed on both the citizens and the government. In 1893 and 1904 such favor was given to the holder of claims, but there was then a general depression of business. Now the United States is teeming with business and it is said there is a money stringency; if it is a money stringency, then instead of doing anything to curtail the output of metal, Congress should do everything to stimulate the production. The favor granted in the two years mentioned was a mistake, and, as we all know, the business depression did not cease until after those years when all were called upon to do their assessment work in the mines, the operations of which, fortunately, threw into the channels of trade great quantities of the precious metals.

So, now, for the welfare, not only of the men who follow mining as a livelihood, but for the whole country, there ought to be no act done which would curtail the output of the precious metals, but some plan devised to increase it. Certainly the stopping of all annual labor will tend to curtail the production of the precious metal. If the locator has not a claim worth prospecting, it is not likely that anyone will jump it, and at any time he sees fit to do the annual labor he will be able to hold it if no previous location has been made.

So we, your petitioners, most respectfully represent to this honorable Congress that it is to the interests of the people of the country at large, as well as those following mining as a vocation for a livelihood, that no legislation exempting locators and holders of claims from manual labor be enacted, and that by enacting such legislation the whole body of people will be injured for the possible and doubtful benefit of the few selfish holders of mineral claims.

Hoping that this honorable Congress will not only not enact the proposed legislation, but will do something to further stimulate the discovery of minerals, we are, yours most respectfully, Robert Dandell, L. W. Callahan, J. C. Lowrey, Roderick McKenzie, James Kirwan, Ernest Mills, Executive Board of the Western Federation of Miners. C. E. Mahoney, Acting President of the Western Federation of Miners. W. D. Haywood, Secretary-Treasurer of the Western Federation of Miners.

Iceland Women Interested In Suffrage Movement

It will be a surprise to most persons to learn that a majority of the adult women of Iceland have petitioned the Parliament now in session to give them the full ballot. They already have the municipal vote. There is no previous instance in history where a majority, either of the men or of the women, in any country, have signed a petition for anything, and the frequent remark that "Whenever the majority of women ask for suffrage they will get it," is always to be understood as a polite way of saying that the speaker does not want to give it to them. But in Iceland a majority of the women have actually asked for it.

Icelanders are an exceptionally intelligent and law-abiding people. Crime among them is almost unknown. Their spirit of independence was well shown when the King of Denmark lately made a gorgeous procession through the island. The peasants looked on from their doors, but would not leave their own ground or come down to the roadside for a closer view.

When the royal guest arrived at the Thingvold, the meeting place of the parliament, and the ancient center of the island's political life, he was met by hundreds of Icelandic chieftains, some of them dating their ancestry back to Odin and the prehistoric Kings of Norway and Sweden. They were all on horseback, sitting up as

straight as carved figures, and this is part of the speech to which the King listened:

"This is the ancient sacred meeting place of our forefathers. So mighty and noble it is that only God and fire and no other power wrought such a masterpiece. The floor of the hall is formed by streams of hardened lava, snow-capped mountain peaks form its columns, its ceiling is the blue dome of the sky. High it is and lofty and the air in it is wholesome. Here Icelandic mountain winds breathe on every cheek, and here the Icelanders have learned again and again to keep their backs straight. Here the laws were made and approved which made our forefathers free and far-famed. Here grew the life flowers of the Icelandic people."

SUFFRAGETTE ON CHILD TOILERS.

Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, the distinguished woman suffrage leader, who is traveling in this country, said in a public address a few days ago:

"I went into a glass factory in Pittsburgh the other day, and saw children working in that dreadful place. In Pennsylvania you have very small children for 14 years of age. The manager wanted me to take a souvenir. He offered me a pitcher. I said: 'I do not want to remember your place.' Then I saw a little broken crucifix. I said, 'I will take this, if I may.' I have that crucifix. It bears the figure of one who loved children. I say to you that thousands upon thousands of children are being crucified in America today and that these crimes would not be if women had the ballot."

British Tory Campaign Against Socialism

Unionist or Tory Vans on the Road and a Great Winter Campaign Begun—A Novel Program.

London, Dec. 13.—Under the above heading the "Standard" of last Saturday heralds with touching joy the inauguration of the "Great Winter Campaign Against Socialism and Radicalism," which was to take place last Wednesday. We have great satisfaction in spreading the glad tidings throughout the Socialist movement. The following is how the "Standard" tells its flattering tale:

The National Union of Conservative Associations have just completed arrangements for a novel winter campaign. Next Wednesday afternoon twenty specially constructed horse-drawn vans will start from the Westminster end of the Victoria Embankment on a tour which will last more than five months.

Each van will carry a lecturer, a lantern operator, and a driver, and each will be decorated with striking announcements, emblematic of the Unionist policy. The following are a few selections from these posters:

- Vote for Unionism and Britain for the British.
- Fiscal Reform means work for all.
- Vote for Unionism and a strong Navy.
- By removing the Export Coal Tax, the Radicals have thrown away £2,000,000 a year which should have gone in relief of your taxes.
- The policy of the Radicals is to promise everything; the policy of the Unionists is to do something.
- Socialism denies liberty.
- Unemployed, remember Woolwich!
- Socialism offers no reward to thrift.
- Under a Radical government your food has cost you more.
- Vote for Unionism, and an Army equal to its task.

The twenty cars will work their ways as below: One will go direct to Chippenham, and then visit all the towns and villages in Wiltshire. The others will be distributed thus: (2) Stroud, for Gloucestershire; (3) Monmouth, for South Wales and Hereford; (4) Hungerford, for Berkshire and Middlesex; (5) Wrexham, for North Wales, Cheshire and Shropshire; (6) Tamworth, for Warwickshire and Worcestershire; (7) Carlisle, for Cumberland and Westmorland; (8) Newcastle, for Northumberland and Durham; (9) Macclesfield, for Lancashire; (10) York, for Yorkshire; (11) Leicester, for Leicestershire and Staffordshire; (12) Norwich, for Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and part of Suffolk; (13) Colchester, for Essex, Hertfordshire and part of Suffolk; (14) Margate, for Kent and part of Sussex; (15) Eastbourne, for part of Sussex and part of Surrey; (16) Portsmouth, for Hampshire, Isle of Wight, and part of Sussex; (17) Yeovil, for Somersetshire, Devonshire and Dorsetshire; (18) Truro, for Cornwall and part of Devonshire; (19) Bedford, for Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Rutland and Northamptonshire; and (20) Nottingham, for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

On their tours the vans will stop at every village they pass through, and dinner-hour addresses will be delivered where sufficient workers are to be found. At night lantern exhibitions will be given, and powerful gramophones will reproduce speeches by famous leaders of the Unionist party. Millions of leaflets will be distributed and every possible effort made to thwart the dangerous wave of Radical-Socialism which is threatening the country. One striking speech to be delivered by gramophone points out that when (if ever) Socialism becomes a political power:

"All luxuries are to be done away with, and everybody will be satisfied with a bare subsistence. This will mean throwing out of work two million domestic servants, to say nothing of the millions of jewelers, plasterers, painters, decorators, pianoforte makers, motor builders and ornamental manufacturers of all descriptions, whose employment will be taken from them. All will work, but only to provide necessities. I don't know what they propose to do with the work dodgers, the boozers, and the seven days' rest men. They don't say. My advice, then, to everybody who has got anything, even if only a few pounds in the penny bank, to hold on to it. Hold on tight, or the Socialists will grab it from you. Those who hold anything dear, whether faith, family, country, or cash, stick to it, for Weary Willie and Tired Tim have both got their eye on it, if their leaders get half a chance."

Most of the popular songs of the day have been parodied, including "Zuyder Zee" (the words of which state that "jobbery and robbery, and nobbery and robbery don't suit me), and "Sailing in my Balloon" and "Everybody's Loved by Someone," the chorus of which runs:

Everybody's loved by some one,
Everybody knows that's true;
Some have father and mother dear,
Sister and brother, too;
Socialism says, Remember,
The State will take you when you're small,
Then one like you will ever know,
What a mother's love is like at all.

ASSIST THE BAKERS' UNION BY BUYING NONE BUT UNION LABEL BREAD.



The union men and union women who fail to patronize the Bakers' Union Label will commit a crime against the labor movement. The Union Label on every loaf of bread is the only guarantee that the bread you eat has been made in a strictly union shop. Let the union men and women of St. Louis remember that from this time on the very existence of Bakers' Union No. 4 depends on the success or non-success of the union label. It is true the union signed a contract with the American Bakery Co. which does not make the use of the union label by that firm obligatory, but this is a plain business proposition. The moment the American Bakery Co. could get along without the label the union would be dropped, because it would show that union label bread is no longer desired or asked for by the consumers. Therefore, buy no loaf of bread without the union label on.

JOIN THE SOCIALIST PARTY! It is the political party of the working class!

A WOMAN'S PRAYER

BY LAURA B. PAYNE.

A woman pale, at close of day,
Knelt where a dying baby lay,
And prayed to God to spare her child
From hunger's torture, fierce and wild.
O, Christ, Thou who didst love the poor,
Come near, I pray, my humble door!
Thou who didst make the water wine,
From fish and loaf did thousands dine,
Give bread this day to me and mine!

For days and days my weary feet
Have trudged about from street to street,
Where I have begged for work, not bread,
Until my heart sank down like lead.
A hundred times the angry frown
Of employer has cast me down,
And empty-handed, sick and sore,
I've sought again my hovel door.
I've seen my children, once so hale,

From want of food grow thin and pale.
And now, as fades the waning light,
My darling's soul goes home tonight.
O, God! is it for this we're born,
To tread the winepress, sad, forlorn,
And in a land of green and gold,
Starve as the felons did of old?

There is no famine in the land;
Vast riches from Thy loving hand
Are poured out lavishly each day,
Yet he must want who can not pay.
Pay who? Not Thee, O Lord, not Thee.
Are not thy bounties full and free?
Pay those who claim the land and gold,
While millions of Thy children slave
Or beg for that Thou freely gave.

They say this is a Christian land,
And church spires rise up tall and grand,
While hosts of people meet to pray,
And praise Thee every Sabbath day.
Yet e'en within the sacred shade
Of chapel dome dire want is laid
With vise-like grip on youth and age,
Until we find our printed page
Becomes a record sheet of crime,
Despite Thy life and words sublime.

O, God! if it be true that right
Shall triumph and at last make might,
Then let earth's wrongs be swept away,
And righteousness shine in like day.
Forbid that ere the sun should rise
On starving babes and weeping eyes,
Where mothers, bent with aching head,
Beg for a chance to toil for bread,
While greed shuts up his shriveled soul,
And takes the world in full control.

Thus Christian mothers kneel and pray,
While misery gnaws the heart away,
And travesties on Christian love
Make angels weep who watch above.
But lift your eyes, O child of earth!
For righteousness hath here had birth,
And nature from her thousand hills
Cries out against all human ills:
With gentle speech she'll check each sigh,
And wipe the tears from every eye:
Soothe every pain, drive out all care,
And answer every heartfelt prayer.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ORDERS TROOPS TO LEAVE GOLDFIELD

The Mine Owners and Their Political Tools Getting Busy to Keep Troops There.

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt today directed the withdrawal of United States troops stationed at Goldfield, Nev., on Monday, Dec. 30, next.

Telegrams on which the decision to withdraw the troops is based were given out at the White House today. The first, under date of Dec. 17, directed to Gov. Sparks of Nevada and signed by the president reads:

President Reviews Order.

"I sent the troops at your request because, from the tenor of your telegram and from the representations made me by the two senators from Nevada, it appeared that an insurrection was imminent, against which the state authorities would be powerless.

"The troops have now been in Goldfield ten days and no insurrection has occurred, and seemingly no circumstances justify your calling on me for action by the troops under the provision of the constitution. The troops were sent to Goldfield to be ready to meet a grave emergency, which seemed likely to at once arise, and not to provide a substitute for the exercise by the state of its police functions.

"I do not feel at liberty to leave them indefinitely under such circumstances that they will in effect be performing those ordinary duties of maintaining public order in the state of Nevada which rest upon the state.

Powers of State Adequate.

