

# ST. LOUIS LABOR

OFFICE: 212 South Fourth Street. PHONE: Kinloch, Central 1577

Workingmen of All Countries, UNITE!

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

VOL. VI

ST. LOUIS, MO., SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1908

NO. 371

## UNION LABOR IN LABOR POLITICS

## Campaign Song for 1908 LABOR'S MARSEILLAISE

By SHERLIE WOODMAN.

## SOCIALISTS IN WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Written for St. Louis Labor by Carl D. Thompson, Socialist Member of the State Legislature.



The full-dinner pail has become a phantom, a myth. The voice of prosperity has been silenced. Like a tornado the financial panic swept over this great and wealthy country of ours. A "financial flurry" they called it. All would soon be over! said the newspapers. Don't lose confidence! said the bankers! Prosperity will soon return! prophesied the politicians and statesmen.

It was not a "flurry." It is one of those genuine crises which strike the capitalist business world after every period of frenzied financiering and wild business speculation. Today the factories and workshops are closed, or operate with reduced labor forces. It is estimated that nearly two million men and women are at present out of work. Men—citizens of a free country—are compelled to beg; to eat at charity soup-houses, and to sleep on the cement floors of our police stations. Others lose all hope, and in their despair give up their life in self-destruction. Only a week ago five young workmen committed suicide in one day in our great city of St. Louis, because they could not find employment.

These are terrible conditions. At least ten million men, women and children in our great Republic of the Stars and Stripes are living in misery and want. Mothers' hearts are bleeding when looking at their suffering little ones. Starvation in the wealthiest country on earth has become chronic with many thousands of honest, industrious working people.

What is to be done? Workingmen have organized into labor unions to improve their conditions. Splendid results have been achieved by the Trades Union movement during the last twenty-five years. By the efforts of the nearly three million organized wage-workers the hours of labor have been reduced, wages have been increased, the sanitary conditions in factories, workshops and mines have been improved, and what is more important: The millions of workingmen and women have been educated on the vital questions of the day affecting the interests of the great masses of the people.

We may feel proud of the good work done for the welfare of the working classes and for real progress and a higher civilization by the Trades Union movement of this and other countries.

It is the sacred duty of every working man and woman to support the trades-union movement with all the power at their command. Without the union as a means of protection the working class of America would today be helpless against the encroachments of the growing power of capitalist corporations.

We venture to assert that the great labor movement of the last twenty-five years has done more for the moral, intellectual and material uplifting of the American people than any other institution during the same period of time. Yet we see today the disgraceful

spectacle of persecution of the union movement by the combined powers of Capitalism under the leadership of the Citizens' Industrial Alliance, Manufacturers' Associations and similar union-hating organizations. The United States Congress, the state legislatures, even the highest courts of justice in the land are used against Organized Labor. Federal troops, the state militia and police are ordered to march against labor, to crush the unions and break the strikes.

Unions are dissolved by order of United States Circuit courts, as for instance in Cleveland, where Judge Phillips dissolved the Amalgamated Window Glass Blowers' Union of America. Important labor laws are declared unconstitutional. In Virginia the United Mine Workers were enjoined by United States District Court decision from organizing the imported non-union miners. In Ohio United States Circuit Judge Thompson enjoined the International Pressmen's Union from paying Eight-Hour strike benefit to its own members. In Minnesota a United States Circuit Court enjoined the Brotherhood of Carpenters from not handling non-union materials. In Vermont the Quarrymen's Union was enjoined from soliciting new union members. In Arizona Judge Dean forbade the Miners' Union to agitate in favor of a strike. In Buffalo Judge Hazel enjoined the Switchmen's Union from declaring a strike against the Lackawanna railroad's proposed wage reduction. In Ohio a circuit court declared unconstitutional the law prohibiting the night work of children in mills and factories. On Dec. 17, 1907, the Equity Court of the District of Columbia issued an injunction against the American Federation of Labor, forbidding the publishing in the American Federationist's boycott list the name of the Buck's Stove and Range Co. The United States Supreme Court killed the employers' liability law. The United States Supreme Court decided that railroad corporations have a perfect right to discharge employes for belonging to labor unions. In Alabama Judge Jones decided that the state's railroad commission had no right to compel the railroad companies to obey the state laws.

According to the U. S. Supreme Court blacklisting of Union men is perfectly lawful and constitutional, but the same Supreme Court declares boycotting of unfair products by Union men a conspiracy. In one of the latest U. S. Supreme Court decisions the United Hatters of North America and officers of the American Federation of Labor are forbidden to boycott the unfair hats manufactured by Lowe & Co., of Danbury, Conn. The latter concern claims damages to the amount of \$240,000, and pending adjudication, property worth \$180,000 owned by individual members of the union has been held by attachment proceedings.

In New York President Patrick H. McCormick of the local Typographical Union, known as the "Big Six," and George W. Jackson and Vincent J. Costello, union organizers, have been fined \$250 each and sentenced to 20 days' imprisonment for disobedience of an injunction obtained by the Typothetae of New York in 1906. Thomas Bennett and William S. Anderson were fined \$100 on the same charge.

The persecution of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone of the Western Federation by the Mine Owners' Association, and the desperate warfare against the American Federation of Labor by the Citizens' Industrial Alliance capitalists, will be an expensive lesson to Organized Labor of America.

Organized Labor is being outlawed by the political tools of capitalist corporations. Shall the labor unions be destroyed? No. A thousand times no. We shall stand by Organized Labor in all its struggles. We shall not recognize any religious, political or national differences in this great trades union movement, but only wage workers, and the interests and welfare of the wage workers. The Trade Union is the economic battlefield where every wage worker must be welcomed, for there we fight the daily battles for immediate improvement and mutual elevation.

However, we have reached a serious stage in the development of the American labor movement. Capital-

Ye sons of toil, arise from slumber!  
Tho' late, assert your manhood's might;  
Your hosts "the sands of time" outnumber,  
Then, "toilers of all lands," unite!  
Call not earth's parasites your "betters,"  
Nor longer slaves to them remain.  
Ye have today "a world to gain."  
And naught to lose except your fetters.

Then rouse ye, toilers, all,  
And seize the present hour!  
Press on, press on, and crush your foes  
By your resistless power!

Too long, too long, O toiling masses,  
Ye've bent the knee at Mammon's shrine;  
Too long obeyed the "ruling classes,"  
And drugged for them in mill and mine,  
Till Reason on her throne hath tottered;  
While countless thousands every year,  
Not men alone, but children dear,  
In Greed's vile strongholds have been slaughtered.

Then rouse ye, toilers, all,  
And seize the present hour!  
Press on, press on, and crush your foes  
By your resistless power!

The blood of those thus slain is crying  
To us who live, "Avenge our wrongs!"  
And Labor, with one voice replying,  
Swears, "Vengeance unto Me belongs!"  
'Tis on—the Social Revolution!  
No power on earth its course can stay  
Till age-long wrongs are swept away.  
And Justice metes out retribution.  
Then rouse ye, toilers, all,  
And seize the present hour!  
Press on, press on, and crush your foes  
By your resistless power!

Be your own masters! Take possession  
Of all things that your toil hath wrought!  
Stoop not to speak that word "concession"—  
Why should ye spend your strength for naught?

ism is using all the powers of state, the entire machinery of government, to break the influence of Organized Labor and to destroy, if possible, every trade union in the land. We have reached the stage in the history of the American nation where the working class must play its great role on the political stage. We have elected our masters and their political mercenaries into high office, and you know the result. "The public be damned!" has always been their motto the moment they had succeeded in fooling the voters on election day.

