

VOTE AGAINST THE NEW CHARTER! SAVE St. LOUIS FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE BIG CINCH CORPORATIONS!

ST. LOUIS LABOR

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of St. Louis, Mo.

THE FEARLESS CHAMPION OF ORGANIZED LABOR

Comrades,
Work for your
Own Press!

Comrades,
Work for your
Own Party!

OFFICE: 966 CHOUTEAU AVENUE.

ST. LOUIS, MO., JANUARY 28, 1911

Kinloch, 1577; Bell, Olive 4198.

NO. 521

There Must Be Something In It

Big Interests Spend Money Lavishly to Deceive People on New Charter Proposition.

The Civic League and the Business Men's League represent the same class of people. The personnel and membership of both organizations are practically the same.

Both represent the interests of the trusts, monopolies, public utilities corporations and other powerful interests that make it their business to exploit the people of this community and try to run the city government for their own special privileges.

The Civic League, the so-called Charter Publicity Committee and the Board of Freeholders work in unison to deceive the people and induce them to vote for the dangerous new Charter which Jephtha Howe, John F. Lee, Frederic W. Lehmann and other corporation lawyers and would-be statesmen have unloaded on the citizens of St. Louis.

During the last three weeks the "Interests" have spent big sums of money for advertising the new Charter, and in this the United Railways Company kindly consented to grant them very conspicuous ad. space in their street cars.

Letters and pamphlets, put up in expensive style, have been mailed to all the voters in the city.

Who pays for this campaign?

The enemies of the people! The big corporations and powerful "interests" that consider themselves the selected few born into this world with the golden spurs on their heels, while the people are, in these plutocrats' opinion, simply the mules on whose back to ride they consider their divine right.

If the proposed new City Charter should be adopted it would mean the end of the rule of the people in our municipal affairs.

A handful of mercenaries and emissaries would do the work for the private corporations, the great mass of the people would be reduced to serfdom and be thrown back into a condition of despotism.

We are more convinced than ever before that the citizens of St. Louis will not submit to the dictates of these enemies of the people.

On January 31 the Special Charter election will take place, and the people's voice will be heard.

Vote against the new Charter by following this advice:
Scratch the "Yes!"

Who Fled to Mexico?

Flimsy Argument Against the House of Delegates Advanced by the Pro-Charter Advocates.

The plutocratic Charter Publicity Committee, which is composed of the leading representatives of some of the leading and most powerful corporations, has issued a circular in favor of the new Charter, in which every effort is made to defend the abolition of the House of Delegates, which they denounce as a source of corruption. At the same time these illogical reasoners admit that the present House of Delegates was free of corruption.

Now, is it not queer, and very suspicious, that at the very time the House of Delegates becomes free of corruption the Big Cinch crowd insist that this lower branch of our Municipal Assembly shall be abolished?

Shall the House of Delegates be abolished because its members can no longer be bribed?

Why not abolish the Council? During the days of the boodle revelations of 1902 was the Council less corrupt than the House of Delegates?

While the peanut boodlers in the House did their crooked work for smaller sums of bribe money, the Councilmen reaped their harvest by the thousands of dollars.

Was it a Delegate or a Councilman who had in his possession the key to the safe deposit box?



The Big Cinch Corporations Favor the New Charter.

It was a Councilman!
Was it a Delegate who fled to Mexico?

It was a Councilman!
The percentage of bodlers was even higher in the Council than in the House of Delegates.

The arguments of the people's enemies are flimsy, for the arguments are not in harmony with the facts.

Beware of Campaign Lies!

Do Not Allow Servile Newspapers to Deceive You During the Last Few Days of the Campaign.

We warn the people of St. Louis against the campaign liars, who may get busy during the last few days of the present Charter campaign.

Remember that the Pro-Charter crowd has unlimited funds at their command. They have with them certain servile, mercenary newspapers who receive the "thirty pieces of silver" for deceiving the people and defending the private corporation interests against the welfare of the municipality.

Keep you eye on the campaign liar!

Vote against the New Charter!
Scratch the Yes!