"The legislature of Nevada has not been convened, and I am bound to assume that the powers of the state are adequate and that if they choose to do so, they can maintain order themselves. Under these circumstances, should there be no further cause shown to justify keeping the troops at Goldfield, I shall direct that they shall return to their former stations. THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

A telegram was sent to Gov. Sparks today by the president, as follows:

"I have received no answer from you to my telegram of Dec. 17, in which I said that unless there was forthwith further cause shown to justify keeping the troops at Goldfield I should direct their return to their former stations. I am informed by the representatives of the Department of Commerce and Labor who are in Goldfield by my order that you have stated to them in writing that you will not convene the legislature nor take the necessary steps to formulate a military force.

Roosevelt Scores Sparks.

"This satisfies me that there is no disturbance threatened which the governor ought not to be able to control if he starts to work with a set purpose to do so, but that no effort is being made by the government of Nevada to take the steps necessary in the matter.

"I stand ready to see that the national government does its full constitutional duty in the matter of preserving order, but this readiness on the part of the national government does not excuse the

state government for failure to perform its full duty in the first place. Federal aid should not be sought for by the state as a method of relieving itself from the performance of this duty, and the states should not be permitted to substitute the forces of the United States government.

"For the reasons given in this and my former telegram, I have, accordingly, directed the troops to return to their former station on Monday, Dec. 30, next. THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Goldfield to Ask President to Keep Troops There Longer.

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 20.—News of the president's order removing the federal troops from Goldfield on Dec. 30 has caused a sensation among the mine owners and the residents of the city generally. The news was received at noon today, and during the afternoon conferences were held between Capt. Cox, the representative of Gov. Sparks in Goldfield, and Col. Reynolds, commanding the troops here, and between the mine owners and members of President Roosevelt's committee.

President McKinnon and other officials of the miners' union said tonight that the possibility of disorder or violence of any sort will be no greater after the removal of the troops than now, and that they will use every endeavor to maintain peace and quiet.

Attorney O. N. Hilton, sent here by President Moyer of the Western Federation to assist in effecting, if possible, a compromise for the Western Federation of Miners with the Mine Owners' Association, after a conference with President McKinnon, said that he was assured that no violence would be attempted. He said also that the position of the miners of the Western Federation was unchanged. Capt. Cox said that the governor will at once issue instructions to Sheriff Ingalls of this county to the effect that he shall expect the sheriff to adopt vigorous measures to insure the safety and peace of every resident of Esmeralda county, and that he will be prepared at the sign of trouble to declare martial law.

The county officers of Esmeralda visited the labor commission and signed a statement to the effect that it will be to the best interests of Goldfield to have the federal troops remain in Goldfield for an indefinite time. Sheriff Ingalls was one of the signers.

The civic bodies of Goldfield are holding sessions and strong statements will be forwarded to the president within the coming few hours regarding the wisdom of withdrawing the troops.

Gov. Sparks Ill and Does Not Discuss Troops' Removal.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 20.—Gov. Sparks is ill at his home in this city. No statement could be obtained from him tonight regarding the order of President Roosevelt that the troops be withdrawn from Goldfield.

GOV. SPARKS WOULD RETAIN TROOPS.

Communication to Roosevelt Will Request Retention of Part of the Federal Forces.

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 22.—Gov. Sparks, it is announced, is preparing a statement of present conditions in Goldfield, to be telegraphed to President Roosevelt.

The governor is not satisfied that the president has yet the true light on the situation, notwithstanding the report of the commission and the order of the War Department for the withdrawal of the troops. The communication to the president will also, it is said, contain a request for the retention of at least a portion of the troops now here after the date set for their going.

The order for the movement of the troops back to their permanent quarters came from Gen. Funston to Col. Reynolds, in command of the troops here, today. To supplement the request of the governor, a communication will go to the president from Sheriff Ingalls of this county; Benjamin Rosenthal, chairman of the county commissioners, and Commissioner Spiker.

This statement to the president asserts that the county officials will be unable to handle the situation after the departure of the troops should trouble ensue.

Reorganized Deputies.

The sheriff is reorganizing his force of deputies and adding thereto. The newly appointed deputies are in the pay of the Goldfield Mine Owners Association, and have begun already to patrol the principal streets in the vicinity of the mines, armed with shot-guns and automatic revolvers.

Acting President Mahoney of the Western Federation of Miners said, after going over the situation with officers of the local miners' union, that the Western Federation of Miners would uphold the local in all that it had previously done, and will stand squarely behind it in its future actions.

He says there can be no compromise with the Goldfield mine owners which discredits or eliminates the Western Federation, and he is not optimistic of any speedy settlement. He will remain some time.

The union pickets surrounded the mines again today and the guard of the mine owners patrolled close by. Around the property of the Consolidated Company a high barbed-wire fence is being built.

Last Tuesday's St. Louis Globe-Democrat, a mouthpiece of the Republican party machine, published the following dispatches:

PLAYING POLITICS IN NEVADA STRIKE FAILS.

Roosevelt Too Shrewd to Be Used as a Tool Against the Unions.

Special Dispatch to the Globe-Democrat.

Washington, Dec. 23.—There is a strong suspicion among people familiar with the inside facts of the Nevada labor troubles that an effort has been made to drag President Roosevelt into a position that would have done serious injury to his party in the coming campaign. The president declined to step into the trap and thereby probably saved his party from the danger of losing a lot of electoral votes in the mountain states and possibly in other parts of the country.

If the president had done what was wanted of him, he would have put himself in the position of using federal troops to enforce the open shop in Nevada. That is believed to be just what the mine owners and allied interests wanted to do in the labor troubles in the state. They were in position to appeal to the national administration, because Nevada has no militia.

Mine Owners Will Try Again.

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 23.—Despite the positive statement which came from Washington today to the effect that the federal troops

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will be removed from Goldfield Dec. 30, mine owners have not given up, and will appeal again to the president. They will present, they say tonight, some matters which have not yet been laid before him, one of these being what they regard as positive evidence that at least one deportation was attempted by the Western Federation of Miners, in which attempt four rifles were used.

A suit against the Western Federation of Miners is to be brought by the Goldfield Mine Operators' Association in the Federal Court Dec. 26. An injunction will be asked for restraining the members of the local miners' union, which is affiliated with the Western Federation, from interfering in any way with the operation of the mines in Goldfield.

Another Mine Resumes Work.

With fifty at work underground, the Mohawk mine was started up this morning after being shut down for over three weeks. The Consolidated mill and the Nevada Goldfield reduction works are running.

A GLANCE BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The Financial Crisis Discussed by Author of "Frenzied Finance."

THOMAS W. LAWSON.

John R. Walsh, at the head of one of the system's branches in Chicago, and head of only a few of many system banks and trust companies in the west, by accident was caught. He is now being criminally tried. The testimony has brought to light the fact that for years it was his custom to personally buy \$100,000 worth of coal mines or railroads and immediately sell them to one of his banks for \$1,000,000 of the depositors' money, and almost immediately have the bank which bought sell them to one of his trust companies for \$3,000,000 of its deposits, and that he repeated these operations to the extent of looting the banks and trust companies of which he was the head, of many millions, and that it was his custom when he had no mines or railroads handy, to order his secretary to forge as high as six different names at one time to notes for hundreds of thousands of dollars and to exchange these notes for the banks and trust companies' deposits.

But what the testimony does not show is that, when Walsh was caught, a committee of other banks and trust companies relieved his banks and trust companies of these "securities" by purchasing them for their banks and trust companies by their deposits, thus enabling the Walsh banks and trust companies to avert an open crash, which means that the other banks not yet caught have these paper titles instead of real money. And another thing which is not shown by the testimony is that Walsh is only one of scores of others who have not yet been exposed and who, to prevent exposure, are active in trying to show how badly the country needs new currency and banking laws.

Only a few weeks before the panic, \$15,000,000 to \$25,000,000 worth of Atlantic Steamship securities were combined in one trust and there was issued against them \$25,000,000 of mortgage bonds, \$62,500,000 of other bonds and \$62,500,000 of stock, or \$150,000,000 in all. These \$150,000,000 of "securities" were then exchanged for scores of millions of deposits in banks and trust companies. This was done openly and with great newspaper publicity, and at a time when you were working overtime in your exposure of the ancient Chicago & Alton looting.

At the same time and in conjunction with this "financing" a notorious confidence man from Montana swooped down on financial New York and over night turned \$25,000,000 worth of mining property into \$200,000,000 of "securities" which he used as instruments for the withdrawal of scores of millions of dollars of the people's deposits in banks and trust companies, and which he used as instruments to personally take possession of a number of banks and trust companies in and about New York City.

This was not secretly done, but was done with the greatest publicity and while your bank examiners and other officials stood by without entering protest. It was only by the merest accident these two cases were exposed, with the result that a number of banks and trust companies failed, one of which locked up, perhaps forever, \$50,000,000 of the people's money, the president of this one promptly committing suicide. All this is now a matter of notoriety, and yet in all the publicity there is no comment made of the fact that I had set forth these exact conditions, now exposed, in great advertisements under the heading, "The Swindle of the Age," and had spread them continuously before the public and banking officials for over fourteen months, nor is any comment made that at the very time of this exposure there were in New York City alone a number of similar affairs each one as rotten as those I have outlined.

Over three years ago I publicly described in detail one particular swindle, which was engineered from a New York national bank, one of the largest banks in the world, and I set forth the evidence whereby the public were boldly and openly robbed of over \$100,000,000, and that \$46,000,000 of this amount was in a single transaction, and I showed how the banking rooms were openly used as headquarters, and yet no action had even been taken by the national banking authorities. The head of this bank and the man concerned in the looting is one of the advisers of your Secretary of the Treasury in the present "crisis."

Three years ago I showed, in detail, how a monopoly had been created for the absolute control of one of the great industries of the country, copper. It was shown how this monopoly was absolutely controlled by one man, how through the working of this monopoly the price of copper to the people had been raised from 11 to 20 cents per pound, and how over night, it was dropped back to 11 cents, and how the people thereby were robbed of over \$200,000,000 and investors of over \$500,000,000, and yet after such exposure there was not only nothing done by the government to prevent its repetition, but, in fact, it was repeated, openly, without any attempt to disguise, step by step, as before, only on a much larger and more disastrous scale, in 1906.

This time the price was manipulated to 26 cents, and scores of thousands of mine and metal workers were thereby deceived into broadening their mode of living in the belief that the fraud-made conditions were legitimate, and then, over night, the price was dropped to 12 cents and the entire industry was disorganized and scores of thousands of skilled laborers were deprived of their livelihood. At present time, because of the repetition of this swindle, there are in banks and trust companies, in place of the hundreds of millions of deposits which have been withdrawn by the men who planned and worked this gigantic swindle, copper stocks and copper metal titles at valuations hundreds of millions greater than banks and trust companies can realize for them.

There is a dollar king on one of New York's thrones. He was there before the panic; he is there yet. He swings the destiny of over \$1,000,000,000 of bank and trust companies' deposits—swings their destinies as absolutely as a Bowery restaurant keeper does the festoons of frankfurters which lure the people to his hashery. This man is responsible for the "manufacture" of the \$500,000,000 of tobacco trust chromos, which now occupy the boxes of banks and trust companies which formerly contained the money deposits of the people. He has "manufactured" hundreds of millions of traction "securities" which are similarly situated.

This morning's dailies first-pagedly note his doings, as one of the three foremost saviors of the country and steerers for your Secretary of the Treasury. The same pages contain court proceedings against him, wherein he is charged by another great capitalist with causing to be published false statements to the effect that one of his printing press railroad creations, was so preposterous that its stock, one of the active Wall street footballs, was actually worth the price this capitalist paid for it, and that banks and trust companies loaned upon it money, \$170 per share, and that after making

these statements and "manufacturing" the \$170 per share price, this dollar king "unloaded" onto this capitalist and-banks and trust companies, whereup the stock dropped to its present price of \$21, which means that for every \$10,700,000 of deposits which were withdrawn from banks and trust companies by the use of this stock, such banks and trust companies can get back by the sale of the stock only \$2,100,000.