What are ye, the great mass of union men, going to do? Shall we forever be the political stepladder upon which our masters and tormentors climb into power? In every political campaign the two old parties, the Democratic and the Republican alike, compete with each other in the attempt to chloroform "Brother Workingman" and make him believe that the lamb of Labor has no better friend than the Democratic hyena and the Republican shark. To catch our votes they give us some poorly constructed labor laws, which are speedily wiped from the statute books as soon as the election excitement is over.

The Democratic and Republican parties are the two political hands of Capitalism. With the Democratic arm King Capital caresses the workingman, while the Republican arm is free to stab the caressed victim in the back with the knife of class legislation and class justice. Sometimes the Republican arm does the caressing and the Democratic arm swings the dagger.

Why labor thus, enriching others,  
Who "toil not, neither do they spin?"  
Let Justice now her reign begin!  
Clasp hands and swear it, men and brothers!  
Then rouse ye, toilers, all,  
And seize the present hour!  
Press on, press on, and crush your foes  
By your resistless power!

The "powers that be" have no compunctions  
'Gainst working out your tyrants' will;  
The courts, here, deal out their injunctions;  
State troops get orders: "Shoot to kill!"  
And if, in feeble protestation,  
In this "free land" your voice is heard,  
Or, in complaint, ye speak one word,  
A prison is your destination.  
Then rouse ye, toilers, all,  
And seize the present hour!  
Press on, press on, and crush your foes  
By your resistless power!

The ballot still is yours—oh, use it—  
The only weapon ye have left—  
No longer waste it, nor abuse it,  
Lest ye of it be soon bereft.  
For all the powers that guide this nation  
Ye may and must at once control:  
Let Washington be, then, your goal!  
Work out with votes your own salvation.  
Then rouse ye, toilers, all,  
And seize the present hour!  
Press on, press on, and crush your foes  
By your resistless power!

Then, toilers, rise and rush to battle!  
Your "Armageddon" is at hand,  
Your masters rate ye "voting cattle"—  
The reason why ye understand,  
Your votes alone the lash have twisted,  
'Neath which ye writhe and faint today—  
Undo your work, and stand at bay,  
And further wrongs may be resisted.  
Then rouse ye, toilers, all,  
Seize on the present hour!  
Press on, press on, and crush your foes  
By your resistless power!

There is our American labor party, with a clear-cut, uncompromising labor platform, with a record of honor, the pride of the working class. And its name?  
The Socialist Party! The political party of Labor which polled nearly half a million votes in the presidential campaign of 1904. The Socialist Party which has become the third political party nationally, in the state and in the city.

Fellow Union men! This is our party, our union labor party. Democratic and Republican politicians may do all in their power to misrepresent the Socialist Party. The capitalist press may try to deceive our fellow-workers in order to catch their votes. Some would-be labor leaders may be hired to line up the union men for either of the old parties. But they can no longer deceive and hoodwink the intelligent union man who has the welfare of his union at heart, and who is determined to be true to the cause of Organized Labor.

Labor produces all values, and to Labor shall belong the full product of its exertions! This fundamental principle of the Socialist Party will soon be understood by the millions of working men and women organized into unions.  
Beginning with the presidential elections of November, 1908, we shall number the Socialist voters by the millions. The Socialist Party will be the backbone of the trades union movement. The Trade Union will do its work in its own way and in its special field, while the Socialist Party will take care of the political struggle of the working class. Neither will interfere with the internal affairs of the other as an organization. But the members of one will also be members of the other wing of this great, worldwide movement for the emancipation of Labor from wage slavery.

Brothers and Comrades, to the front! THE SOCIALIST PARTY of St. Louis, Mo.

[Editor's Note—In the State of Wisconsin the Socialists appear on the official ballot, at all elections, under the name of Social-Democratic Party.]

Nothing succeeds like success. There are six Socialists in the State Legislature of Wisconsin; twelve in the city council of Milwaukee, and in all forty-eight Socialists now serve in public office in the state. It is almost astonishing to note the increased power of the Socialist movement as soon as it has won any considerable degree of success. The election of a few Socialists to a city council or the State Legislature at once raises the party in the eyes of the people from the theoretical discussion and agitation to that of practical, constructive work. By a large proportion of the people in our State the advent of the Socialists into the city council and State Legislature was regarded with satisfaction, because they felt that this gave the people outside of the party a chance to test the Socialists to see whether they were practical and whether their theories could in any measure be applied.

This test we believe has been fully and satisfactorily made by the Socialists in Wisconsin. It is not our purpose here to speak of the splendid achievements of the Social-Democratic members of the city council of Milwaukee. These comrades have been in the council now for years, and by their steadfast adherence to the principles of Socialism, and the practical work that they have done, have won the confidence of practically the whole of the people of our city, and have gained the support of very nearly a majority of the voters. Their work has put the question of the practicability of Socialism and the Social-Democratic Party beyond the realm of debate.

In the State Legislature the effect has been in the same direction. Out of 72 measures introduced, 15 were carried. Among them were several measures restricting child labor; a full crew bill, requiring the railways to equip their trains with sufficient number of men; a bill requiring dangerous machinery to be properly guarded; an eight-hour day for all telegraphers in the State; a trade school to be established in connection with the public school system; and several measures affording greater protection for the poor and the working class in the courts.

Of these measures the most striking victories were the child labor and eight-hour telegraphers' laws. It is natural, of course, that the Socialists should attack the present capitalistic system at its weakest point. In organizing the fight against child labor, the Socialists at once won the sympathy and support of every humane person in the State. And so great was the sentiment in favor of the restriction of child labor that the Socialists were able to carry the measure in spite of all the conservatism and opposition on the part of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Associations.

The telegraphers' law had of course the vigorous support of the entire organization of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers. But in addition to that the Socialists were able to marshal other interests in favor of the measure. From one end of the State to the other petitions were circulated among the people who had seen the evils of the overwork of railway employees, and among those who had become alarmed at the dangers of travel due to this overwork. These petitions were sent in great numbers to the legislature and doubtless had considerable weight in favor of the measure.

But these are only beginnings. The suggestion of what is to be done was made in the measures which the Socialists introduced and championed and which were not successful at this time. Among them were such measures as an eight-hour day on all public works; a bill legalizing picketing by the unions; measures providing for a greater degree of municipal home rule—allowing the cities to establish fuel yards, slaughter houses, and municipal ownership of public

utilities, dwelling houses, etc.; measures providing one day's rest in seven; for semi-monthly payment of wages; preventing the employment of girls under 18 years of age in breweries; measures providing for the initiative and referendum and recall in city, county and state government; state insurance and old age pensions; and resolutions addressed to Congress urging the establishment of parcels post, postal savings banks and the government ownership of railroads.

Every one of these measures were drawn with the utmost care and were defended before the committees and on the floors of the legislature with every possible argument and reason that could be marshalled. In this work of preparing arguments in favor of these measures, the Socialists were greatly assisted by the various public institutions. The university students, among whom is a very strong Socialist club, made up of some of the brightest scholars in the institution, worked out some of the arguments. The university libraries and the students of labor legislation assisted in others. And in addition we have at the capitol a state institution known as the Legislative Reference Library. This institution, supported by the state, has for its purpose the gathering of information required by the members of the legislature. As the Socialists had six members they were, of course, entitled to their proportion of the service of this library.