Our Cartoons

Secretary McPheeters of the Board of Freeholders is now on the job. He is Jephtha Howe's "girl for general housework." He is "in duty bound" to be out day and night making speeches to save the proposed new Charter from defeat. He talks short ballot, and long ballot, and any old ballot. His short ballot idea is strikingly illustrated in one of our cartoons in this issue of The People's Voice.

The other cartoon in this issue is especially good and timely.

A vote for the new Charter means the increase of the salary of the Mayor from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00, and of every other head of departments in even larger ratio.



Workingmen, Socialists, Citizens!

GRAND

Anti-Charter Demonstration

this evening

Friday, January 27, at 8 p. m.

at

CONCORDIA TURNER HALL.

13th and Arsenal Streets.

Remember that the Pro-Charter people, headed by their Charter Publicity Committee, refused to hear opposition speakers at their "Lehmann Meeting". For this reason a meeting has been called for the same evening to Concordia Turner Hall. We invite Messrs. Lehmann, Jephtha Howe et al. to appear in our meeting and present their side. We extend to them every courtesy possible.

Shall the People of St. Louis be robbed of their political Rights? No! Never!

Workingmen and Citizens rise like one man and bury the proposed new Charter under an avalanche of votes.

Don't fail to be at Concordia Turner Hall this evening!

SPEAKERS: Dr. Wm. Preston Hill, Wm. M. Brandt, Judge Leo Rassieur, Dr. W. W. Boyd, Councilman Wm. C. Schutz and others. Admission free! Everybody invited!



"Forging" Ahead.

The International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers have signed up agreements with the Atlanta, Birmingham and Atlantic Railroad Co., H. M. Atkinson, receiver; Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railway Co., and International and Great Northern Railroad Co., Thos. J. Freeman, receiver. The rate of pay ranges from 37 1/2 to 39 1/2 cents

per hour for blacksmiths on the A., B. & A. R. R.; 42 to 45 cents for blacksmiths, 27 1/2 to 28 1/2 cents for helpers and 12 to 22 cents for apprentices on the Chicago and St. Paul Railroad; 40 1/2 to 47 cents for blacksmiths and 22 1/2 to 25 cents for blacksmith helper on the I. & G. N. On these three roads the working conditions have also been materially improved. Verily, the blacksmiths are "forging" to the front.

Who Are They?

Partial List of the Big Cinch Charter Publicity Committee.

Most of the leading gentlemen who are so enthusiastically in favor of the proposed new Charter are connected with the big department houses and business corporations. The Charter Publicity Committee publishes a list of the members of its "General Committee," which includes the following names:

- Robert C. Day, vice-president Day Rubber Co.
 - W. K. Bixby, director St. Louis Union Trust Co.
 - Edward Mallinckrodt, president Mallinckrodt Chemical Works.
 - Dan C. Nugent, president B. Nugent & Bro. Dry Goods Co.
 - Col. Moses Schoenberg, president The Famous.
 - Hanford Crowford, president Scruggs, Vandervoort & Barney.
 - J. A. Partridge, president St. Louis Furniture Board of Trade.
 - Elias Michael, president Rice-Stix Dry Goods Co.
 - I. H. Sawyer, vice-president Brown Shoe Co.
 - C. F. Blanke, president Million Population Club.
 - Walker Hill, president Business Men's League.
 - E. C. Simmons, Simmons Hardware Co.
 - Oscar Johnson, vice-president Roberts, Johnson & Rand Shoe Co.
 - Samuel M. Kennard, president J. Kennard & Sons Carpet Co.
 - Paul Wielandy, vice-president Blackwell-Wielandy.
 - Chas. F. Wencker, Blanke-Wencker Candy Co.
 - Sampel Cupples, president Samuel Cupples Woodenware Co.
 - B. F. Edwards, president National Bank of Commerce.
 - Jacob J. Wertheimer, president Wertheimer-Swartz Shoe Co.
- One question will be in order: Have these gentlemen ever represented the interests of the people? Never! They have ever been anxious to make the people pay the bills, while they reaped the benefits and advantages of our municipal government.
- If they find the new Charter excel-

The Case in A Nutshell

Every Intelligent Citizen Will Understand the Question and Vote Accordingly.