One can not refrain, in noting the dollar king's transactions, from wondering how many issues of \$100,000,000 government notes it would require to plug up the holes made in the people's savings by this one man, even though each issue was presented by the government outright to the victims.

THE SUBJUGATION OF SANTA CLAUS

I climbed the stairs that led to Santa's home,
I found the door was just a bit ajar;
I was about to knock, when out the room
There came a voice I'd scarce been seeking for.

The Rich Man spoke. He said: "For you here's gold,
Now listen closely to what I have to say:
Last year the children of the Poor, I'm told,
Were treated by you in a handsome way."

Old Santa grumbled, "No, it wasn't much,
There's very little that I have to give,
Their parents they had worked quite hard for such;
It sure was their's, as is their right to live."

"Bah, do not interrupt," the Rich Man said,
"This year there is a change in our great land,
By sympathetic scruples be not led,
Do not distribute with so lavish hand."

"Give to my sons and daughters, as of yore,
In fact a little more than that I'd say.
But understand, the Poor you must ignore,
They shall not have a thing on Christmas Day."

"What's that you ask of me?" old Santa cried,
"You're urging that which I refuse to do:
For centuries past the Poor have been denied,
I gave them little, just to humor you."

"And now you wish that I forget them quite,
That I ignore their hunger and their cold,
That I shall keep from them what is their right,
The bounteous gifts of their great land withhold?"

"No gifts for children of the Poor at all?
No toys or sweets to cheer their Christmas Day?
You say that I shall not obey the call
Of boys and girls who for my coming pray?"

"I can not do it; what you ask is vain,
The children of the Poor won't be forgot:
I will not cause deep misery and pain—
Already theirs is most unhappy lot."

"Ah, think of what the Day to them would mean,
If Santa Claus had failed to make a call,
The tears, the forlorn sadness of the scene—
The pall of misery hanging over all."

"It makes no difference," then the Rich Man cried,
"You shall not give to any wretched Poor;
The times are hard, I say you must abide
By my decisions, and their cause abjure."

"I tell you frankly that you must obey:
I own all factories where your goods are made,
If you refuse to do just as I say,
In future years we will decline your trade."

Old Santa Claus then bowed his snow-white head,
While tear-drops from his eyes began to start.
"Alas, it shall be as you wish," he said,
Then slowly turned away with breaking heart.

—Henry G. Welking.

JOHN BROWN

BY EUGENE V. DEBS.



The most picturesque character, the bravest man and most self-sacrificing soul in American history, was hanged at Charlestown, Va., Dec. 2, 1859.

On that day Thoreau said: "Some eighteen hundred years ago Christ was crucified. This morning, perchance, Capt. Brown was hung. These are the two ends of a chain which is not without its links. He is not 'Old Brown' any longer; he is an Angel of Light. * * * I foresee the time when the painter will paint that scene, no longer going to Rome for a subject; the poet will sing it, the historian record it, and with the landing of the Pilgrims and the Declaration of Independence it will be the ornament of some future national gallery, when at least the present form of slavery shall be no more here. We shall then be at liberty to weep for Capt. Brown."

Few people dared that fateful day to breathe a sympathetic word for the grizzled old agitator. For years he had carried on his warfare against chattel slavery. He had only a handful of fanatical followers to support him. But to his mind his duty was clear, and that was enough. He would fight it out to the end, and if need be alone.

Old John Brown set an example of moral courage and of single-hearted devotion to an ideal for all men and for all ages.

With every drop of his honest blood he hated slavery, and in his early manhood he resolved to lay his life on Freedom's altar in wiping out that insufferable affliction. He never faltered. So God-like was his unconquerable soul that he dared to face the world alone. How perfectly sublime!

He did not reckon the overwhelming numbers against him, nor the paltry few that were on his side. This grosser aspect of the issue found no lodgment in his mind or heart. He was right and Jehovah was with him. His was not to reckon consequences, but to strike the immortal blow and step from the gallows to the throne of God.

Not for earthly glory did John Brown wage his holy warfare; nor for any recognition or reward the people had it in their power to bestow. His great heart was set upon a higher goal, animated by a loftier ambition. His grand soul was illumined by a sublime ideal. A race of human beings, lowly and despised, were in chains, and this festering crime was eating out the heart of civilization.

In the presence of this awful plague logic was silent, reason dumb, pity dead.

The wrath of retributive justice, long asleep, awakened at last and hurled its lurid bolt. Old John Brown struck the blow and the storm broke. That hour chattel slavery was dead.

In the first frightful convulsion the slave power seized the grand old liberator by the throat, put him in irons and threw him into a dungeon to await execution.

Alas! it was too late. His work was done. All Virginia could do was to furnish the crown for his martyrdom.

Victor Hugo exclaimed in a burst of reverential passion: "John Brown is grander than George Washington!"

History may be searched in vain for an example of noble heroism and sublime self-sacrifice equal to that of Old John Brown.

From the beginning of his career to its close he had but one idea and one ideal, and that was to destroy chattel slavery; and in that cause he sealed his devotion with his noble blood. Realizing that his work was done, he passed serenely, almost with joy, from the scenes of men.

His calmness upon the gallows was awe-inspiring; his exaltation supreme.

Old John Brown is not dead. His soul still marches on, and each passing year weaves new garlands for his brow and adds fresh lustre to his deathless glory.—Appeal to Reason.

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The men are getting their rights. When a man eats too much pork these days, and gets sick, his friends find that grieving over the death of his wife, or his grandmother, caused his illness. Men never used to get any credit for poetic instincts.—Atchison Globe.

It was a Boston girl who described her faithless lover's mouth as "stretching across the wide desolation of his face, the sepalcher of the distiller's output and the geyser of falsehood."—Kansas City Star.

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THE EDITOR OF LABOR welcomes and appreciates any recommendation or co-operation from any comrade or sympathizer tending to improve our paper, both as to its contents and its appearance.

SOCIALIST VOTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

| | |
|------------|---------|
| 1888 | 2,000 |
| 1896 | 36,000 |
| 1900 | 122,000 |
| 1904 | 408,000 |

SOCIALIST VOTE OF THE WORLD.

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1867 | 30,000 |
| 1877 | 494,000 |
| 1887 | 931,000 |
| 1893 | 2,585,000 |
| 1898 | 4,515,000 |
| 1903 | 6,285,000 |
| 1906 | over 7,000,000 |

THE PROTEST

Said the great machine of iron and wood,
"Lo, I am a creature meant for good."
But the criminal clutch of Godless greed
Has made me a monster that scatters need
And want and hunger wherever I go.
I would lift men's burdens and lighten their woe,
I would give them leisure to laugh in the sun,
If owned by the Many—instead of the one.

If owned by the people, the whole wide earth
Should learn my purpose and know my worth.
I would close the chasm that yawns in our soil
T'wixt unearned riches and ill-paid toil.
No man should hunger, and no man labor
To fill the purse of an idle neighbor;
And each man should know when his work was done,
Were I shared by the Many—not owned by one.

I am forced by the few, with their greed for gain,
To forge for the many new fetters of pain.
Yet this is my purpose, and ever will be
To set the slaves of the workshop free.
God hasten the day when, overjoyed,
That desperate host of the unemployed
Shall hear my message and understand,
And hail me friend in an opulent land.

—ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

A Happy New Year to everybody! Especially to the men and women in the great Labor and Socialist movement.

From time immemorial the people upheld the custom of wishing each other happiness and enjoyment of life. Too often the wishes and hopes were about all they could enjoy.

The toiling nations, prayed, wished and prayed for better days which never came. Their days of sufferings and pains ended with their last breath of life, when their dead bodies were given back to Mother Earth.

Too often the happiness of the toiling masses depended on the good will of the ruling priests and kings and lords who ruled by the "Grace of God Almighty"—a lie which is as old as human society itself.

Every crime and act of oppression committed and done by the rulers of the ages was unloaded on a "God Almighty," and the great mass of people, brought up in the school of religious superstition, conventional lies, economic oppression and social contempt would take it for granted that all of their misery and woe was prescribed by that supernatural power known as "God," that it was all pre-ordained fate, that it was "God's unchangeable will."

Thus the powers of darkness and oppression ruled over the nations of the earth!

But even the darkest night is followed by dawn, and by the rising sun shedding her rays of light all over the earth.

Superstition and ignorance must give way to knowledge and science. The men and women and children of toil are waking up. No longer do they foolishly wish and vainly hope for better days, but they demand their human rights; they become masters of their own fate; they no longer permit tyrants and Pharisees to use "God Almighty" as a general chief of police to keep the toiling masses of "God's own children" in the inferno of slavery.

A Happy New Year, indeed, to think of the great universal rebellion of the working class the wide world over!

A Happy New Year to think of the onward march of the great International Trade Union movement, an army of many millions of thinking men and women!

Never before in the history of man has there been such a tremendous movement for human progress and freedom.

A Happy New Year to think that you and I and tens of millions more of men and women and children belong to that great Socialist movement which has for its ultimate aim and object the emancipation of labor from wage slavery and the establishment and introduction of the Socialist Industrial Co-operative Commonwealth!

Labor and Socialism! The masters of labor and their subservient

owls of darkness look with horror and consternation to the days when the Organized Labor movement and the great Socialist movement will practically mean the same, when, though two separate and distinct organizations, these movements will march under the same glorious banner to the battlefield of Labor's freedom.

A Happy New Year!

Horrible Work

I.

During the first three weeks of the month of December about eight hundred mine workers were killed in the United States. Four great mine disasters took place during these three weeks:

In Fayette, Pa., about fifty men lost their lives.

Next came the catastrophe in Monongah, W. Va., where over four hundred, perhaps five hundred, men were killed.

Yolande, Ala., reported a mine explosion, with eighty-one victims.

And last week followed Jacobs Creek, Pa., where two hundred and fifty miners were killed.

This is worse than civil war. In one of the many branches of industry of our country nearly one thousand workmen killed, nay, murdered, murdered in cold blood by the greedy coal barons and railroad kings!

Like bloody irony, the capitalist newspapers inform their readers that in the Jacobs Creek disaster "many lives were saved because laborers were devoted to church duties." The fact of the matter is that the explosion occurred on St. Nicholas day, which is an important Greek Catholic holiday, in honor of the czar of Russia, who is also the "Pope" or head of the Greek church. Many of the poor, ignorant imported Greek miners had been at church that morning, and escaped death, while the American, Irish, German and other non-Greek Catholics remained at work in the mines and lost their lives. How unfortunate that these hard-working American, Irish and German miners were not like the rest, i. e., devoted religious slaves to the czar of Russia and his church! This might have saved their lives!

According to official statistical information, nearly 7,000 coal miners were killed in the mines of the United States during the year of 1906.

Nearly 23,000 mine workers were killed in the mines of the United States during the last seventeen years.

These are horrible figures. On the strength of these figures, you may extend your "Happy New Year!" to our American miners.

II.

A Washington dispatch dated Dec. 18, says: The coal mines of the United States are killing three times as many men per 100 employed as those of most European countries. In the last seventeen years 22,840 men have given up their lives in the mines of this country. As many violent deaths have occurred during the last six years as during the preceding eleven years.

The number of fatal accidents each year is now double that of the year 1895. In 1906 6,861 men were killed or injured in the mines, the number killed numbering 2,061 and the injured 4,800.

These facts have been gleaned by government experts acting under orders from Secretary Garfield. Joseph Holmes, chief of the technologic branch; Clarence Hall, explosive expert, and others made a number of examinations of the more dangerous coal mines of Indian Territory. In addition, Mr. Hall and his assistant, Walter O. Snelling, have investigated the nature and causes of a number of disastrous coal mine explosions in several of the states. The conclusions of the experts are found in a bulletin issued today on "Coal Mine Accidents; Their Causes and Prevention."

The statement of Mr. Holmes in the bulletin that an increase in the number and in the seriousness of mine explosions may be expected to continue, has already proven fateful, for, since the words were written, the country has been startled with the news of three mine explosions, costing nearly 500 lives.