By these means every position of the Socialists in the legislature was defended with a wealth of argument by facts and figures and references to labor laws from all over the world. Every measure that was proposed was considered with the utmost candor in the legislature, and it is evident that the constructive program of Socialism has passed the point where it is safe for any official to ridicule or make light of the Socialist proposals. Every one is now considered with the utmost care.

Furthermore, the press of the state followed closely every move that was made by the group of Socialists in the legislature. Practically every measure of importance was discussed by the daily papers of the more important cities and many of them were given in full. And besides many of the more striking arguments presented on the floors of the legislature and before the committees, by the Socialists, were printed almost in full, some of them even given by the Associated Press over the wires. In several cases the minority reports by the Socialists were admitted by the members of the legislature to be of sufficient importance and value to warrant their being printed as state documents. This was the case in regard to Senator Rummel's minority report on State Legislation and Old Age Pensions, and also the minority report, prepared by the writer, on the Government Ownership of Railroads. Ten thousand extra copies of the former were ordered printed by the senate, and appears as a special report.

As a result of all this, we have observed a decidedly deepening and quickening interest in the subject of Socialism throughout the state. As never before public schools, colleges, universities and debating clubs everywhere are discussing the question with a new sense of its seriousness and importance. Public libraries are being compelled to put the best Socialist books in their collection because of the demand for information. Papers are forced to print more and more of correct information and farmers' clubs and unions, as well as labor organizations, are studying Socialism as never before. It is certain therefore, that if this spirit of investigation shall continue, it will be only a matter of a few years until the general mass of people in the State of Wisconsin will be so thoroughly posted upon the subject of Socialism, that they can no longer be deceived about it or frightened at it. And when the people know just what Socialism is, just what it proposes to do, and the practical constructive program by which it is to be done, the victory of the principle is assured.

WANTED: All the workmen out of a job to help repair the bottom of the "Full Dinner Pail." Apply to God-Knows Taft (the aspirant for the presidential nomination on the Republican ticket. Address: care of White House, Washington, D. C. No Socialists need apply.

The Socialist Party has a dues-paying membership of 35,000. The monthly dues are 25 cents, which includes national, state and local dues.





# LABOR.

Published Every Saturday by the  
SOCIALIST PARTY OF ST. LOUIS.

Subscription: \$1.00 per year in advance.

OFFICE: 212 South Fourth Street.

TELEPHONE: Kinloch, Central 1577. ST. LOUIS, MO.

Entered at the Post Office at St. Louis, Mo., as second-class matter.



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Subscribers changing their residence are requested to promptly notify this office of new address. Also state old address.

The Press Committee meets every first Friday in month. Complaints concerning business or editorial management must be made in writing and addressed to Labor Press Committee, 212 S. Fourth Street.

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

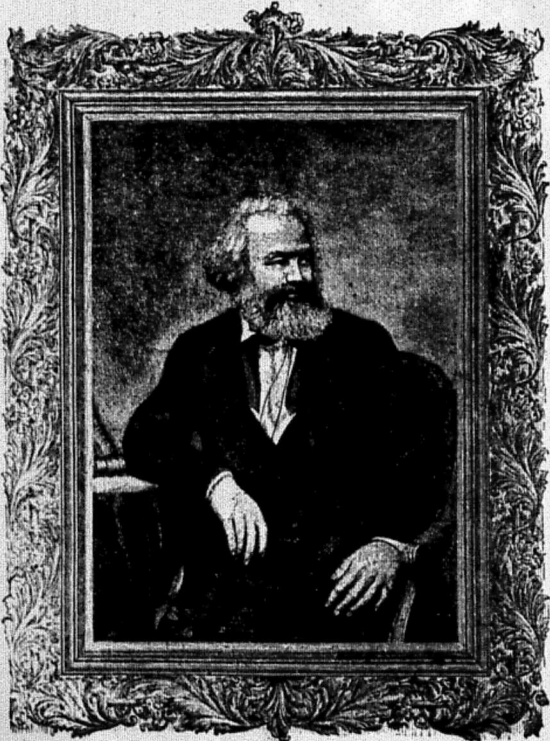
## SOCIALIST VOTE OF THE WORLD.

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

## KARL MARX

Today, March 14, is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, the great teacher of modern Socialism. To Marx the labor movement of the world owes much.

Marx was one of the few great men of the 19th century. His greatness was not generally recognized or admitted in his days. His greatness was not the greatness of Prince Bismarck, who was great



because he was a tyrant and oppressor. Marx was persecuted and driven into exile, where he and his family suffered in poverty and misery. Few men then saw in him the giant mind. Bismarck represented the ruling classes. Marx, though himself a patrician, became the representative of the proletariat—the same proletariat that buried Prince Bismarck's greatness under one million Socialist votes in 1890, seven years after Marx's death.

Marx's greatness grew with the growing Socialist and labor movement. Marx was not a Marxist. "You may call me what you please, but I am not a Marxist!" he declared. He was opposed to dogmatism, hence he objected that his teachings and the results of his scientific researches be put up as unchangeable dogmas. He invited the criticism of his opponents. As a man of science he realized that his work, great as it was, meant only the foundation stone for the greater structure of social science.

Nowhere has Karl Marx been more misrepresented than in this country, where a class of would-be "revolutionary, clear-cut, scientific" people, calling themselves the real Marxist Socialists, violated every fundamental principle of Marx's teachings.

It was in 1847 when Marx and Engels issued their "Communist Manifesto." Neither on the European continent nor in America was there any labor movement in those days. Yet we read in that great little pamphlet, which is now over 60 years old, the remarkable words:

"With the development of industry the proletariat not only increases in number; it becomes concentrated in greater masses, its strength grows, and it feels that strength more. The various interests and conditions of life within the ranks of the proletariat are more than equalized, in proportion as machinery obliterates all distinctions of labor, and nearly everywhere reduces wages to the same low level. The growing competition among the bourgeois, and the resulting commercial crises, make the wages of the workers ever more fluctuating. The unceasing improvement of machinery, ever more rapidly developing, makes their livelihood more and more precarious; the collisions between individual workmen and individual bourgeois take more and more the character of collisions between the two classes. Thereupon the workers begin to form combinations (trades unions) against the bourgeois; they club together in order to keep up the rate of wages; they found permanent associations in order to

make provision beforehand for these occasional revolts. Here and there the contest breaks out into riots.

Now and then the workers are victorious, but only for a time. The real fruit of their battle lies, not in the immediate result, but in the ever-expanding union of the workers. This union is helped on by the improved means of communication that are created by modern industry, and that place the workers of different localities in contact with one another. It was just this contact that was needed to centralize the numerous local struggles, all of the same character, into one national struggle between classes. But every class struggle is a political struggle. And that union, to attain which the burghers of the Middle Ages, with their miserable highways, required centuries, the modern proletarians, thanks to railways, achieve in a few years. This organization of the proletarians into a class, and consequently into a political party, is continually being upset again by the competition between the workers themselves. But it ever rises up again, stronger, firmer, mightier. It compels legislative recognition of particular interests of the workers, by taking advantage of the divisions among the bourgeoisie itself. Thus the ten hours' bill in England was carried."

In the same pamphlet Marx points out how conditions gradually force the organized wage workers on to the political field.

All previous historical movements were movements of minorities, or in the interest of minorities. The proletarian movement is the self-conscious, independent movement of the immense majority, in the interest of the immense majority.—Marx.