Before the Municipal Assembly fixed the date for the Special Charter election on January 31, a public hearing took place at the City Hall, which was attended by over two hundred citizens, representing the Central Trades and Labor Union, progressive Improvement and Business Men's associations.

Every citizen present at that public hearing agreed that the proposed new Charter was a misfit and an attack on our democratic form of municipal government.

In connection with this proposed new Charter of the Freeholders there are three main points involved affecting the fundamental basis of our municipal government:

1. The new Charter does away with the House of Delegates and ward representation and establishes a single-chamber Council of fifteen members.

2. The new Charter abolishes the election of most of the important department chiefs and transfers to the Mayor the absolute power to appoint the chief department officers.

3. The new Charter makes no provision for direct legislation.

An Absolute Municipal Monarchy. The representative system of government would practically be abolished. The Mayor would be the absolute ruler and dictator to carry out the wishes of the capitalist interests. Not even the Council would have the least control over him.

Such are the blessings to be bestowed upon St. Louis by the Board of Freeholders!

The new Charter must be voted down on January 31. The people of St. Louis cannot afford to sanction, by their votes, the crucifixion of political democracy in our municipal affairs.

With the three fundamental questions decided against the people, we do not care—we cannot care—one iota for some minor or secondary good or bad features the Charter may contain.

We simply have to continue operating under our present City Charter until such time as the people will succeed in getting one that is better—not worse.

Every progressive citizen must go to the polls on January 31 and do his duty.

Scratch the "Yes!"

Civic Federation Opposes Charter

Organization Declares Finished Work Not that Previously Approved.

A resolution opposing the passage of the proposed new City Charter was adopted by the Federation of Civic Organizations of St. Louis at its meeting at the Southern Hotel last week. The principal objection to the Charter cited in the resolution was that it does not contain the initiative and referendum.

The meeting was called for the purpose of considering the proposed new Charter, and the nomination and election of officers was postponed until the next meeting. President D. Eitzman presided. R. J. Broaders is secretary.

Members of the federation in discussing the Charter declared that the statement that they had indorsed the new Charter when its draughting was proposed is not correct. They said many of the associations which they represented had indorsed it, but that such indorsement was not an indorsement of the Charter now presented.

lent, the people have good reasons to line up on the other side and bury it. Scratch the "Yes!"

Why New Charter Should be Defeated

Editor PEOPLES VOICE:

There are many reasons why the proposed new Charter should be defeated. While the official and authoritative information as to the provisions of the Charter, which could only be got from the printed document itself, was not available to any of the people until January 5, 1911, and are not yet in the hands of the people generally, we know enough to condemn it irrevocably.

The Methods Were Wrong.

First the methods used in framing it, carefully withholding from the people to the very last minute information as to the things which the people demanded, while at the same time filtering out to the people through the newspapers isolated bits of information of what was supposed to be in the Charter and would be likely to prepare the public mind for its favorable reception. The efforts to force the people to vote upon the draft almost before it can be generally circulated among the people are themselves against it.

Admittedly Undemocratic.

The document is admitted by the men who framed it to be undemocratic. They openly assert that they aim at the contraction of power in the hands of a few men, in the hope that these men may do the best for the people, with or without the understanding approval of the people. Mr. Lehmann frankly said in his address before the Bankers' Club that "what we need is men in office brave enough to do what they think is right, and not what they believe the people want them to do." This is a bald challenge of the principle of democracy, an arrogant pronouncement for honest oligarchy, and should be rebuked by the defeat of this Charter, which is often referred to as Lehmann's charter.

Defeat of Charter a Necessity.