Mr. Holmes says: "The figures given in this report indicate that during the year 1906 nearly 7,000 men were killed or injured, and that the number has been steadily increasing. It is also indicated that this increase has been due in part to the lack of proper and enforceable mine regulations, in part to the lack of reliable information concerning the use of explosives and the conditions under which they can be used safely in the presence of the gas and dust encountered in the mines, and in part to the fact that in the development of coal mining not only is the number of mines increasing, but many areas from which coal is being taken are either deeper or farther from the entrance, where good ventilation is more difficult."

"The increase may be expected to continue unless thorough investigations are made and proper precautions taken."

III.

Not only the Socialist and trade union press has been thoroughly aroused by the recent murders en masse of the American mine workers, but even the capitalist dailies are seriously discussing the criminal work of our mining barons and speculators.

The St. Louis Republic:

There is certainly criminal neglect of some sort in our methods when the death rate of miners by accident has increased here from 2.67 per thousand in 1895 to 3.40 per thousand in 1906, the death rate from the same cause steadily declining in European countries during the same period. Our coal mines kill nearly four times as many men per thousand as do those of Belgium, more than four times as many as the mines of France and nearly three times as many as those of Great Britain. In no country of the world are the conditions for the safe extraction of coal so favorable as in the United States, and yet this murderous record stands against us as a result of neglecting the safeguards that ought to be enforced. We are not so strict as we should be in making compulsory the use of safety lamps. We do not limit as we should the charges of explosives that may be fired. We are not so careful as the Europeans in shot-firing at times when the mines are unoccupied except for the presence of the expert shot-firers. Most of the horrible mine accidents of the last few days have been due to the caving of the roofs of the underground chambers. If they were not caused by insufficient supports they were in all probability due to the jarring produced by unnecessarily violent explosions in getting out coal. Taking this bulletin of the Geological Survey as a guide, the laws of every coal-mining state should forbid many of the practices tolerated in our own mines, and command the observance of the rules and precautions quoted from the laws of European countries. Our list of criminal tragedies is already too long.

IV.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, in a lengthy editorial on "The Crimes in the Mines," makes the following comment:

We are busying ourselves with Japanese immigration

just now, as though contamination as a result of it were certain, but the Japanese never lived who could be subjected to the tyranny which prevails in the coal districts. The blood of thousands of subjugated Caucasians cries out against the murderous greed of the men who control and who grow rich on this industry.

There never was much importation of labor on contract in this country except in the coal mining regions. Outside of those districts laws and force have never been employed for months at a time to persecute starving women and children. It is only in American coal mines that thousands of human beings toil daily and nightly in the presence of dangers that in most civilized lands are shown to be unnecessary. The coal trade in the eastern states is a highwayman in business, a bully in politics, a sneaking Pharisee in religion and a mankiller in industry. It steals; it snivels; it browbeats; it destroys. It has neither conscience nor compassion. It sends the helpless to its wretchedly equipped caves to die. It plunders rich and poor, who buy its cornered and monopolized product. In all the uproar which we have had of late over trusts and combinations, not one effective step has been taken anywhere to bring this, the greatest offender of them all, to justice. Its riches reek with the blood of its unhappy slaves; they are rank with cruelty, injustice and extortion. It violates every law of God and man. A small expenditure at the mines would safeguard thousands of lives. A slight concession in price would carry comfort to millions of homes. The Coal Trust is unmindful alike of life and health, and there is none among our boastful political champions who dare assail it.

V.

"How long, oh workers, how long?" asks the Chicago Daily Socialist and proceeds as follows:

"How long must men be murdered by hundreds in the mines that profits may be piled up for possessors? How long will Labor stand quiet amid the mangled bodies of its members, with no perceptible emotion save one of wondering terror concerning where the bolt will next strike? These men are murdered for profit as much as the victim of the most cold-blooded thug. Nor do the murderers have the excuse that the thug can offer—that grim poverty is dogging at their heels. Every miner, every mine inspector, every person who knows anything whatever of mines and mining, knows that a mine can be so ventilated that a gas explosion is absolutely impossible. But this would cost money! It would reduce profits! So the slaughter must go on. More widows and orphans must be made. More fragments of human flesh, living and dying and dead, must be drawn up from new pits day by day, sometimes in England, sometimes in France, but most often in America, where profits are valued most high and human life held cheapest."

VI.

The Cleveland Citizen brings out another feature of the latest mine disasters to which no attention is paid by the capitalist press. The Citizen says:

"Nothing is said in the dispatches, however, that the corporation 'runs its business to suit itself;' 'would permit no dictation from agitators,' etc. The non-union miners were told when to work and when to stop, and obeyed orders. They had no voice in regulating the conditions under which they were granted the rare privilege of producing wealth for their magnanimous masters, who boast of having painted the rented houses of their serfs, probably with white-wash."

"Had the men been permitted to organize they would have discussed the conditions under which they were compelled to work, and in all likelihood would have insisted upon the most rigid inspection of the mines and the installation of the best safety appliances. But these things would have cost money—much more than the value of 70 pine coffins painted black—and thus there would have been smaller dividends for the hungry plutocrats who control the mines."

"It is notoriously true that seven out of the last eight mine fatalities occurred in 'open shop,' or more properly, non-union mines. In those holes, when an employe has the temerity to complain that laws are violated and that life is endangered, he is branded as an agitator and curtly informed that he must keep his mouth shut or move on. In union mines there are committees to whom individual workmen make reports, and those committees see to it that all complaints are quickly adjusted or the men walk out. In prohibiting their employes from organizing and having an equal voice in determining their wages, hours of work and general conditions under which they must toil, the mine owners, whether they control properties in West Virginia, Colorado, Nevada or Alabama, convict themselves of being the worst criminals in the country and ought to be so regarded by every friend of humanity. But they will never be brought to justice until the working people assume control of the reins of government and enact, interpret and administer the laws."

VII.

Another labor paper, L'Union des Travailleurs, in Charlevoix, Pa., a French publication, whose editor is well acquainted with the conditions in the mining districts, says:

"The fact is that at Monongah, as elsewhere, the lives of the miners were sacrificed to the cupidity of the exploiters. In their race for the dollar the life of the workingman does not longer count for anything."

"Yet men like Van Cleave, Post, Parry and other human moths are attempting to prove that the Open Shop conditions existing in these cemeteries called coal mines are the ideal of 'free American labor.'"

Every workingman and woman opposed to such a system of wholesale slaughter must not only join the union of his or her trade, but fall in line with the political working class organization, which is the Socialist Party.

1908 is a national campaign year. The Socialist Party will be in the field as the only third political party of which Capitalism is afraid. From an insignificant sect the Socialist movement in Europe has grown to an army of over seven million male voters and as many women who are still denied equal political rights. The American capitalists are aware of this fact; they know that the next ten years will see a Socialist Party of America with millions of voters marching under its flag side by side with the great trade union movement for the common cause of ameliorating Labor's conditions and bringing about its economic and social emancipation.

We will then call a halt to the murder en masse in the mines and factories.

Brothers, Sisters, Comrades, to the front! Prepare for the great political campaign of Labor and Socialism in 1908.

A happy New Year!

WHEN MAY WE TAKE THE FIRST WALK to East St. Louis via our free municipal bridge? When? Guess! Our friend Sheridan Webster and other Free Bridge enthusiasts may be dead and buried by that time. We hope they won't, but they may.

Editorial Observations

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to the Comrades, friends and workers in the noble cause of the Labor and Socialist movement.

CHRISTMAS TURKEY DEMAND IS LIGHT! report the daily papers. That's the result of the full dinner pail prosperity and the "financial flurry."

THE PEOPLE OF PERSIA are determined to cut the wings of their Shah and establish a real constitutional government. Light and progress everywhere!

TWO HUNDRED STRIKING NITRATE WORKERS in Iquique, Chile, were shot down and killed by government troops. Machine guns were used to do the bloody work. Chile is getting quite progressive under its Capitalist Republican regime.

COMRADES, JOIN THE SOCIALIST PARTY as active members. This is a national campaign year and it requires a strong army of active party members to make this the most memorable presidential campaign in the history of the labor movement.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has changed his mind. He ordered the withdrawal of the troops when Congress was petitioned to investigate the Goldfield situation. See the point? This is a campaign year, hence politicians are more sensitive than at post-election periods.

FROM AN EXCHANGE OF 1950: Harry Orchard died of old age at Boise, Idaho, where for half a century he has been an honored guest of the state. The last forty years he has traveled extensively as a witness, his services being in constant demand in this capacity.—Boise Citizen (Miners' Magazine).

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO for the working people? As usual . . . Nothing! And that's right, too. If the American workmen are desirous of having their own interests protected in our national parliament they can easily do so by electing their own people to Congress, and elect them on a strictly labor platform, which is the Socialist Party platform.

THE SENSATIONAL HARDEN TRIAL IN BERLIN furnishes ample proof of the moral depravity of the ruling classes of the Empire. The same elements who stand today disgraced in the eyes of the German nation, were instrumental during last year's parliamentary campaign to invent and circulate the worst kind of slander, calumniations and vilifications against the Socialist movement.

WARNING TO UNEMPLOYED. We are informed by the Miners' Union in Des Loges and Flat River, Mo., that there are over one thousand miners out of work in the Missouri Lead Belt. Unemployed, take notice! Don't be deceived by the "Wanted" columns of capitalist newspapers.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT MAY now try to unload the responsibility for his Goldfield military campaign on a Democratic Governor Spark (who hasn't a spark of decency about him), but the fact remains that there is no excuse for rushing the federal troops into a strike district without first investigating the situation. No doubt, his "undesirable citizens" feelings had a great deal to do with his rash action in the Goldfield strike situation.

TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND MINERS killed in the United States within the last seventeen years! Not in war, not on the battlefield, but at peaceful work while their wives and children were waiting for the daily bread at home. Yet, Capitalism is upheld by every Christian church in the country, and Socialism which aims at the abolition of this murderous industrial system, is misrepresented and attacked by the same elements who claim to represent God, Christ and the Holy Ghost on Earth.

A GOOD SIZE STANDING ARMY for Uncle Sam is now assured. It is the Standing Army of the Unemployed, already a million strong. Now we may sing with Hamlin Garland: "Oh, the army of the wretched, how they swarm the city street, We have seen them in the midnight, where the Goths and Vandals have met; We had shuddered in the darkness at the noise of their feet— But their cause goes marching on."

Where the Christmas Toys Come From

BY CORINNE S. BROWN.

I never saw so many toys in all my life before. Toys seemed to exude from every village, every hamlet, every house. Men, women and little children gave their whole time to the making of these playthings, as if their very lives depended upon them.

And so they do. Whole villages of people about Munich, Stuttgart, Nuremberg and all through Southern Germany, in fact, get their bread and butter and the clothes they wear, and the roof above their heads, by making toys for the children of the human race. They depend upon toy-making for their living.

I was spending some months in Southern Germany, and had the opportunity of visiting several towns where toys are made, with a relative who was a buyer for a great American wholesale house. In this way I had an excellent opportunity for learning at first hand the methods of this phase of industry.

For the most part toy making is a sweated industry. The dolls, dishes, wooden animals and other playthings we see so abundantly displayed in the great stores of our cities, are not, as one might suppose, from their great quantities, turned out of immense factories, such as we have in this country. Instead, they are made in the homes of the people. Every private house in the toy making district is a little individual factory, where mother, father and children work together from early morning till late at night, making toys.

Each family has become expert in the making of one line of toys, and to this line they confine themselves all of their lives. Everything is hand made; they must attain a marvelous dexterity in order to turn out the large quantities that are demanded of them. The pay is so small, too, that they must keep up at a rapid pace in order to get a living wage out of their toil. For instance, one family confines itself to the making of wooden animals for Noah's ark. Each ark will require from twenty to thirty wooden animals, carved out of solid wooden blocks, and colored. The father and sons carve the animals; they are passed along in a tray to a girl, who has arranged before her various pots of coloring fluid. Into these she dips the small figures, according to the color needed, and passes them on to another girl, who places them on a rack to dry, after which they are taken off and packed away, by still another member of the family. In this way each member works all day long, at his or her special job, and for twelve dozen of these animals they are paid about eleven cents. Noah's arks will sell in this country at twenty-five cents each, and up.