Wage labor rests exclusively on competition between the laborers. The advance of industry, whose involuntary promoter is the bourgeoisie, replaces the isolation of the laborers, due to competition, by their involuntary combination, due to association. The development of Modern Industry, therefore, cuts from under its feet the very foundation on which the bourgeoisie produces and appropriates products. What the bourgeoisie therefore produces, above all, are its own grave diggers. Its fall and the victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable.—Marx.

The undeveloped state of the class struggle, as well as their own surroundings, cause the Utopian Socialists to consider themselves far superior to all class antagonisms. They want to improve the condition of every member of society, even that of the most favored. Hence, they habitually appeal to society at large, without distinction of class; nay by preference, to the ruling class. For how can people, when once they understand their system, fail to see in it the best possible plan to the best possible state of society?—Marx.

In proportion as the bourgeoisie, i. e., capital, is developed, in the same proportion is the proletariat, the modern working class, developed, a class of laborers, who live only so long as they find work, and who find work only so long as their labor increases capital. These laborers, who must sell themselves, piecemeal, are a commodity, like every other article of commerce, and are consequently exposed to all the vicissitudes of competition, to all the fluctuations of the market.—Marx.

## LABOR POLITICS

On the front page of this week's St. Louis Labor we publish a statement on "Union Labor in Labor Politics." The document, issued by the Socialist Party of St. Louis, is addressed to the Socialists and Trade Unionists, and will be circulated all over the city in 40,000 copies of a special edition of St. Louis Labor. Later on the same document will be published in leaflet form for distribution in factories and union meetings.

In plain and emphatic language the statement of Local St. Louis points out the duties and responsibilities of every Socialist and Union man in the coming national campaign. It should be read and studied most carefully, and it should be put into the hands of every workingman and woman.

## THE IRON HEEL

**The Iron Heel.** By Jack London. Published by Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kansas. Price \$1.50. This latest work of the author of "The Call of the Wild," "The War of the Classes," etc., is a disappointment. As Socialists and admirers of the young author we expected something better than the story given us in *The Iron Heel*. And we had a right to expect something better. It's true, Jack London wrote a novel, and not a work of history. The novelist has certain liberties of using the varnish brush of fiction in picturing his story. But the author of *The Iron Heel* attempted to present a picture of the great social and labor war of the present day, and in this he failed, because his picture is not true. Instead of clearing the mind, he confuses. In the concluding chapters of his novel the author furnishes us with the proof that his conception of the modern labor and trades union movement is very defective. He looks upon the labor movement through the pince-nez of the ultra-radical, Utopian Socialist, which is not surprising in the least, for the reason that Jack London knows the trades union movement not from practical everyday experience, but from the columns of Utopian Socialist newspapers. Jack London's latest work reflects the grave defect in the American Socialist movement, a defect which requires a radical remedy. It is the Utopian conception of the Socialist and Trades Union movement. Any man new in the Socialist movement, having superficially read a five-cent pamphlet on Socialism, unacquainted with the history and the mission of the movement, but calling himself a Socialist, will assume the right to criticize, denounce and abuse any other man who may have spent a lifetime in the trades union movement. Although ignorant on the general labor problem, he considers himself superwise, because he has just taken out a Socialist membership card, and he looks down with contempt on the "masses of fools of Union men" who fail to come up to his own intellectual standard. In his opinion the great labor movement is composed of an army of ignoramus led by a corrupt gang of union officers, fakers and boodlers. And, as a matter of course, WE, the Socialists, are the only honest people who lead the millions of fools to the paradise of salvation.

This un-Socialistic spirit, which killed the S. L. P. and completely separated and isolated the DeLeonites from the general labor movement, is to some extent still alive in the Socialist Party, although it has never found any general official expression or recognition.

It is the Super-Socialist, the Super-Revolutionist, who is peep-

ing out of every chapter of *The Iron Heel*. As a Socialist novel the book is a failure. Nevertheless, we advise the Socialists to read it, so they can convince themselves that even great authors may sometimes make serious blunders.

Over twenty years ago, when the Trade Union movement was young and weak, and when the Socialist movement existed in name only, Edward Bellamy gave us his "Looking Backward," which, at that time, was an epoch-making contribution to American Socialist literature. A year or two later Ignatius Donnelly published his "Caesar's Column," a story picturing a state of anarchy and reign of terror, resulting from the present capitalist misrule and exploitation of labor.

Both of these works were remarkable publications in those days. Today they would hardly be noticed, because we have since produced considerable Socialist literature in the English language, and something better is expected today. Has Jack London given us something better in "The Iron Heel?" Decidedly not.

## Editorial Observations

**Six Years' Imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for John O'Brien,** representative of the Cleveland Structural Iron Workers' Union! This is the latest report from Ashtabula, O., under date of March 8.

**With Boodle Rule Reigning Supreme in Our House of Delegates and with Mob Rule advocated by the Democratic organ, St. Louis Republic,** the citizens of St. Louis find themselves between the devil and the deep sea.

**Another Injunction Against Organized Labor is reported from Washington, D. C.** The United States Supreme Court has just issued a sweeping injunction against the Western Federation of Miners at Goldfield, Nevada. The injunction, it is said, will end the existence of the federation at Goldfield.

**There is a General Suspicion Among the People in Chicago That foul murder was committed at Police Chief Shippy's residence,** when young Averbuch was killed in an alleged attempt to assassinate the robust chief. When a physical weakling like Averbuch is shot full of holes by three strong, robust men like Shippy, his son, and his coachman, in the hallway of a private residence, the question is in order: Was foul murder committed? The giant Chief Shippy was holding Averbuch while Madame Shippy examined the young man's pocket. And then the three "sharpshooters" emptied their revolvers into Averbuch's body.

**"Whereas, It Pleased the Almighty God to remove from our midst our Brother X."** This is the introduction to a resolution passed by a mine workers' union. Now, Brother X, lost his life in an explosion in a mine, the owner of which disregarded all labor laws and violated the state's rules and regulations for operating coal mines. What has God Almighty to do with the death of Brother X? How could it please Him to take the brother's life? The miners would do well to cut God Almighty out of some of their memorial resolutions and put the blame where it belongs. Why should the Old Man be held responsible for all the crimes committed by avaricious mine owners?

**"God Knows, But Taft Doesn't!"** exclaims The Public. The utter helplessness of what Gladstone called "the masses," in the face of the destitution of the masses, could not be better expressed than it was by Mr. Taft at Cooper Union when asked what a man is to do when out of work and starving in a financial crisis. "God knows!" was Mr. Taft's despairing reply. Yes, God knows; but hasn't God charged men with the responsibility of finding out for themselves? God knows everything, presumably, but does that exempt us from trying to find out what we don't know but ought to? In an industrial era, the statesman who answers "God knows!" to such a question proves his incapacity. A leader who misconceives what God knows of such a matter at such a time, and therefore makes mistakes, is infinitely greater than one who throws up his hands in despair. Mistakes show what not to do, and by process of elimination lead on to human knowledge of what "God knows;" but despair breeds indifference and leads to nothing.

**Will the Union Men Walk Up to the Polls Next Election Day** and vote for Bryan or Taft or some other representative of the two old parties, whose judges are now so gleefully hunting for new ways to hit labor unions? asks the Chicago Daily Socialist. Or will they come to see that there is no common ground between the exploiter and the exploited, that a government with all its branches must be the instrument of one class or the other? If they do recognize these facts, will they come to see that the present government, be it Democratic or Republican, is an instrument in the hands of the employing class, to be used by them for the reduction of wages through the destruction of unions and all other means of working class protection? If the organized laborers do come to see and know these facts they will be compelled to recognize, as the inevitable conclusion from these facts, that a political organization is as necessary to the progress of labor as are two wings to a bird, and that to attempt to move forward with the economic organization alone is much like trying to fly with only one wing.