The absence of the things which the people deemed of paramount importance, and insisted were requisites in any charter—the initiative, referendum and recall—is alone sufficient to make the defeat of the Charter a necessity, if the will of the people is to have any considerable weight in the affairs of our city government in the future. The people of this city have twice voted for the initiative and referendum. The last time, by a majority of two to one, the people made it clear to the Board of Freeholders that these things, above all others, were desired in the Charter. The Central Trades and Labor Union, by unanimous vote, more than a year ago declared that unless these and other things which they favored were inserted in the Charter they would not only refuse to support the Charter, but would fight it.

Rights of People Denied.

In spite of all this, the wish of the people was disdainfully denied. It was attempted to mitigate the wrath of the people by pretending that the failure to include the initiative was because it was unconstitutional; but this will not answer. It is the province of the Supreme Court to say whether it is unconstitutional, and not of private lawyers; but it is, in fact, perfectly constitutional. Moreover, the same principle is involved in the referendum of franchises by petition, which is included, so that altogether the excuse must be rejected as worthless. They went further and inserted what is called a referendum on franchises, but it is unsatisfactory to the friends of these principles, because it is so limited as to be practically worthless. Then they insert at the eleventh hour a so-called recall, but this is merely an abortion—is of no value whatever—was not intended to be used, cannot be used, and is a veritable insult to the intelligence of our people.

Labor's Demands Not Considered.

The demands of organized labor that our own citizens be employed on our own public work, that the House of Delegates be retained, so that the wards in which working people live might have representatives of their own class, and other reasonable requests, were rejected with equal promptness.

In short, this Charter proposes to give the people not what they want, but what some of the upper class think is good for them. For these reasons it ought to be defeated. Some of the Objectionable Features.

But there are most serious objections to many of the things that are in the Charter, as well as to what is left out.

It makes the Mayor a monarch.

It perpetuates lese majeste—see Article III, Sec. 6.

Under it the Council of aristocrats can tax every workman before he can work at any trade—see Article III, Sec. 23, clause 18.

Under it the Board of Public Improvements can compel small home owners in one part of the city to pay

the special tax bills in one payment, or lose their property, while permitting those in the aristocratic or subservient portions to pay theirs in seven yearly installments.

It abolishes the Auditor's office, while it is a fact that Washington, D. C., tried this and had to restore the office after losing many thousands of dollars by it in a few months.

It endangers the free birdge.

It makes the present Mayor a monarch, which was not intended even by the people who voted for him. If we are to have a monarch there should be a new election. We might prefer some other for monarch.

SHERIDAN WEBSTER.

Subordination of Legislative Branch

The new Charter not only denies to the people the right to participate in legislation and abolishes one branch of the legislative body, but it degrades and humiliates the remaining body wherever it might be a guardian in some degree of the people's interests. It forbids them to act upon any franchise measure except in a form previously approved by the Board of Public Improvements and it requires them to act on bills within forty days. Sometimes before a bill can be acted upon intelligently by the Council.

The Special Charter Election will take place January 31, when at least 100,000 workmen and progressive business men will register their vote against the proposed new Charter by sticking to their resolution: Scratch the "Yes!"

Away May Go the Waterworks.

The new Charter is full of "weasel" words. It is a most tricky and treacherous instrument. On page 20, last clause, it says the Council cannot sell "the waterworks, nor any park." Then the poor citizen is expected to breathe freely as to the waterworks. But the Big Cinch knew they could never get the waterworks while the people were looking; so they put these words under one shell and they put the pea under the shell on page 13. There clause 4 says they may mortgage the waterworks, and then, if a Big Cinch Council chooses, they can let it be sold under the mortgage. See the shell game?

Why this Haste?

The Big Interests' Attempt to Sandbag the People of St. Louis.

On Tuesday, January 31st, you are to vote on the proposed new Charter which, if adopted, may govern your city for years.

Why this suspicious haste in forcing this election so soon? The Freeholders took 18 months in secret, behind locked doors, to prepare this Charter, while the immortal Constitution of the United States was prepared in only four months, and the Constitution of Missouri in three months, and now they give us less than thirty days to examine their work before they "jam it through" a special election.

The people of St. Louis are to have no time to deliberate whether they will remain "The People" or become the serfs of the Big Cinch and the affiliated corporations and monopolies.