Several parties, however, must take out their profits between the time the product leaves the hands of the worker and the time that it reaches the customer in the retail store. This for one thing accounts for the low wages of the producer and the high price the shopper must pay for the product.

Glass ornaments for Christmas trees are made by the carload in

the "homes"—mark the word—each member of the family having its specialized line here as elsewhere. The glass is blown into every conceivable shape by one person, passed on to another to be colored red, blue, gilt, silver, or what not. Is placed on a tray to dry by another, and carefully packed in cardboard boxes by still another worker.

Baskets are another popular product of these home factories. Baskets of all sizes and shapes, and for all purposes. It was hard to think that even the whole world could use so many baskets. Candles were made in immense quantities, for Christmas trees, for religious purposes, for plain everyday use. And dolls—one can only imagine, when one has visited the toy departments of the great city stores with their quantities of dolls of every size and quality, how many dolls must be turned out by these home toy makers in Southern Germany to supply the demand, for in Switzerland, Tyrol and Germany most of the world's dolls are made. Last season it was impossible to supply the demand for dolls with kid bodies, on account of the fashion of wearing long kid gloves by women. There were not enough poor little kids in the world to supply the hide for long gloves and dolls' bodies at the same time. So more rubber, bisque and celluloid dolls were made.

These toy makers work by contract for enterprising business firms. They do not know enough to make their contracts direct with the buyers or the wholesale merchants of the various countries. Or, if they know enough, haven't the time to attend to the working out of that end of the matter. All they do is to toil away at producing the goods, and in return they take whatever the "market" allows them, which, of course, is in the best of times, barely more than a subsistence wage. For instance, they make artistically carved wooden crucifixes at less than two cents an hour. We know how much these things sell for in our stores, and can judge of the profits that are made on them somewhere, by someone—but never by the man who produces them.

I noticed that it was always the man of the family who made the contract for the season's work, and who went after the materials with which to do the work. But it was the woman who carried the finished product to the contractors. Women were, indeed, the pack horses. The toys were placed in long baskets, narrow at the bottom and wide at the top, that were strapped on the women's backs, and with these burdens they trudged through the snow over the hills to the towns where they disposed of their wares. I tried to lift one of these baskets as a woman took it from her back, and found that I couldn't even lift it from the floor, much less raise it to my back and walk under it.

In Germany there are compulsory educational laws. The children in the sweated toy industries are forced to go to school in the winter season. But that does not prevent their working before and after school hours, and in the busy season long into the night. This strain shows plainly upon them. They are usually thin and anemic, and there are many deformities among them. Above all things, they have little or no time for play, or the enjoyment of the toys which they make so skillfully for the more fortunate children of the world. Millions of dollars are spent upon toys for presents in America alone, and for these little workers there are only a few pennies and dimes.

Robbed of home life, of real childhood, they nevertheless make possible the pleasures that the more fortunate children of all lands enjoy at Christmas time.

New Year Lamentations

By a Citizens' Alliance President and a Methodist Preacher.

LAMENTATION NO. 1.

President Van Cleave, of the St. Louis Citizens' Industrial Alliance, has sent out some "educational literature" to the employees of labor, together with application blanks, on the back of which is printed the following warning:

"We are confronted with issues that are larger than parties and creeds. They go down to the fundamental principles upon which representative government and civilized society are based. Constantly increasing social unrest, the growth of Socialism, the increasing number of Socialistic leaders in labor unions, resulting often in coercion and crime, are conditions not theories, and must be met in a practical way."

A Happy New Year! to Mr. Van Cleave and his friends. We shall always remember them. Like men we will fight them to the bitter end until they act like men toward their employes, until they treat the wage workers as human beings and recognize the just and reasonable demands of Organized Labor.

LAMENTATION NO. 2.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat of last Tuesday published the following dispatch:

**"UNSANCTIFIED LABOR UNION
A TYRANNY, SAYS PREACHER.**

Prejudice Against Church Result of Mouthings of Anarchistic Agitation, Asserts Cincinnati Man.

"Cincinnati, O., Dec. 23.—The greatest tyranny on earth is the tyranny of an unsanctified labor union," declared Rev. Dr. Jennings, head of the Western Book Concern of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"In some places," said he, "there is a belief on the part of the workmen that the church is prejudiced against them. This is not so. This idea has originated largely from the hoarse mouthings of anarchistic agitators and from those who spend \$1,000 a year in saloons and not a cent in church. Hardly anything more than such a misconception could be expected from those who hold their meetings on Sundays in saloons or back of saloons.

"The wage question has been carried to the limit," Dr. Jennings declared. "If this thing keeps on much farther the breaking point will certainly be reached. If the workman does not go to church it is because the workman does not want to go to church. I do not see that he goes to church any more when he gets his Saturday half-holiday for recreation than he does when he has to work all day Saturday."

A Happy New Year! to the reverend gentleman in Cincinnati. Organized Labor will take care of his religious book concern which has been a "rat shop" for some time.

If Christ came to Cincinnati he would refuse to spend New Year's day with Dr. Jennings, because the reverend gentleman belongs to the same category of sky-pilots as the Scribes and Pharisees who dwelt in the temple of Jerusalem, and of whom Christ said:

"Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

A TEN-DOLLAR CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

An old friend of the labor press made his annual call last week and donated \$10 to keep things running. It was "real" money, not scrip. The "struggle for existence" is an ever present reality with a Socialist paper, and Christmas presents like the above are always welcome.

The World of Labor

"In Union There Is Strength! United We Stand; Divided We Fall!"

PROTECTION FOR WORKING WOMEN.

The German government is preparing to enact laws to reduce the hours of labor of women workers and abolish night work completely.

BAER TO FIGHT UNITED MINE WORKERS.

A Scranton newspaper says it has leaked out that the anthracite coal trust, of which "Divine Right" Baer is the head has determined to crush the United Mine Workers. The truth of the matter is that Baer has been attempting to do that very thing for a good many moons.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED MEN LOCKED OUT.

The organized building contractors of Duluth, Minn., locked out 1,500 workmen in the various building trades. This is the first aggressive move in a projected campaign by the bosses to establish the open shop rule in that city and force wages down.

TO FORM METAL TRADES FEDERATION.

As a result of a preliminary conference held during the recent convention of the A. F. of L., there will be a meeting of representatives of the metal working trades in Cincinnati on Feb. 17, for the purpose of considering the advisability of forming a Metal Trades Federation. The building trades will meet in Washington in a short time to form a building trades section.

MASTER BUILDERS FOR OPEN SHOP.

Organization of the Master Builders' Open Shop Association of New Jersey was effected at a meeting of a number of contractors representing various building trades at Newark, N. J. A registration office for all classes of mechanics will be opened for the purpose of helping members of the association to secure workmen. It is certain that a fight is coming in the building trades that may spread all over New Jersey.

ASCHENBROEDEL CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS.

The Aschenbroedel Club, 3535 Pine street, held its annual election for officers on the 20th inst. at the club rooms, which resulted in the election of the following Board of Directors: Thos. H. Sims, Robert Buhl, Louis Kielsmeier, Jos. Bergman, Gus Guentzel, D. K. Howell, G. E. Glessner, R. D. Miller, Otto Ostendorf, Louis Knittel, H. J. Falkenhainer, H. Broeckkaert, W. A. Rau, Owen Miller, F. C. Schmidt, Fred P. Beck, Jacques Wouters, Gus Schwender, C. A. Tholl.

THE PINKERTONS AT WORK.

That the Pinkerton thugs are pursuing the same infamous methods in the Goldfield struggle as they did in Colorado is fully demonstrated by the following United Press dispatch on Monday, and which important piece of news was deliberately suppressed by the plutocratic Associated Press: "Revelation that a plot to blow up the combination mill was frustrated Saturday was made Monday by C. H. McKinnon, president of the local miners' union. He declared he prevented the destruction of the combination mill by sending information of the plot to Gen. Funston, who at once sent soldiers to guard the plant. 'If the explosion had occurred, blame would at once have been placed upon the men who are fighting the mine owners,' said McKinnon.

STREET CAR MEN DISCUSSING STRIKE QUESTION.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 22.—The local street car union today voted to give the executive board of the national body authority to call a strike unless the street car companies give consideration to their request for arbitration on wages and working conditions. The Rapid Transit Co. officials have brought 2,000 strike breakers into the city. These men are being kept at a large park owned by the company on the outskirts of the city. Street car employes profess to believe that the Rapid Transit Co. wants to get rid of every man on its cars who has joined the union and will, if given an opportunity, force them out. More than 75 policemen were put on guard in every street car barn in the city last night, and arrangements have been made to utilize the entire department in case of trouble.

WESTERN MINERS MAKING PROGRESS.

It is announced that the Western Federation of Miners is more firmly entrenched in the San Juan district of Colorado than ever they were in the past. The San Juan district includes Telluride, the scene of historic conflicts between the Western Federation of Miners and the Mine Owners' Association. It was in the mines of Telluride that the famous card system was first put into operation, with the avowed purpose of crushing the union. The miners maintained secret organizations and finally the operators abolished the obnoxious card system and virtually admitted its failure after four years' trial. And now, from Telluride comes the news that the members of the W. F. of M. in the San Juan district have held a convention of the local unions, and that the representation was larger than it had ever been before.

MUSICIANS ELECT OFFICERS FOR ENSUING YEAR.

The Musicians' Mutual Benefit Association (Local No. 2, A. F. of M.), of St. Louis, Mo., held their annual election for officers at their rooms, Aschenbroedel Club, which resulted as follows: Owen Miller, president; Clarence Beatty, vice-president; D. K. Howell, recording secretary; Thomas H. Sims, financial secretary; Joseph Bergman, treasurer. Trustees—H. J. Falkenhainer, Louis Albers, Louis Shick, Jr. Executive Board—Fred C. Schmidt Charles Langhauser, H. N. Poepping, Valentine Schopp, I. N. Gavin, sergeant-at-arms, Gus Schwendener; delegates to the C. T. & L. U. Owen Miller, Thomas H. Sims, Otto Ostendorf; alternates to the C. T. & L. U., F. C. Schmidt, Fred P. Beck, Eug. Kiefer, Aug. Bohlender, Charles Bauer; Thomas Carter, delegate to East St. Louis C. T. & L. U.; Fred H. Goedecke, delegate to the Tri-City C. T. U. (Granite City); Owen Miller, delegate to the Missouri State Federation of Labor.

WHAT THE PAINTERS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED.

Two years have elapsed since we last counted our gains and losses. The last report, prepared with the co-operation of the local secretaries, shows the results obtained from Oct. 31, 1905, to Oct. 31, 1907: In the two years the membership of the brotherhood has grown from less than 60,000 to over 70,000 members in good standing, distributed amongst 966 local unions scattered throughout the United States and Canada. One hundred and twenty-eight unions and 14,627 members have been added in the period covered. This makes the high water mark in our history. Of the 620 unions making returns, 386 have gained increases in wages which average 5/4 cents per hour, or about 42½ cents per day for each member. The membership of these locals is 37,376, whose daily gain in wages is about \$16,000. The gain of each individual member during the year of 250 working days is more than \$100. The total gain for the year for all members who received the increase is in round numbers \$4,000,000. Reduction in hours of labor are reported by 147 unions. Of the 620 unions which have sent reports, 398 are enjoying the eight-hour day, the members of 198 are working nine hours and only 24 are yet compelled to work ten hours a day. In addition to these reductions in the daily hours of labor, nearly all the larger cities have established the Saturday half holiday. To gain these improved conditions, many sacrifices were necessary. Strikes occurred in 130 localities, of which 113 were successful, the majority of the remainder being compromised or yet unsettled. This does not include the many shop strikes—uniformly successful—not reported to headquarters.—Painters' Journal.