**Hungry School Children in Uncle Samland! The Literary Digest** publishes some illustrations of the out-of-work situation in New York City. One picture shows a noon-time bread line of school children! New York teachers discovered "that hundreds of children go without dinner because their parents are out of work," we are told, and hence the bread lines for children were established. And there the little tots appear in the illustration in a line a block long—and this in our boastful America! Another scarcely less shocking picture is that of a charity mission where a great store room is filled with chairs as thick as they can be placed, and these given over to poor men in lieu of beds, and they sit on them all night, sleeping as best they may, to avoid wandering the streets or committing suicide. Think of five hundred men sitting night after night on chairs trying to rest their ill-nourished bodies without being able to secure a reclining position! Truly this picture is as horrible as the first, and it may be set down as a fit exhibit from the capitalistic torture chamber—a refined kind of cruelty, if you please. A glance at the faces in the picture shows few of the hobo type—for you know in capitalist eyes the hobo (who is a man made into a chronic wanderer by capitalistic conditions) is deserving of no consideration as one of our fellowmen—and some of the faces show refinement and a familiarity with decent conditions. A midnight bread line is also shown. It is reported that New York City has ninety thousand members of Organized Labor alone out of work. How many unorganized is not given, but one can guess that it is not a small number.

# The World of Labor

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

## Injunction Against Union Stamp.

An injunction has been issued against the jeweler workers restraining them from placing their union label on jewelry of their own manufacture. They request that those who purchase jewelry demand the double acorn label.

## Propose Wage Reduction.

The Norfolk & Western Railroad has proposed to the various labor unions among its employes that they agree to a cut in wages, with the understanding that when the revenues reach \$2,500,000 a month the present scale will be restored.

## Printers' Wages Increased.

After several conferences with the publishers of Lawrence, Mass., a committee from Typographical Union No. 51, with the assistance of President McPhail of Boston Union, secured an increase of \$1 a week for both day and night work, the new scale to be \$16 and \$19.

## Carpenters and Woodworkers.

The conference between representatives of the A. F. of L., the woodworkers and carpenters at Washington, for the purpose of adjusting their differences and amalgamating the two organizations, adjourned without coming to any agreement, but will hold a second meeting at same place March 19.

## United Railways Shops Closed.

The shops of the United Railways Co. of St. Louis will be closed Saturdays until further notice. Capt. Robert McCulloch, general manager, issued an order to that effect Saturday. When seen by a reporter in regard to the order, Capt. McCulloch said: "It is only temporary and of no further significance."

## German Printers' Contract Renewed.

Typographia No. 3 of St. Louis has entered into a new contract with the German newspapers of that city, whereby the scale is raised 1/2 cents an hour for day work and 2 cents for night work. The members of No. 3 employed on newspapers, like most of the German newspaper printers, are working only five days, or forty hours a week.

## Machinists Win Strike.

Conferences between a committee of the striking machinists of the Erie Railroad repair shops and General Manager Stuart have resulted in the agreement of the company to try the per diem system for at least six months and to take back all the men as vacancies occur, with a 10 per cent reduction in wages. The strike, which began May 1, 1907, was against the piecework plan.

## Importing Union Breakers.

Despite the fact that 4,000 men are out of work in Seattle in the building trades alone, W. W. Waddingham, the fanatical president of the Master Builders' Association, is seeking to import non-union workmen from other cities in an effort to break the power of the unions. It is such hateful tactics that are sowing seeds of bitterness and bringing the open shoppers into contempt throughout the country.

## Daily Labor Paper in Australia.

The first daily labor paper in Australia will be published at Broken Hill on May 1. The paper will be the property of the Labor party and will serve as its organ. Barrier Truth, the weekly organ of the Labor party at Broken Hill, will be merged into the daily. The paper has been recently increased in size and improved in typographical appearance. It is one of the best edited of the labor papers of Australia, and its editor, Will Jones, is an avowed Socialist. Jones was for years on the staff of the Brisbane Worker and assisted in securing for that paper the prominence it deserves.

## Fighting Wage Reductions.

Five of the railway brotherhoods—the engineers, firemen, conductors, trainmen and telegraphers—have pooled their issues and will make common cause in fighting and wage reductions proposed by the railway magnates. Efforts have been made for years to bring about some sort of alliance, but with little success other than in a local way. Now a federation on national lines, representing a combined membership of 230,000, has been practically established. Details are being worked out that will make the combine so powerful that few corporations will care to engage in an open fight with it.

## One Thousand Locals of Bricklayers.

A remarkable growth in the membership of the Bricklayers' and Masons' International Union of America is shown in the annual report of the president, William J. Bowen, submitted at the convention in session at Detroit, Mich., recently. In referring to the increase President Bowen says: "When I was elected to office at the thirty-fifth annual convention in 1901 we had a membership of 35,000 and about 450 unions. At the adjournment of that convention the general fund of the organization showed a deficit, and this was the case for two successive years. Our membership now approximates 70,000, and there are 1,000 unions. There is also in the bank to the credit of the union \$100,000."

## St. Louis Central Trades and Labor Union.

Last Sunday's meeting of the local central body was of short duration. The transmission to President Roosevelt of a telegraphic dispatch asking him to appoint as public printer a member of the printing craft allied with the American Federation of Labor was authorized at the semi-monthly meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Union Sunday at Aschenbroedel Hall. President Owen Miller and Secretary David Kreyling signed the telegram. The same officials were also authorized to communicate with the United States congressmen from St. Louis and vicinity in an effort to prevent the passage of prohibition legislation for the District of Columbia. This action was taken on a letter from President John H. Lorch of the Central Labor Union of the District of Columbia. This letter pointed out that if prohibition laws were enacted large numbers of tradesmen, including brewery workmen, engineers, firemen, machinists, boiler-makers, iron molders, brass finishers, steamfitters, plumbers, horseshoers, carriage and wagonmakers, house and sign painters, waiters, cooks, bartenders and glass workers would be thrown out of employment. Vice-President Thomas J. Kinsella presided in the absence of President Owen Miller.

## Priesterbach's Government by Injunction.

Cincinnati, O., March 7.—A temporary restraining order was granted by Judge Thompson of the United States District Court to Gottlieb Mohn, Henry Larger and Charles Biehl, trustees of the Brewery Drivers' and Stablers' Local Union No. 43 of St. Louis, commanding the International Union of United Brewery Workmen of America, whose headquarters are in Cincinnati, to desist in an alleged attempt to compel recognition of a second set of officers of the union. The restraining order will be heard Monday. Trustees of the St. Louis organization claim the union expelled 150 of its members and subsequently sixty more because they refused to pay their dues. Joseph Proebstle of Cincinnati, one of the officers of the International Union, went to St. Louis and, the bill asserts, with the men who were expelled or suspended, elected officers. The men, who claim they were legally elected at the meeting over which Proebstle presided, are threatening to strike in the breweries of St. Louis unless the brewers recognize them as the legally constituted officers of the St. Louis organization.