January 31 is the day of the Special Charter election. Vote the corporation Charter down!

Scratch the "Yes."

Treacherous Work.

Instead of giving us a genuine Initiative and Referendum, demanded by nine-tenths of the people of St. Louis, the Freeholders have tried to hand us another fake, falsely labeled Referendum!

Instead of compelling every franchise to be submitted to the vote of the people, before being granted, under this new Charter (after your franchises have been given away), you may call an election if you can secure the signatures of about 25,000 voters to a petition in about ninety days, every signature attested by oath, a feat that is almost impossible without somebody patriotic enough to spend a fortune to save the city's property.

If the Referendum be good for this one thing, why not for other matters? If the Referendum be good, why not the Initiative?

The Initiative and Referendum are embodied in the State Constitution. Why not in the new Charter?

The Freeholders left them out on the flimsy pretext that the Supreme Court might declare them unconstitutional.

The real reason is that the Big Cinch did not want the people to have the power to control their own city.

Hence these Freeholders found

everything that the people wanted and demanded unconstitutional (without waiting for the Supreme Court to decide it) and everything that the Big Cinch wanted perfectly legal and proper.

The Big Cinch, having already "taken over" nearly everything in sight, are now trying to absorb the whole city itself under the guise of this new Lehmann Charter. There is only one answer that the friends of popular-government and of St. Louis can make to this insidious proposition, and that is—

Vote it down! Vote down this plutocratic, oligarchic Charter! Vote down this conspiracy against our citizenship, our liberty and our city's welfare and progress!

Vote against the Big Cinch and the enemies of the free bridge! Save St. Louis from their clutches!

Scratch the "Yes!"

A Big Nigger in the Woodpile.

The Big Cinch says the new Charter permits the city to own and operate public utilities. Yes; but on page 13, in clause 6, there is a big nigger. The city may "acquire, lease or operate" public utilities, but it cannot "construct" them. See the point? We would have to "acquire" them from the present owners at enormous prices. What a snap! Yet, see their nerve. In the very same clause they say the Council may "grant to persons or corporations" the right to "construct," as well as purchase, lease and operate them—the very thing the city cannot do. How many millions is the omission worth to the Big Cinch?

The Same Old Burglar at Another Window.

Dave Francis went to the State Legislature to get through a bill giving St. Louis the power to build and operate a subway. He boldly stated that the word "operate" was put in simply to get it adopted, as he knew the people would not vote to build it unless they could "operate" it also. "But," said he, "after it is built we can lease it to a corporation." Now, this Charter has a provision in clause 8, page 14, which says that the city may build a subway, but makes no provision for operating same, while clause 6, which permits "operation" of some public utilities, says nothing about a subway. Shoot the burglar.

Its Distorted Figures.

The new Charter is not a unity, because into an undemocratic Charter it tries to graft distorted features of direct legislation. The latter must have the initiative and the referendum. The initiative is the impulse or creative movement in government. If 5 per cent of the voters sign a petition for a law, it goes to the law-making body, and there takes precedence of all other measures. They MUST vote on it. The referendum is the positive, constructive element; it is the deciding or will movement. If 5 per cent of the voters, within ninety days from the passage of a bill, sign a petition to have it referred to the people, it is held till the next election, when the people vote on it. Now, these two, the initiative and the referendum, must be joined as man and wife, as the two arms, the right and the left of the body, to constitute direct legislation.

Some Plain Facts.

At least three-fourths of the proposed new Charter is taken bodily from the present Charter. That is to say, much that is good in the new we now have, and the remainder we can get through new ordinances or separate amendments from time to time.

The present Charter is declared by experts to be one of the best in the United States, on the lines of representative government.

Neither Fish Nor Flesh.

The present Charter is at least consistent in theory. The new Charter is not so. It is construed neither on the theory of representation, nor of direct legislation, nor of what is termed "Commission Plan"; but is a mongrel affair, neither fish, flesh nor fowl.