JOIN THE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

At the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor resolutions were adopted urging local unions to affiliate with their respective state branches or federations. Organizations in Missouri should take notice.—The resolutions: "Whereas, Many local unions do not affiliate with the State Federations of Labor in their respective states, and being fully cognizant of the value of such organizations to the labor movement in general, and believing that the American Federation of Labor is capable of wielding much influence in strengthening state branches it is thereby Resolved, By the twenty-seventh annual convention of the American Federation of Labor that a circular letter be issued by the secretary setting forth the advantages of state branches, and advising all local unions, whether directly connected with the A. F. of L., or through their international unions, to affiliate with their State Federation of Labor at the earliest possible moment; and be it further Resolved, That the officers of each state branch desiring to receive the benefit of the distribution of said circular shall, upon the call of the secretary of the A. F. of L., furnish him with a list of local unions to which they wish said proposed circulars sent, together with the names and addresses of their secretaries."

CHILD LABOR LAW DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

The child labor law of Ohio was declared unconstitutional by the circuit court at St. Clairsville last week. The case was against T. A. Rodefer of Bellaire, who was charged with employing boys after legal hours. The common pleas court had decided against him. It is to be hoped that the two bills pending in the legislature will be carefully scrutinized by those having them in charge in order that they will be able to withstand the attacks of greedy capitalists who are every ready to coin the lives of children into dollars and are encouraged by certain courts. The fact that the exploitation of child labor is a crime against society has passed the argumentative stage. The thing that ought to be done should be the enactment of stringent laws providing that exploiters of child labor be imprisoned as well as fined. And it wouldn't be a bad idea to enact a law providing for imprisonment for judges who persist in declaring unconstitutional the measures enacted by the people's representatives. If anything in a republican form of government is unconstitutional it is the judiciary, where a few individuals set themselves up as monarchs and deliberately defy the will of their creators. If the courts are falling into contempt it is because they abuse their power, not merely by invalidating laws or twisting them to suit their purpose, but also by creating new laws through the injunction process.

CENTRAL TRADES & LABOR UNION

St. Louis Central Body Elects Officers For Ensuing Term.

The Central Trades & Labor Union of St. Louis held its last meeting in the old year at the Aschenbroedel Club, last Sunday afternoon. It was the best attended meeting of the year, many delegates being present who "found themselves lost" at the new headquarters. Election of officers was the main business of the session and this may explain the presence of the many new and strange faces. It was a lively contest and resulted as follows: President, Owen Miller, Musicians'; vice-president, T. J. Kinsella, Steamfitters'; secretary, David Kreyling, Cigarmakers'; financial secretary, J. G. Schwartz, Retail Clerks'; treasurer, Eugene Sarber, Machinists, and sergeant-at-arms, George Melloh, Beer Bottlers. Members of the Board of Trustees—Miss Hennessy, Garment Workers; Thomas Carson, Painters, and Fred Melville, Carpenters. For president there were 280 votes cast, of which number Owen Miller received 194 and George Bechtold 86. For vice-president the vote on first ballot was: Kinsella 126, McSkimming 82, Seeburger 63; second ballot gave Kinsella 161, McSkimming 110. A strong effort was made to defeat Kreyling for secretary. Galowskowsky nominated James Conroy, and the nomination was seconded by Pepon and others. Hofer, Sarber and others made short remarks in recognition of Kreyling's services for Organized Labor. The balloting resulted as follows: Dave Kreyling 180, James B. Conroy 104. On Conroy's motion the election was made unanimous. Schwartz was unanimously re-elected as financial secretary. Sarber, for treasurer, was opposed by Spangler, but won out by 170 against 90 votes given for Spangler. Somewhat of a surprise developed with the nomination for sergeant-at-arms, when two brewery workers were competing for the honor. On the first ballot Melloh (Bottlers) received 100 votes, Goedeker (Brewers and Malsters) 60 and McCoy 46 votes. Second ballot gave Melloh 126, Goedeker 76 votes. When Melloh was called upon to make a speech he also thanked "the other fellows" who voted against him, because he (Melloh) was a friend of August Priesterbach. For the first time in the history of the Central Trades and Labor Union, a woman was elected an officer of that body. Miss Hannah Hennessy of 1219 Jones street, financial secretary of Garment Workers' Union No. 57, was chosen as one of the three trustees, an office which makes her a member of the Executive Council. Miss Hennessy has been a delegate to the Central body for the past three years, and was recently re-elected by her union. She was sent by the Central body to Chicago last July, as delegate to the convention of women's unions. From this convention she was sent to the national convention of the American Federation of Labor as a fraternal delegate. She is an attractive young woman, and she has won favor among the delegates in her business-like ways and her loyalty to the union. While the election work was in progress. Vice-President George Bechtold asked for the special privilege of introducing a resolution on the Buck Stove & Range Co. injunction proceedings against the American Federation of Labor. The request was granted, the resolution read and unanimously adopted. (The resolution in full is printed on the front page of this week's St. Louis Labor.) Delegate A. L. St. Clair of the teamsters had a grievance against Assistant Recorder of Deeds Walter Ehrler who, he said, was a team owner, and had locked out his union men. He wanted a committee appointed to investigate the matter and the following were named: J. B. Conroy, David Kreyling, George Bechtold, Percy Pepon and Owen Miller. Delegate Conroy will make his Norfolk convention report at the next meeting. James B. Conroy, delegate to the convention of the American Federation of Labor, was to have made his report at 2:30 p. m. as a special order, but when that hour arrived the delegates were in the throes of a warm debate on a question that might appropriately have been entitled, "Who Started the Rumor That Members of the Executive Board Are Untrue to Their Trust?" After debating for more than half an hour on whether or not the report of a special sub-committee of the Executive Board—appointed to investigate the rumor—should be heard, a motion was adopted that the report be heard. It then developed that the special committee had no report to make except "progress." The special committee then explained that it had been investigating a rumor to the effect that certain members of the Executive Board were instrumental in having the Kern Barber Supply Co. abandon the label of the Woodworkers' Union for that of the Carpenters' Union. The debate lasted until 3 o'clock, when, under the constitution of the body, everything had to give way to the election of officers.

THE TERROR IN RUSSIA

The outlook in Russia gets darker and darker. The middle-class newspapers are writing about that ghostly mockery, the third duma, but far away from St. Petersburg the reign of terror goes on with undiminishing ferocity.

There has just come into our hands the November number of "La Tribune Russe," the monthly paper of the revolutionary movement, and it gives a lurid idea of the real state of things in the real Russia.

Fifteen closely-packed columns of this paper are filled with the bare recital of the names and fate of the men and women arrested, imprisoned, or judicially murdered, and the towns and villages

pillaged and ruined by Cossacks from October 15 to November 14, the opening of the third duma. One column and a quarter, in addition, is devoted to the fate of the Socialist M. P.'s of the second duma. All these devoted and able men have either been sent to Siberia or are under the observation of the authorities with a view to this inevitable fate.

Yet the movement in Russia goes on. In the face of certain death the Russian workman attends his Trade Union, and the peasant holds his secret meeting with a few trusty comrades. In distant Trans-Caucasia, far from the centers of so-called civilization and life, Trade Unions are being actively fostered at the petroleum springs, and in spite of the persecution of the authorities they spring into vigorous life.

Needless to say, the authorities do persecute them on every hand. At Samara and St. Petersburg the compositors have been compelled to give up their meetings. At Warsaw and Lodz the textile unions have been told they must no longer retain a corporate existence, and the masters have profited from this disbandment by repudiating all the collective bargains which they had made with the men.

It costs something in Russia nowadays to stand up actively for Socialism. And yet the men and women who are at the head of the revolutionary movement are meeting the diabolical ingenuity of the authorities with a resource more effectual than that of the bureaucrats themselves. The land is being covered with a network of secret Trade Unions, with an organization somewhat similar to that of the German Socialists in the stormy days, when Bismarck tried to crush them out of existence by his unbending coercion laws.

Even the soldiers are not free from the contagion. "La Tribune Russe" has an encouraging article on the progress revolution is making in the Imperial Army, and as for the court-martials, every officer who has lent his name to this modern inquisition is gibbeted and held up to opprobrium in this organ of the people.

POST OFFICES AS SAVINGS BANKS

(San Francisco Star.)

Just a little more than a week ago, on Dec. 6, the Oakland post-office contained more than \$20,000 deposited by persons who took advantage of certain features of the money order department to make it a depository for savings. At that time there were on file in the Oakland postoffice and its twenty-one sub-stations more than 200 advices calling for sums ranging from \$50 to \$150, each payable to the person who bought the money order, and payable at the Oakland office where the purchase was made.

"In order to purchase a money order, 30 cents per \$100 has to be paid," said M. A. Schaefer, chief of the money order department, "and the people who thus make of the postoffice a savings bank willingly pay the sum, and forego the interest for the security and convenience which the backing of the federal government and the regulations of this department invest the use of money orders." Thus it is seen that individuals willingly pay to the postoffice department three-tenths of 1 per cent for the privilege of depositing their savings in the hands of the government. They pay the government \$100.30 for the privilege of putting the \$100 where it won't get away.

Could there be a stronger argument in favor of postal savings banks? Many persons who buy money orders, payable to themselves at the office of purchase, leave their money uncalled for month after month. Most of these deposits range from \$50 to \$100. "One man who has been depositing thus for several years," says Chief Schaefer, "and has a large amount of money with us now, we have not seen or heard of for many months. Others come every month, or oftener, and leave their savings. This part of our work, which really amounts to a postal bank, has been greatly increased recently. I suppose on account of the financial difficulties through which we have just passed."

Not only is that done, but recently there has been a marked increase in the purchase of money orders payable to the purchaser at some distant city, so that the money order is thus used as a letter of credit. "People who are leaving the city," says Chief Schaefer, "and

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who are not able to make the necessary or satisfactory arrangements with their banks for the transfer of their money, often use this method. Their own signatures appear on the advice which is sent to the office at the other end of the trip, and when they present the money order and receipt there, the comparison of signatures makes identification in the ordinary way unnecessary."

During the hard times of 1893-4 the money order department was largely used in the Rocky Mountain states as the postoffice at Oakland is now used. What better vindication could one wish for the principle of the postal savings bank? If persons who have saved a little money are willing to pay the government 30 cents to keep \$100 safely for them, it is evident that a government postal savings bank system that will pay interest to the amount of 2 or 3 per cent could not fail of signal success.

Such frenzied financing as has been disclosed in the case of the California Safe Deposit and Trust Co. is an argument for postal savings banks. Think of men doing business under the name of a "safe deposit and trust" company looting deposits as fast as they are brought in! Every argument advanced against "the government in the banking business" falls flat in view of the disclosures in New York, of the Walsh bank in Chicago and of the California Safe Deposit and Trust Co.

Consider this: Behind the postal savings bank would stand the United States government, and the government would guarantee the immediate and safe return of every dollar deposited in a postal savings bank. It would not be the business of a depositor to worry—as the depositors of the California bank are now worrying—about measures to get back a portion of the money deposited. The government would make good every dollar that might be stolen, and would itself attend to the thieves.

The postal savings bank must come because it is needed.

BEN HANFORD'S HEALTH IMPROVING.

The National Executive Committee, which was called into session at National Headquarters Saturday, Dec. 14, adjourned at 3:30

p. m., Monday, Dec. 16. Comrade Hanford, who was ill during the session, is rapidly improving, and will probably be out of the hospital in a few days.

Notice to Taxpayers

Tax bills for 1907, as well as special bills for sprinkling streets, are payable on or before December 31, 1907. Interest and penalties accrue after January 1, according to law.

JAMES HAGERMAN, JR.,

Collector of Revenue

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Of the Socialist Party in Session Transacts Considerable Business.

Chicago, Dec. 17.—The national executive committee of the Socialist party, which met in Chicago Saturday and Sunday, decided that in its opinion the resolution on immigration adopted by the International Socialist Congress was not suitable to nor binding upon the Socialist party of the United States. The resolution adopted by the national executive committee read as follows:

"That it be the sense of the national executive committee that it has always been a principle of the international Socialist movement that the international congress has no power to determine tactics for national parties. It is especially incompetent to speak on the immigration question, since the overwhelming majority of the delegates represent countries in which there is no immigration problem.

"The national executive committee expresses its opinion, subject to the revision of the higher authorities of the party, that the Socialist movement in America at the present time must stand in opposition to Asiatic immigration."