## Union Men Are Set to Thinking.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States sustaining the right of an employer to discriminate against a member of a labor union is sure to play an important part in the coming presidential campaign. This ruling will especially interest and solidify the railroad brotherhoods as has never been done before. The question raised by this decision will arouse general discussion and direct public attention to a phase of the labor question usually overlooked. The consensus of newspaper opinion seems to be that we have accepted the principle of the right of men who work to form themselves into unions, but when we establish the principle that a man may be discharged from his employment merely because he is a member of the union, we destroy all advantage there may be in a recognition of the legal right of organization. In this connection, it may be remarked that in view of the adverse ruling affecting Organized Labor by the highest tribunal in the land, it is not difficult to forecast the outcome of the Buck's stove case.

## The Werner Company Unfair.

One of the unfair Werner Company's principal publications is the Encyclopedia Britannica, the sale of which has for some time past been in the hands of the American Newspaper Association, whose ads have been appearing in the leading papers throughout the country. The Akron (Ohio) eight-hour committee warns friends of Organized Labor not to be deceived by the fact that a quantity of the smaller advertising matter used in pushing the work bears the label. The Encyclopedia Britannica itself does not, and is produced under strictly non-union conditions. The Akron committee claims that the use of the label on this advertising matter is merely a subterfuge to hide the truth of the situation, and is meant to convey the impression that the whole work is fair. It should be remembered that the Encyclopedia Britannica and all the other works published by the Werner Company are the product of non-union labor. This concern does not employ a union man in its composing room, bindery or pressroom. In fact, there are a number of members of these crafts now on strike against the company.

## Probabilities of a Miners' Strike.

A strike of soft coal miners all over the country may follow the conference of miners called for March 12 at Indianapolis. St. Louis men operating coal mines in Illinois says that a strike is imminent. Conferences were held between the operators and representatives of the miners' union of Illinois at Peoria, Ill., with a view to reaching an agreement. What was accomplished is uncertain. The position of the mine operators will be laid before the conference at Indianapolis for discussion. A strike may be called March 31, when



the contracts in Illinois mines expire. The principal difficulty is in Illinois. There is where the trouble first originated over certain inequalities existing between conditions in Illinois and Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania. If a strike is declared it will boost coal prices to double the present figure, one operator said, and will, if confined to Illinois, throw 65,000 men into idleness. If it should spread to other soft coal states, more than 300,000 men will be involved. One of the elements unfavorable to the miners is the fact that the demand for coal, even for manufacturing purposes, is light. Many plants are shut down for lack of orders, and more may close.

## The Railroad Corporations Catching Flies With Molasses.

A Washington dispatch, undoubtedly prepared and sent out by corporation influence, says: While there is no present intention on the part of the railroads of the United States generally to reduce the wages of their employes with whom they have contracts, the fear is expressed by government officials familiar with conditions in the world of transportation that if the existing depression in commerce and trade continues, railroad and other business enterprises will be forced to still further retrench. This will mean, of course, a reduction in wages, as well as a curtailment of expenditures in all other directions. The impression was created recently as a result of a letter and order of President Roosevelt that the railroads of the United States, acting in concert, had considered a plan to reduce the wages of their employes. The president directed the Interstate Commerce Commission to investigate and report the reasons therefor. It was developed by the Interstate Commission that not a single big system in the East, or a big road in the West, or Far West, had any proposition for reducing wages, and that such retrenchment of this kind was confined to roads in the southeastern territory. The wage difficulties between the Southern and its employes will be settled by mediation or arbitration under the provisions of the Erdman arbitration act. Hearing in this proceeding will be held here on Tuesday before Martin A. Knapp, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and Charles P. Neill, Commissioner of Labor, the officials empowered to act under the Erdman law.

## Gripe Nuts Post in Trouble.

Post of "Gripe Nuts" fame has been exposed for selling goods under false pretenses. The following from the Atlanta Morning Tribune of Altoona, Pa., tears the mask from the face of the Michigan impostor, and shows him up as an unscrupulous parasite among the conscienceless brood of profit sharks: "The first of the three cases brought by Pure Food Agent H. L. Banzhoff against wholesale merchants on the charge of selling cereal foods that do not comply with the pure food laws was heard by Alderman John J. Irwin. It was that against Curry, Canan & Co., on the charge of selling 'Gripe Nuts.' Commissioner James Foust of the Pure Food Department was present at the hearing, as were a number of others interested in the outcome of the case. J. D. Hicks, Esq., represented the prosecution, while the interests of the defendant were looked after by Attorney T. C. Hare, assisted by the attorney from Battle Creek, Mich., the representative counsel for the manufacturer of the cereal. The case was brought to prove that 'Gripe Nuts' was misbranded and does not possess the real food value that is represented. Dr. William Frear, head of the chemistry department at State College, was the chief witness in the case. He testified to making a chemical analysis of the box of 'Gripe Nuts' sent him, to the result of the examination, and that the food failed to come up to the statements made in branding the goods. He claimed that 'Gripe Nuts' did not contain the food values as represented on the packages. Dr. Horace R. Smith of this city was called as a witness in the case, and testified that 'Gripe Nuts' was not a predigested food, that it could not be such unless acted upon by the action of saliva and gastric juices. Both witnesses were cross-examined to a great extent on their testimony. At the conclusion of the case Alderman Irwin imposed a fine of \$60 and costs on the defendant company." The fellow who slugged his wife and became enamored with his stenographer has been making a claim for the product of his husk factory that would not stand the test of investigation. "Gripe Nuts" is so loathsome that it has fallen under the ban of the judiciary. When a court condemns a product from the factory of a "union wrecker"

of the character of Post, his sawdust must certainly need a disinfectant. Courts seldom place the brand of condemnation on the product of a mercenary pirate. It is now in order for Post to take an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States on the grounds that the imposition of a fine by the lower court is "in restraint of trade."—Miners' Magazine.

## Unions Turning to Socialism.

A Toledo (Ohio) dispatch says: Local trades unionists are deeply aroused over recent Supreme Court decisions, and while it has been rumored about that they intend to put up a labor ticket at the coming election, Socialists say that there is not much likelihood of such action because the movement is permeated with Socialism. President James P. Egan of the Toledo Central Labor Union says that labor unions have no choice between extermination or political action. He declares that the recent Supreme Court decision making boycotting illegal has left the unions without a leg to stand on, forcing them into the greatest crisis in their history. The worker is becoming more and more enlightened. The men in the unions are now far ahead of their leaders, who as a rule are too conservative to be even moderately progressive. "What will be the political alignment of labor?" Egan was asked. "That is not for me to answer, but you may depend upon it, that they are through being blindfolded by their enemies and led like lambs to political slaughter. This year they will vote more intelligently than ever before and next year and the year after they will do likewise. I see there is talk of an extraordinary gathering of members of the American Federation of Labor to establish a political party. The leaders will then learn from the boys in the ranks how much ahead of the leaders the rank and file is."

## Satan Rebuking Sin!

Under this caption the Rochester Labor Journal says: Van Cleave professes great personal regard for Samuel Gompers and all other trades unionists, and insists that his only objection is to the "system" under which the American Federation of Labor operates. How about these extracts from a recent issue of "The Open Shop," official organ of the National Metal Trades Association, with added comments by the Shoe Workers' Journal?: "We need only one illustration of the Gompers theory. We should like to see him go down into Alabama or Mississippi and personally conduct a strike 'with the usual trimmings.'" "This betrays a guilty knowledge that there are places in this country where a man may not exercise his right to join a union or advise another to join without peril to his personal liberty. Verily the Open Shop would safeguard the rights of Labor!" Again: "The courts would fulminate their impotent injunctions all right, and then the Hon. Samuel would have an opportunity to exhibit his contempt for them. In those states they have so called 'vagrant laws' which would fit his case like the paper on the wall, and the spectacle of a great man working in the local chain gang might present an instance of honest sweat not recently presented in the case of any salaried official of labor.'" "Gloating over the process by which a citizen in the exercise of his lawful rights could be railroaded into a chain gang by a judge subservient to capital, by a misapplication of the vagrancy laws to serve their sinister purpose. In this enlightened age, when the right, yes, the desirability that workmen should organize in unions is so generally admitted, we can not believe that any large number of employes will respond to the wail for subscriptions that comes from 'The Open Shop,' which publication, upon analysis, we find guilty of 'pandering to ignorance and prejudice with a sinister purpose,' and therefore to be classes as a demagogue in the most opprobrious sense of the term."