The Referendum on Franchises

In the proposed new Charter is a very, very small part of what the people demand and are entitled to, and insist upon, in the way of a referendum. In fact, every franchise should be referred to the people without petition by what is called the Mandatory Referendum, and every measure of every kind should be subject to the Referendum upon the petition of not more than 5 per cent of the voters, as determined by the vote at the last election.

YOU SHOULD JOIN THE SOCIALIST PARTY FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY AT 966 CHOUTEAU AVENUE

Increasing the Army

The Frightful Cost of Wars Past and Wars to Come—Increase Worse Than Folly.

By Agnes H. Downing.

The Secretary of War has sent an urgent appeal to the House of Representatives for a standing army of at least four hundred and fifty thousand trained men; and that it would be better to have six hundred thousand. This would be a force fully four times as large as the combined regulars and organized militia at present. In fact, it is an army of the same size with which Napoleon passed through the hostile states of Germany and invaded the Russian Empire.

Secretary Dickinson also asks that our coasts be fortified. There is, too, a demand to increase and render more effective the organization of the militia.

As a matter of fact, in the last ten years one billion of dollars has been expended on the navy on the pretext that it was the navy that must defend us. Now it appears that the Secretary of the Navy is dead sure that a foreign foe would make quick work of the powerful Dreadnaughts, so, forsooth, we must have a land force.

According to a statement in the New York World:

"For all purposes of wars past and wars to come we are using each year of every \$100 devoted to ordinary national expense \$72 for military ends.

"Mr. Dickinson seems to contemplate a standing army almost as large as that of Germany, fully equipped, abundantly supplied with reserve material, and ready to the last button, as was Moltke's machine, for slaughter. The United States army which Mr. Dickinson now decries is costing about one hundred million dollars a year. How many hundreds of millions would be needed to maintain his proposed six hundred thousand men while they were rotting in their barracks awaiting imaginary invaders?"

Resolution Against the Charter.

"St. Louis, Jan. 14, 1911.

Whereas, The Central Trades and Labor Union and the Building Trades Council have, by unanimous vote, appealed to the workmen of St. Louis to defeat the pending new Charter at the special election, January 31; and

Whereas, The only labor representative on the Board of Freeholders, Owen Miller, refused to sign the new Charter, and urges its defeat; therefore,

Resolved, That the Amalgamated Wood Workers' District Council of St. Louis, Mo., is opposed to the adoption of the new Charter for the following, among other reasons:

1. That here is no provision in the new Charter for direct legislation, except fake recall and referendum clauses, which are unworkable, and only inserted to catch votes.

2. The proposed new Charter concentrates legislation and administration into the hands of a handful of men not responsible to the voters for their acts, and gives greater power to the power than that of any European monarch.

3. The proposed new Charter fails to provide that all city employees must be citizens of St. Louis, thus forcing the direct issue in favor of the present policy of paying our tax-gathered money for unnaturalized foreigners.

4. The proposed new Charter fails to provide that all city work, whether performed direct or by contractors, shall be on the eight-hour basis at the prevailing rate of wages. In this deliberate omission the new Charter proclaims itself twenty-five years behind the time and directly in opposition to the spirit and laws of every trade and labor union in St. Louis.

Resolved, That we call upon all Union men to go to the polls January 31 and vote and work for the defeat of the proposed new Charter.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to the People's League, the Central Trades and Labor Union and the newspapers of St. Louis.

AMALGAMATED WOOD WORKERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL.
J. A. Schuster, President.
Robt. Toal, Secretary.

Two Bodies and One Soul.

It is reported that Mayor Kreismann and Ex-Mayor Wells are both enthusiastic supporters of the proposed new corporation-made City Charter. No citizen acquainted with the political careers of these two gentlemen will be surprised to get this information. Kreismann and Wells have two bodies, but one soul, and

Then, when we remember that those are all young strong men thus withdrawn from family life and from productive industry, and placed as a dead weight on our already overburdened society, we can see what it means. And this for a country that has never been attacked by a foreign invader. There is no real danger of such an attack. Increasing the army would not help if there were because other nations could also increase.