Nebraska Factions.

The committee also took up the question of the factional fight in the Socialist party of Nebraska. This fight has existed for several years and has grown more bitter each year, until it has almost destroyed the Socialist movement in that state. Various conventions and national committees have wrestled with the problem. For the last few months a multitude of proposals have been presented which have tended to still further confuse the matter.

As a result of these motions and the internal dissensions the state had become practically disorganized. In this emergency the national executive committee decided that the only logical action would be to recognize these facts and to give an opportunity to reorganize the state, and the following motion was accordingly adopted:

Motion on Nebraska Situation.

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the national executive committee that by the acceptance of the Work and Hillquit motions, both of the Nebraska factions, have been denied recognition by the committee. Consequently Nebraska ceases to be an organized state and De Vore ceases to be national committeeman from Nebraska.

"Therefore, since Nebraska is an unorganized state now, I move that every local of both factions in Nebraska pay dues directly to the national office until the state is regularly organized according to the constitution of the Socialist party."

Since this and all other actions of the executive committee must be passed upon by the national committee, and since it was considered of great importance that no further confusion be introduced into the matter, it was decided to send the following letter to the members of the national committee:

"To the National Committee of the Socialist Party:

"With no thought whatsoever of extending our authority or invading your prerogatives, yet facing a serious and much mixed question, we are induced to address you in the hope of serving the best interests of the party as a whole.

"There are four national committee motions pending, the adoption of any one of which would upset the settlement of the Nebraska matter, which we are attempting to make. Although we are divided in our opinions as to what should be done, we are unanimous in our desire to promote the plan of settlement adopted by the majority of our committee in order that the conflict may be brought to an end. We therefore suggest that the motions on the subject now pending before our committee be permitted to fail of action, so that we can proceed to reorganize the state."

Party Growing Rapidly.

The detailed report of National Secretary Barnes on the condition of the party organization showed that the apathy that seemed to prevail one year ago has disappeared and that there is a steady, rapid growth in all lines of party activity. Many of the states show a most remarkable revival of interest.

Preparations were made to arrange the party organization to meet the demands of a national campaign.

A large amount of miscellaneous business was done, dealing with routine affairs of organization and agitation.

JAPANESE SOCIALISTS NO USE FOR ANARCHISM.

We read in the Japanese Socialist Weekly, edited by Comrades Katayama and Nishikawa: A sound resolution was passed at the general meeting of Socialists held at Kingsley Hall, Kanda, Tokio, the evening of the 3d inst. The resolution places Socialists of Japan in a clear position towards the great world-wide movement. There has been some little trouble among our comrades on account of some old Socialists having become anarchists. Their supposed leaders tried to reconcile two opposite views—Socialism and anarchism—but failed. The resolution was passed in the interest of the Socialists in the country who are unable to understand the recent discussions about the troubles and criticisms caused by anarchists or Krapatkinists. The resolution will put the Socialist movement in Japan on a sound basis. We are confident of early success and the prospect for the Universal Suffrage Movement is very encouraging. The workers are becoming class conscious, our meetings are well attended. The resolution runs as follows: We declare that we conduct the movement according to the principles and tactics approved heretofore by the International Socialist Congress. The resolution says little, but means a great deal to the Japan Socialist movement, for it expressly opposes the anarchistic tendency. We are glad that our comrades have taken such a firm position.

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To make them happy you always strove.
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STATE SECRETARY, OTTO PAULS, 324 CHESTNUT ST. ST. LOUIS, MO.

National Committeemen.

G. A. Hoehn, 324 Chestnut st., St. Louis
E. T. Behrens, 110 E. 9d st., Sedalia

Locals.

Aquilla..... Claude Walker
Arnett..... E. J. Lewis
Ava..... J. S. Mercer
Bernie..... W. Nightingale
Bevier..... A. Hildebrandt
Burlington Junction..... E. D. Wilcox
Chilliooth..... W. L. Garver
Clarkton..... B. J. Turner
Commerce..... H. G. Anderson
Collins..... W. E. Sitton
Dexter..... J. W. Sprinkle
Edna..... P. E. Daugherty
Eidon..... W. I. Mudgett
Ella River (P. O. Noel)..... Ivan Hall
Flat River..... G. W. O'Dam
Greenfield..... Linda Hampton
Holland..... V. A. Moore
Hannibal, 107 Grace st..... F. Foster
Jasper County Central Committee (210 1/2
Main, Joplin)..... J. W. Gibbons
Kansas City..... J. M. Brazel, 1 Park Pl.

Secretaries.

Lamar..... H. A. Thomas
Liberal..... Martha Mellor
McCracken (Kenton P. O.)..... M. B. Davidson
Milan..... R. D. Morrison
Mountain View (Route 1)..... C. B. Hamilton
Myrtle (P. O. Jeff)..... J. U. Lionberger
Neosho..... L. B. Jones
Nevada (Route 4, Box 106)..... W. S. Peters
Novinger..... A. Nimmo
Pheips (Route 2, Miller)..... F. A. Bryant
Pineville (Sulphur Spgs., Ark.)..... N. A. Barton
Poplar Bluff..... Carl Knecht
Rusley Creek (P. O. Galena)..... Dick Meyers
Rushville (Route 1, Poplar Bluff).....
St. Louis (324 Chestnut St.)..... O. Kammmerer
Schell City..... Jas. Beatty
Scholten..... H. Stredwick
Sedalia (210 E. 18th St.)..... Wm. Tattershall
St. Joseph (1002 S. 10th)..... F. E. Moser
St. Louis (324 Chestnut St.)..... O. Kammmerer
St. Louis County Central Committee.....
(P. O. Ferguson)..... A. Tschirner
Springfield 541 New st..... R. G. Hotham
Turnback (R. 1, Aurora)..... H. L. Cottingham
West Plains..... W. Williams
Zalma..... Wayne Brasher

Principles of Socialism**The Principles of Our Movement as Set Forth in the National Platform Adopted at Chicago, May 8, 1904.**

We, the Socialist Party, in convention assembled, make our appeal to the American people as the defender and preserver of the idea of liberty and self-government, in which the nation was born; as the only political movement standing for the program and principles by which the liberty of the individual may become a fact; as the only political organization that is democratic, and that has for its purpose the democratizing of the whole of society.

To this idea of liberty the Republican and Democratic Parties are equally false. They alike struggle for power to maintain and profit by an industrial system which can be preserved only by the complete overthrow of such liberties as we already have, and by the still further enslavement and degradation of labor.

Our American institutions came into the world in the name of freedom. They have been seized upon by the capitalist class as the means of rooting out the idea of freedom from among the people. Our state and national legislatures have become the mere agencies of great propertied interests. These interests control the appointments and decisions of the judges of our courts. They have come into what is practically a private ownership of all the functions and forces of government. They are using these to betray and conquer foreign and weaker peoples, in order to establish new markets for the surplus goods which the people make, but are too poor to buy. They are gradually so invading and restricting the right of suffrage as to take unaware the right of the worker to vote or voice in public affairs. By enacting new and misinterpreting old laws, they are preparing to attack the liberty of the individual even to speak or think for himself or for the common good.

By controlling all the sources of social revenue, the possessing class is able to silence what might be the voice of protest against the passing of liberty and the coming of tyranny. It completely controls the university and public school, the pulpit and the press, the arts and literatures. By making these economically dependent upon itself, it has brought all the forms of public teaching into servile submission to its own interests.

Our political institutions are also being used as the destroyers of that individual property upon which all liberty and opportunity depend. The promise of economic independence to each man was one of the faiths in which our institutions were founded. But under the guise of defending private property, capitalism is using our political institutions to make it impossible for the vast majority of human beings to ever become possessors of private property in the means of life.

Capitalism is the enemy and destroyer of essential private property. Its development is through the legalized confiscation of all that the labor of the working class produces, above its subsistence-wage. The private ownership of the means of employment grounds society in an economic slavery which renders intellectual and political tyranny inevitable.

Socialism comes so to organize industry and society that every individual shall be secure in that private property in the means of life upon which his liberty of being, thought and action depend. It comes to rescue the people of the individual.

II.

As an American Socialist Party, we pledge our fidelity to the principles of international Socialism, as embodied in the united thought and action of the Socialists of all nations. In the industrial development already accomplished, the interests of the world's workers are separated by no national boundaries. The condition of the most exploited and oppressed workers, in the most remote places of the earth, inevitably tends to drag down all the workers of the world to the same level. The tendency of the competitive wage system is to make labor's lowest condition the measure or rule of its universal condition. Industry and finance are no longer national, but international, in both organization and results. The chief significance of national boundaries, and of the so-called patriotisms which the ruling class of each nation is seeking to revive, is the power which these give to capitalism to keep the workers of the world from uniting, and to throw them against each other in the struggles of contending capitalists' interests for the control of the yet unexploited markets of the world, or the remaining sources of profit.

The Socialist movement therefore is a world movement. It knows of no conflicts of interest between the workers of one nation and the workers of another. It stands for the freedom of the workers of all nations; and, in so standing, it makes for the full freedom of all humanity.

III.

The Socialist movement owes its birth and growth to that economic development or world-process which is rapidly separating a working or producing class from a possessing or capitalist class. The class that produces nothing possesses labor's fruits, and the opportunities and enjoyments these fruits afford, while the class that does the world's real work has increasing economic uncertainty, and physical and intellectual misery as its portion.

The fact that these two classes have not yet become fully conscious of their distinction from each other, the fact that the lines of division and interest may not yet be clearly drawn, does not change the fact of the class conflict.

This class struggle is due to the private ownership of the means of employment, or the tools of production. Wherever and whenever man owned his own land and tools, and by them produced only the things which he used, economic independence was possible. But production, or the making of goods, has long since ceased to be individual. The labors of scores, or even thousands, enters into almost every article produced. Production is now social or collective. Practically everything made is made or done by many men—sometimes separated by seas or continents—working together for the same end. But this co-operation in production is not for the direct use of the things made by the workers who make them, but for the profit of the owners of the tools and means of production; and to this is due the present division of society into two distinct classes; and from it has sprung all the miseries, inharmonious and contradictions of our civilization.

Between these two classes there can be no possible compromise or identity of interests, any more than there can be peace in the midst of war, or light in the midst of darkness. A society based upon this class division carries in itself the seeds of its own destruction. Such a society is founded in fundamental injustice. There can be no possible basis for social peace, for individual freedom, for mental and moral harmony, except in the conscious and complete triumph of the working as the only class that has the right or power to be.

IV.

The Socialist program is not a theory imposed upon society for its acceptance or rejection. It is but the interpretation of what is, sooner or later, inevitable. Capitalism is already struggling to its destruction. It is no longer competent to organize or administer the work of the world, or even to preserve itself. The captains of industry are appalled at their own inability to control or direct the rapidly socializing forces of industry. The so-called trust

is but a sign and form of the developing socialization of the world's work. The universal increase of the uncertainty of employment, the universal capitalist determination to break down the unity of labor in the trades unions, the widespread apprehensions of impending change, reveal that the institutions of capitalist society are passing under the power of inhering forces that will soon destroy them.

Into the midst of the strain and crisis of civilization, the Socialist movement comes as the only saving or conservative force. If the world is to be saved from chaos, from universal disorder and misery, it must be by the union of the workers of all nations in the Socialist movement. The Socialist Party comes with the only proposition or program for intelligently and deliberately organizing the nation for the common good of all its citizens. It is the first time that the mind of man has ever been directed toward the conscious organization of society.

Socialism means that all those things upon which the people in common depend shall by the people in common be owned and administered. It means that the tools of employment shall belong to their creators and users; that all production shall be for the direct use of the producers; that the making of goods for profit shall come to an end; that we shall all be workers together, and that opportunities shall be open and equal to all men.

V.