## Van Cleave's Campaign of Labor Education

J. W. Van Cleave, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, does not intend to lose any time in taking advantage of the victory gained in the courts by his aggregation in having the employers' liability law smashed, the blacklist legalized and the boycott outlawed.

Mr. Van Cleave and his association intend to do all in their power to prevent the enactment of an eight-hour law, an anti-injunction law and a new employers' liability. That policy is clearly set forth in a circular letter that is being sent to employers all over the country urging them to join the N. A. of M.

The letter is quite interesting as showing the state of mind of Van Cleave and votaries and is herewith printed in full:

"Gentlemen—Suppose you should find some morning that, due to lack of systematized efforts, Congress had established a compulsory eight-hour law; or an anti-injunction law encouraging violence and boycotts during strikes; or an employers' liability law, similar to one recently enacted in England, making you responsible for accidents to your employes, factory or office, whether at home or at work; what would you do? Likely you would deplore the lack of concerted action among the manufacturers.

"Possibly you will say that such laws are not constitutional. Still, how much time and money will it cost some one to establish this fact? And, pending a final decision, you and other employers would have to bear the ills of laws created for campaign purposes, and for catching the labor vote. Take, for illustration, the recent unanimous decision of the Supreme Court declaring the boycott illegal and punishable under the Sherman law. This decision was made possible through organized efforts, but it took many years of hard work and tremendous expense to eliminate this un-American weapon from our business life. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

"The National Association of Manufacturers has been the leader in this work for many years. Is it not your duty to do your share by becoming a member immediately? Is not the membership fee of \$50 a year insignificant compared with the damage that may be done at any time due to lack of organization?

"Please consider these questions carefully, and let me have your reply, or, better still, your application, duly filled out, in enclosed envelope. Yours truly, J. W. Van Cleave, President.

## The Anniversary of the Workingmen's Sick and Death Benefit Society, Branch No. 1, St. Louis.

Celebrated its fifteenth anniversary last Saturday evening at Concordia Turner Hall. The large hall, the gymnasium and the galleries were crowded. A short concert program was carried out with promptness. Dr. Emil Simon, one of the society physicians, delivered a short address, which was followed by a theatrical performance. A dance concluded the successful festival. It is significant to call attention to the fact that Branch No. 1 was organized in the midst of the industrial crisis of 1893, with a charter membership of ten. Today the membership is about 500 in St. Louis, and nearly 40,000 in the United States. This Sick Benefit Society has a Socialist declaration of principles and its membership is almost exclusively composed of Socialist workingmen and women. The annual dues average about \$12 to \$15. Weekly benefit in cases of sickness is \$9 in first class and \$6 in second class. There is also a children's death benefit branch connected with the society, also a fire insurance branch, for private residence furniture insurance. Any information will cheerfully be given by Comrade Phil H. Mueller, 2244 North Market street, St. Louis, Mo.

## Eakers' Union No. 4 of St. Louis

Gave a successful family entertainment at Harugari Hall last Saturday evening. There was a numerous attendance and a fine program promptly and ably executed, which made the affair a pleasant one. The principal numbers on the program were the addresses by Brothers Chris Rocker and Peter Beisel. The remarks of both were roundly applauded.





### Socialist News Review

#### Last Meeting of Commune Festival Committee.

The Commune Celebration Committee will hold its last meeting (previous to the affair) on Monday evening, March 16, at headquarters. Every member, and especially members of sub-committees, is expected to be present. There will be no meeting of this committee next Saturday, because all comrades will be busy with folding and arranging for the big distribution of the special edition.

The Secretary.

#### The Second Ward Club

Is the Socialist banner club in the northern part of the city. It shows considerable activity and promises to do some fine organizing and propaganda work in this year's campaign.

#### The St. Louis Tenth Ward Club

Held an interesting meeting on Thursday of last week, where the coming national campaign work was thoroughly discussed. Short addresses were delivered by Comrades Brinker, Ruesche, Bitterlich, Pauls, Hoehn and others.

#### Strong Socialist Local.

Local San Diego, Cal., reports: "Membership Jan. 1, 1908, 138; new members received during January, 58; new members received during February, 38; four members removed from the city. Number of members last day of February, 230."

#### Distribution of Special Edition.

The St. Louis Socialists will distribute 40,000 copies of a special edition of Labor this coming Sunday morning. The comrades of the ward clubs will please assist in the distribution; the more help, the better distribution work can be attended to.

#### St. Louis Twenty-Third Ward Organized.

Last Thursday evening Comrades of the Twenty-third Ward met at the residence of Comrade Resh and organized a branch. Officers were elected and a meeting called for Thursday, March 26, to complete permanent organization. Comrades who failed to attend first meeting should be present.

#### Hanford Getting Better.

In a letter received by a Chicago Socialist from Thomas Freeman, secretary of Alabama, the information is given that Ben Hanford is improving in health, and will accompany Freeman to the national convention, May 10. Freeman writes that the Socialist movement in the South is forging ahead as never before.

#### For the Socialist Daily.

New York Socialists and trades unionists are preparing to print the first number of their paper, the Daily Call, on May 1. Up to date the receipts for the publication have amounted to \$20,000, of which sum \$11,000 has been invested in machinery. A great festival for the benefit of the paper will be held in one of the large auditoriums in New York from May 1 to 10, inclusive.

#### Socialist Sunday Schools.

North Side Sunday school meets every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at 1832 Carr street.

South Side Sunday school meets every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at 212 South Fourth street.

Classes of Comrades at each school are studying Socialism. Mills' "Struggle for Existence" is the text-book.

#### Milwaukee City Convention.

The Social-Democratic platform convention held in Milwaukee last Saturday was a remarkably harmonious and satisfactory assembly. One hundred and eighty-three delegates were present from the various wards. Alderman Mels presided, and addresses were made by Alderman Seidel, candidate for mayor on the Socialist ticket, and the other Social-Democratic nominees. The platform was adopted without a dissenting vote.

#### How Anti-Socialist Stories Are Circulated.

A telegram from Hearst's New York American to his Chicago Examiner, stating that the Rev. Lucyan Bojnowski had received a threatening anonymous letter, containing a clipping from a Polish Socialist paper, for his repeated denunciations of Socialism from the pulpit and in the editorials of his paper, was proved to be false by a statement from the editor of the Polish paper. The editor declares that the story is a base fabrication and merely an attempt to create trouble for his paper.

#### Socialist State Conventions.

The Socialist convention of the state of Oregon has been called to meet at Portland March 29 and 30. The state convention of Kansas will be held in Representative Hall, Topeka, beginning April 2, and continuing the 3d and 4th. The state convention of Iowa will be held in Socialist Hall 605 East Locust street, Des Moines, beginning at 9 a. m., March 23. A large and representative convention is expected, as the membership of Iowa has more than doubled within the last eight months.