It is said that a resolution passed at the last Peace Conference at The Hague declared that to attack an unfortified city would be considered a gross breach of international amity. If this be true, then an unfortified city would be safe, and to fortify a city is to invite attack.

In reality the whole proceeding is an expensive and wasteful farce gotten up partly by contractors who wish to furnish the supplies. In all seriousness there is but one use for armies.

Walter Thomas Mills is authority for the statement that the military maps of America locate all factories, show all the lines of approach and the best plans for their defense. Mills also says: "Within the various countries the home service of the soldier is none other than to overawe the workers at all times, and to actively use the weapons of war in trades disputes in time of strikes."

And further: "Every great industrial center in the world has a supply of soldiers, with machine guns and every possible equipment for street fighting always close at hand."

And this is the secret for the demand for an increased standing army. The workers of the country are forced to maintain their sons in the heavy harness of war to keep themselves in submission. It is the very worst humiliation that capitalism puts upon them. It is one of the very best reasons why they should put an end to capitalism.

this double soul beats vividly for the Big Cinch interests.

The Proof.

"You're very contradictory, my son."

"No, I'm not, pa."—Lippincott's.

Remember, no CIGARS are Genuine Union Made



UNLESS THE BOX BEARS THE

Blue Union Label

When You Buy

Mercantile and "305"

CIGARS

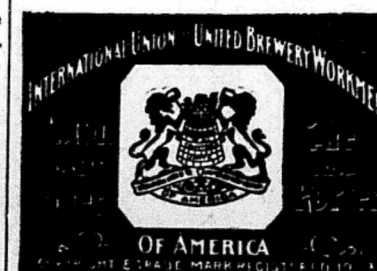
You get the BEST Tobacco handled and made into Cigars by EXPERT WORKMEN.

We do not advertise on billboards and take the cost of the advertisement out of the quality of our goods.

F. R. RICE MERCANTILE CIGAR COMPANY
St. Louis, Mo.

Drink Only UNION BEER

(Fac-Simile of Our Label)



This label is pasted on every barrel and box as a guarantee that the contents are the product of UNION LABOR

Hughes-Schmitt
LIVERY & UNDERTAKING CO.
Strictly Union
1817-19 Sidney Street
Undertakers and Embalmers
Both Phones

Guttering, Spouting and Furnaces
Gas and Gasoline Stoves, Washing Machines and
Wringers Repaired
Small Pipe and Lathe Work. Lawn Mowers and
Scaifolds Sharpened.
Phone, Bell South 776, or call
ARTHUR M. LEISSE | 4706 GRAVOIS AVE.
Res. 4727 GRAVOIS AV

SOCIALIST BOOKS
GO TO
LABOR BOOK DEPARTMENT
966 Chouteau Ave.

EVERY FAMILY USES

COAL

ORDER YOURS FROM

St. Louis Labor

THERE ARE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD DO THIS.

ONE GOOD REASON is that without a cent additional cost, you fare better and also help your paper by placing your order with

ST. LOUIS LABOR

than with some irresponsible solicitor—your order will receive the best care because the coal business handled by ST. LOUIS LABOR is big and the mine operators try to keep and please big buyers. All coal delivered through ST. LOUIS LABOR is direct from the mines.

ORDER BY PHONE.

Kinloch, Central 1577, or post card to

ST. LOUIS LABOR

Herman Starck Hardware & Paint Company

3001 ARSENAL STREET.

Victor 1056. Sidney 2486-L.

Builders' Hardware, Contractors' Supplies,

Charter Oak, Quick Meal Stoves and Ranges.

Becker-Moore's Paints, Sinour's Floor Paints,

Chinamel, Murphy Varnishes.

These marks represent the highest Qualities.

Stove Repairing and Renickeling.

STEINER ENGRAVING CO

11 NORTH EIGHTH ST.

Badges, Banners & Buttons.

Buttons like illustration

\$2.00 per 100

Scabs Must Go

Since the signing of the peace agreement between the allied metal trades and the officials of the Missouri Pacific-Iron Mountain Railway Company there has been more or less contention at a number of points on the system.