To the end that the workers may seize every possible advantage that may strengthen them to gain complete control of the powers of government, and thereby the sooner establish the co-operative commonwealth, the Socialist Party pledges itself to watch and work in both the economic and the political struggle for each successive immediate interest of the working class; for shortened days of labor and increases of wages; for the insurance of the workers against accident, sickness and lack of employment; for pensions for aged and exhausted workers; for the public ownership of the means of transportation, communication and exchange; for the graduated taxation of incomes, inheritances, and of franchise and land values, the proceeds to be applied to public employment and bettering the conditions of the workers' children, for the equal suffrage of men and women; for the prevention of the use of the military against labor in the settlement of strikes; for the free administration of justice; for popular government, including initiative, referendum, proportioned representation, and the recall of officers by their constituents; and for every gain of advantage for the workers that may be wrested from the capitalist system, and that may relieve the suffering, and strengthen the hands of labor. We lay upon every man elected to any executive or legislative office the first duty of striving to procure whatever is for the workers' most immediate interest, and for whatever will lessen the economic and political powers of the capitalist and increase the like powers of the worker.

But, in so doing, we are using these remedial measures as means to the one great end of the co-operative commonwealth. Such measures of relief as we may be able to force from capitalism are but a preparation of the workers to seize the whole powers of government, in order that they may thereby lay hold of the whole system of industry, and thus come into their rightful inheritance.

To this end, we pledge ourselves, as the party of the working class, to use all political power, as fast as it shall be entrusted to us by our fellow workers, both for their immediate interests and for their ultimate and complete emancipation. To this end we appeal to all the workers of America, and to all who will lend their lives to the service of the workers in their struggle to gain their own, and to all who will nobly and disinterestedly give their days and energies unto the workers' cause, to cast in their lot and faith with the Socialist Party. (And we appeal only to what we, and the men and women whom we represent, are ready to give and have given.) Our appeal for the trust and suffrages of our fellow workers is at once an appeal for their common good and freedom, and for the freedom and blossoming of our common humanity. In pledging ourselves, and those we represent, to be faithful to the appeal which we make, we believe that we are but preparing the soil of the economic freedom from which will spring the freedom of the whole man.

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HENRY LAURENS CALL

The Noted Social Economist of Boston, Mass.,
Will Address

Two Public Mass Meetings in St. Louis January 5 and 7, 1908

The readers of St. Louis Labor and their friends are cordially invited to attend the two public mass meetings to be held under the auspices of the Socialist Party of St. Louis during the first week of the new year, at which Comrade Henry Laurens Call of Boston, Mass., will deliver the remarkable Columbia University lecture, "The Concentration of Wealth."



Henry Laurens Call.

These public lecture meetings will be held as follows:
Sunday, January 5, at 8 o'clock p. m., at Aschenbroedel Hall, 3535 Pine street.
Tuesday, January 7, at 8 o'clock p. m., at Concordia Turner Hall, Arsenal and Thirteenth streets.
Admission free! Everybody welcome! There will be songs and music.
Comrades and friends, let us make these lecture meetings a rousing success.
In one of his lectures Comrade Call says on the question of the concentration of wealth:

"A careful analysis of the census of 1900 shows that 250,251 persons possessed at that time \$67,000,000,000, out of a total of \$95,000,000,000, given as our then national wealth. Reduced to percentages, this would show three-tenths of one percent of our population as possessing 71 per cent of the nation's wealth in 1900. The same causes which brought about this continued increase of wealth concentration have, moreover, been operating with ever increasing velocity during recent years; and it would be only fair to presume that the increase in wealth concentration since 1900 has been as great as during the ten years preceding, which would, then, give one per cent, or less than one per cent, of our population as now possessing 90 per cent of our entire national wealth of some \$106,000,000,000."
The Committee.

Socialist News Review

GENERAL ST. LOUIS LOCAL MEETING.

Monday, Dec. 30, at 8 o'clock p. m., special general meeting of Local St. Louis Socialist Party at Delebar's Hall, Broadway and Elm street.

SOCIALIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Socialist Sunday School at Self-Culture Hall, Nineteenth and Carr, second floor, at 2 o'clock every Sunday afternoon, under the auspices of the Women's Socialist Club. Opening Sunday, Jan. 5, 1908.

OKLAHOMA STATE OFFICERS ELECTED.

By recent referendum in South Dakota, Freeman Knowles of Deadwood was re-elected National Committee member, and M. G. Opsahl of Sioux Falls was re-elected as State Secretary.

THE STOKES LECTURE IN WISCONSIN.

Charles J. G. Phelps Stokes and Rose Pastor Stokes lectured in Racine the 16th and in Milwaukee the 17th. Ethical Hall was full to the last seat of the gallery, and long notices of the lecture were given on the front page of the capitalist papers the next morning.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE ST. LOUIS COMRADES.

Comrade Otto E. Fischer, national secretary of the Bakers' and Confectioner Workers' International Union, with headquarters in Chicago, extends to the St. Louis comrades, through the columns of St. Louis Labor, "A Happy New Year!" Comrade Fischer was formerly a member of Bakers' Local Union No. 4 and Socialist Local of St. Louis.

THERE WAS NO NEED FOR TROOPS.

National Organizer Guy E. Miller, now at Goldfield, Nev., reports that there was absolutely no need for the troops; that the sensational reports of riots, dynamiting, etc., sent out were without a particle of truth. Even the local papers, violently opposed to the Union, are now offering apologies for the shameful slander. The order for the withdrawal of the troops on Dec. 30 verifies the information previously received through Socialist and Union sources.

CARL THOMPSON'S WISCONSIN CAMPAIGN.

Organizer Carl D. Thompson finishes his Wisconsin tour this week. He has given his lecture on "Constructive Socialism" to enthusiastic audiences everywhere, who eagerly listened to the history of what the Socialists had done in the state legislature and the Milwaukee city council. All of which goes to show that as soon as Socialists can report something actually accomplished the people will listen to them with earnest attention. American voters want to be shown.

A BOYCOTT ON SOCIALIST PAPERS.

In Belgium, where the Clericals rule, the sale of Socialist newspapers is forbidden at the railway stations. The argument used to justify this arbitrary order is that the railways are state property, and that the state is master in its own house. In the last sitting, at Brussels, of the committee for drafting the report of the railways for the year, M. Bertrand, one of the Socialist M. P.'s, brought up a motion that the boycott should be removed. The motion will go up to the government, but a Clerical Cabinet is difficult to move.

THE COMRADES WAKING UP.

The comrades of Brantwood, Wis., a year ago arranged an entertainment only to find the only hall in town closed on them when they arrived at its doors. They were obliged to walk four miles to the next nearest hall. Then they decided never to get into such a trap again, but to build a hall of their own. They cleared \$100 on their entertainment and subscribed \$50 more. Some contributed lumber and all contributed work. Now they have a neat Socialist hall, with a stage for entertainments, and over the stage hangs a beautiful red flag, inscribed in English and Finnish, "Workers of the World Unite!" How is that for Socialist farmers?

ELECTION RESULT IN WEST HULL.

The recent parliamentary election in West Hull, Eng., showed the following result: Holmes, Socialist and Labor candidate, 4,512 votes; Wilson, Liberal, 5,623; Bartley, Conservative, 5,382. The growth of the Socialist-Labor movement can best be seen by the latest parliamentary vote in the following districts:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|----------|----------|
| | Socialist. | Conserv. | Liberal. |
| Jarrow | 4698 | 3,930 | 3,474 |
| Colne Valley | 3,648 | 3,227 | 3,495 |
| Northwest Staffordshire | 2,466 | 5,047 | 4,930 |
| West Hull | 4,512 | 5,382 | 5,623 |
| Total | 15,324 | 17,586 | 17,522 |

CHILDREN STARVING CHRISTMAS WEEK.

The following story is telegraphed from the German metropolis:
"Berlin, December 22.—The municipality is face to face with a very serious problem in connection with the supply of food to thousands of virtually starving children attending the primary schools in Berlin, whose numbers have been greatly augmented this year in consequence of the industrial inactivity. Hitherto the Children's Canteen Society has been able to cope with the task in a fairly satisfactory way by means of subscriptions from private sources, but the calls on its funds are this year so great that it will be unable to supply many of the children. In the first week of December, according to official statistics from 150 out of 250 primary schools, no fewer than 11,945 attended school, in most cases without breakfast, and in all cases without the prospect of a meal in sight. The question of the city's responsibility for the children has now been raised by the Socialists in the municipalities, who propose that the municipalities should undertake the work."

VICTIMS OF RUSSIAN CZARISM.

It will be remembered that the second duma was dissolved by the czar because it refused to expel from its body and deliver up to the government fifty-five of its members who were accused of being involved in a plot against the czar. The accused members were Socialist-Democrats. It was reported last week that thirty-seven of them had been arraigned on charges of high treason. On the 14th sentences were pronounced and the punishments were unexpectedly heavy. The Associated Press dispatch thus summarizes them (Annikin will be remembered as the able peasant leader of the Group of Toil): Eight deputies, including Annikin, Annismoff, Dzharapridge and Prince Tzereli, are condemned to five years' labor in the mines and subsequent deportation to Siberia; nine others, including Bata-sheff, Bielousoff and Kirtenko, are sent to the mines for four years and then will be deported. Ten deputies are sent into perpetual exile in Siberia. The leader of the military organization, Zapadnidke, and two women, Mme. Morozva and Mme. Subbotina, shared the heaviest sentence, five years in the mines and deportation, while six soldiers who were accused of agitating among their comrades are given four years in the mines and deportation. Ten deputies who succeeded in proving that they were not connected with the Socialist organization were acquitted. Among the men condemned are three noblemen. Their sentences will be approved by the Emperor.

Socialist Party of St. Louis

Executive Committee meets every second and fourth Monday evening at 8 o'clock, at 324 Chestnut street. Otto Kaemmerer, Secretary.

| Ward. | Place. | Time. | Secretary. |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1—4444 | Penrose, 2nd and 4th | Wednesday | P. F. Schurlog |
| 2—3033 | North Broadway, 1st and 3rd | Wednesday | F. Rosenkranz |
| 3—Unorganized, | | | at large. |
| 4—Unorganized, | | | at large. |
| 5—Unorganized, | | | meets with sixth. |
| 6—Thirteenth and Chouteau, | 1st and 3rd | Sunday, 10 a. m. | E. L. McCormick |
| 7—1504 | South Seventh, 1st | Wednesday | E. H. Perle |
| 8—2213 | South Tenth, 1st | Thursday | G. Bolting |
| 9—2875 | South Seventh, every | Tuesday | W. M. Brandt |
| 10—Ohio and Potomac, | 1st and 3rd | Thursday | F. F. Brinker |
| 11—7801 | South Broadway, 4th | Friday | Wm. Klages |
| 12—2623 | Lemp, 1st and 3rd | Monday | Dr. E. Simon |
| 13—1000 | Mississippi, 1st and 3rd | Wednesday | W. H. Worman |
| 14—Unorganized, | | | meets with fifteenth. |
| 15—1816 | Franklin, 1st and 3rd | Friday | Jul. Roth |
| 16—1446 | North Nineteenth, 1st and 3rd | Tuesday | Jul. Siemers |
| 17—2126 | Madison, 1st and 3rd | Tuesday | W. W. Baker |
| 18—2108 | North Fourteenth, 2nd | Tuesday | W. E. Kindorf |
| 19—3939 | North Nineteenth, 1st | Tuesday | F. W. Groeteke |
| 20—3129 | Easton, 2nd and 4th | Wednesday | F. Mitterdorf |
| 21—3129 | Easton, 1st and 3rd | Wednesday | C. O. Bishop |
| 22—2651 | Washington, 2nd and 4th | Friday | H. E. Lindsay |
| 23—Unorganized, | | | meets with thirteenth. |
| 24—3129A | Morganford Road, 1st | Friday | Otto Mehl |
| 25—4345 | Arco, 2nd and 4th | Friday | David Allan |
| 26—3948 | Easton, 1st | Friday | M. Duerrhammer |
| 27—South Branch, 5524 | Easton, 1st and 3rd | Wednesday | W. F. Ablng |
| 27—North Branch, 2318 | Gilmore, 1st and 3rd | Thursday | Hy. Gerdel |
| 28—5586 | Vernon Ave., 3rd | Thursday | J. K. Savage |
| Women's Branch—2741 | Dickson, 2nd and 4th | Thursday | Mary Devore |

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