#### Karl Marx Memorial.

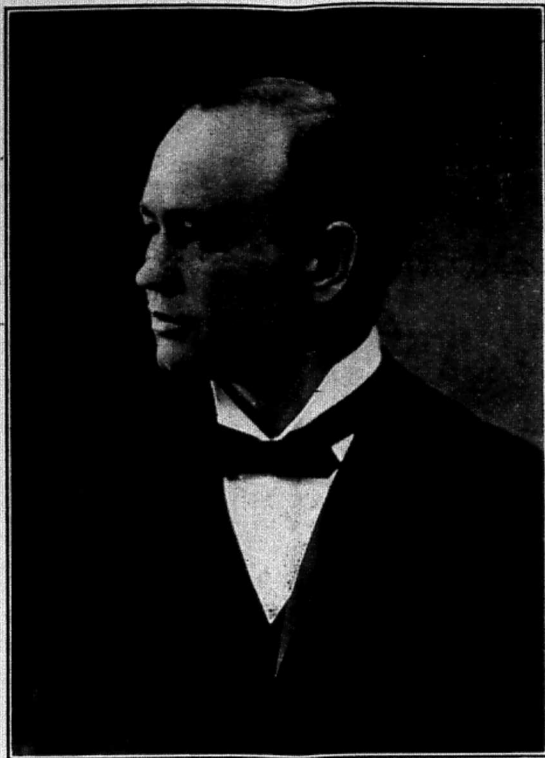
National Committee Motion No. 13, upon which vote closed March 2, was adopted by the following vote: Yes, 48; no, 4; not voting, 11. The motion reads: "In order that the American Socialist movement may fittingly commemorate the life labor and death of Karl Marx, I move that March 14, 1908, be designated as a memorial day to our departed comrade; and that all locals of the Socialist Party be urged to hold memorial meetings upon that date, commemorating the growth of Marxian Socialism and the development of the Socialist movement since the death of the greatest economist known to the modern world."

#### Socialist Work in Wisconsin.

At Fond du Lac the comrades adopted a municipal platform and put up a ticket. The platform was much the same as the usual Socialist municipal platform. But it seems to create a very deep and favorable impression in Fond du Lac. The papers published the platform in full and the reporter wrote a most remarkable editorial in regard to it. This editorial commends the party because "it stands for something." Furthermore, the editorial points out the weakness of non-partisan efforts in municipal affairs. On the whole, it is one of the most remarkable editorials we have seen in the Wisconsin press outside of Milwaukee. It is so good that we are going to publish it in full next week.

#### Socialist Charges Against a Police Commissioner.

Berlin, March 9.—Editor Curt Neumann's trial on a charge of libeling the Berlin political police in the "Revolutioner" promises to stir up Germany. The newspaper charges Police Inspector Wehner offered Richard Fischer, a Socialist, bribes to furnish information concerning meetings of his party's executive committee and to spy on his fellow Socialists; that Police Commissioner Kuntz bribed Herr Donath, who prints the Revolutioner, to give him copies of the paper before it goes to the news dealers, practically inciting him to crime—the theft of the paper; that various officials have forced Socialists to submit to be photographed for the criminal album, in violation of their rights; that one of the political detectives mistreated the wife of a workman whose house he was searching for political literature. The prosecutor will make Neumann's trial practically an investigation of the police. The hearing will take place the middle of March.



CARL D. THOMPSON, Socialist State Senator of Wisconsin.

# ANNUAL COMMUNE CELEBRATION OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY

SATURDAY EVENING MARCH 21, 1908

AT

CONCORDIA TURNER HALL

13th and Arsenal Streets

A SPEECH ON "CONSTRUCTIVE SOCIALISM" BY STATE SENATOR CARL D. THOMPSON OF MILWAUKEE, AND A FINE MUSICAL PROGRAM FOLLOWED BY DANCING. DOORS OPEN AT 7 O'CLOCK P. M.

Admission, 10c Children Free

#### The Most Discouraging Ward

For the Socialist movement in St. Louis is the First—one of the biggest wards in the city. Years ago the First ward held second and third place in the Socialist vote in St. Louis and had a good organization. But in recent years De Leonism, Utopianism and other "isms" have demoralized the Socialist political organization in the great northern ward of the city. It is high time that those of the First Ward Comrades who believe in a solid, permanent Socialist ward organization and in the Socialist Party policy, get together, organize for good, hard-campaign work, and roll up a fine Socialist vote next November. Five active Comrades can do great work in the Water Tower, Florissant avenue and Baden district.

#### Potpouri of Good Arguments.

Certainly, send the undesirables out of the country. Be sure you get rid of the real ones. Capitalism and Anarchism are the two isms that go together; not Socialism and Anarchism. Lady Warwick, the Socialist countess of England, will make a speaking tour of this country within a short time. She is a member of the Social-Democratic Federation of Great Britain. Against the growth of Socialism the politicians of capitalism employ all their arts of deception and false witness. But every day opens more eyes and lessens their chance of success. The Chicago Daily Socialist is authority for the statement that the big mail order house of Sears, Roebuck & Co. employ men over 20 years of age who get less than seven dollars a week. Who is degrading the American family, we'd like to know?—*Soc.-Dem. Herald.*

#### Haywood's Philadelphia Meeting.

Despite the previous announcement of the Philadelphia authorities that the meeting of Socialists to hear W. D. Haywood last Sunday would not be allowed, the meeting was held, a police officer sitting on the platform in plain clothes and a squad being in waiting near by. Several thousand people cheered the Western Federation man in his attack on President Roosevelt and justification of stealing on the part of the unemployed. He referred to the president as the "man who shot Spaniards in the back and then told about it," and the chairman of the meeting, Moore, called Roosevelt a "capitalist tool." The latter asserted that the recent riot in Broad street was not a riot, but a fight started by a bicycle cop and a wagon deliberately running into the parade of the unemployed.

#### The Milwaukee Campaign.

The present Milwaukee campaign presents one new and noticeable feature. In former years the old party candidates spent most of their ammunition against each other. Now they are training all their guns on the Socialists. Ex-Mayor Rose, candidate for mayor on the Democratic ticket, opened fire with an attack on the "well-fed labor leaders" (he would probably like to see them all starved out); and now L. A. Dahlman, Republican candidate, is blazing away against us every evening. Mr. Dahlman thinks that "this Social-Democratic machine is a damnable contrivance which ought not to be allowed to exist in a Republican form of government." He is now particularly busy in trying to prove that such affairs as the Shippy shooting are due to "literature sent out by the Social-Democrats." In this attempt the capitalist press are with him.

#### Iowa Socialists Encouraged.

The Socialist Party of Iowa will meet in convention in Des Moines at the headquarters of Local Des Moines, 605 East Locust street, at 9 a. m. Monday, March 23, for the purpose of naming a full state ticket to be voted for in the primary election, and to adopt a new state constitution and transact other important business. The state committee will meet the day before the convention. The annual report of the state secretary shows the party has doubled its membership the past year, 70 locals paying dues in 1907. A big attendance is expected at the convention. Every Socialist not a member of the party is invited to be present and join in planning for a vigorous campaign, or if they cannot attend, to write to Edward J. Rohrer, state secretary, Nevada, Iowa, about joining the party. The new primary law forces Iowa Socialists to make their nominations very early. Those willing to aid in placing county tickets in the field should write the state secretary for directions at once.

#### For Our Press.

Local St. Louis circulates the following card:

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