Men have been discharged for petty offenses and in some instances where no actual violation of established rules had been committed.

There seems to be a disposition on the part of minor officials, among them general foremen and master mechanics, to vent their spite by subjecting the men who were most active during the strike to all kinds of disagreeable and not in a few instances humiliating situations. There have been many cases of flagrant discriminations. Men have been discharged for "guying" the left-over "expert" mechanics which the company employed during the strike.

If the railroad officials imagine that union men will work in peace and harmony with the cattle they hired during the strike, with whom they hoped to defeat the strikers, they will have another guess coming. The railroad officials can facilitate the change back to normal conditions by clearing the shops of the rubbish which they accumulated while the battle was on.

There is a state law in most of the states traversed by this road which provides that all places where labor is employed shall be kept in a sanitary condition. There can be no sanitation where scab labor is employed. The very presence of scab labor is dangerous to the health of decent men; and, moreover, it is very "unhealthy" for the scabs who are forced to mingle with union men.

The summary discharge of union men at Little Rock for talking to scab labor and the transfer of scabs from Little Rock to McGehee, and also the transferring of scabs from one department to another, which caused all the machinists at the latter place to strike, are matters which may lead to more serious complications.

The temper of the men all along the line is such that they will not brook treatment of this kind. If the railroad company desires to maintain harmonious relations with its men, it must fulfill its part of the terms of settlement. It must not deal in subterfuges, nor permit its minor officials to deal in them. It must carry out the spirit as well as the letter of its agreement with the men.

When the company signed up contracts with its employees of the four metal trades it agreed to a union shop, and a union shop means union conditions, and union conditions does not mean that employees in these departments can be part union and part scab.

Espionage over union men by scabs and scab herders will not be tolerated for one instant. The very presence of scabs and scab herders in a shop is distasteful to union workmen. The presence of scabs in a shop tends to disorganize the working force and makes it impossible for them to turn out a reasonable amount of work. The company officials ought to know this, for they cannot expect to get the best results out of their employees under such conditions, and no amount of intimidation by discharging men will remedy the situation. Coercive measures will only intensify and make more difficult the present situation.

The existing condition is created by the construction placed upon the settlement agreement by the company officials. The clause which allows thirty days for all the men who struck to return to work is construed by the company to mean a thirty days' grace for the scabs. If the railroad officials want to cripple the efficiency of their working force that much longer, well and good.

But it is in the transfer of the scabs from the larger shops to points where but few mechanics are employed which is causing the greatest friction. If the company thinks it will be able to assimilate its "experts" with honest men, it had better form a more intimate acquaintanceship with union men. They will never mix unless it be in a "mix-up."

Let us hope the company will not invite disaster by forcing a reopening of hostilities, but will show a disposition to be fair and reasonable, and place a check upon those officials who, since the strike settlement, have done everything in their power to create strife and contention.

A reopening of hostilities would precipitate the greatest railroad strike ever witnessed in this country. It would affect every railroad controlled by the Gould interests, and would mean the loss of millions to them and result in incalculable injury to the business interests of the country.

And as to the men who will be involved, they are now better prepared

than ever before for such an emergency. The Missouri Pacific-Iron strike has welded the four metal trades into one grand federation. They would put up a fight that would startle and at the same time challenge the admiration of the world.

A King's Flight

During the Lisbon Revolution.

For nearly a week the Necessidades Palace has been deserted save (writes Percival Phillips from Lisbon on October 10, in the London Daily Express) for the naval detachment that now guards the former royal residence on behalf of the republic. Blinds and shutters are drawn, and the building is empty and silent, but behind the shattered facade, which bears witness to the attack made by the revolutionaries, there is a remarkable scene which is in itself the story of the flight of King Manuel.

Everything has been left exactly as when the King fled from the palace. His bedroom is in disorder, the bedclothes lying just as he flung them back when the alarm came, his night attire on one side, his watch on the dressing table, his uniforms scattered about, and a hastily written letter on the desk in his study adjoining.

The King's private apartments were on the other side of the courtyard and the single window of his bedroom overlooked the Tagus. No damage was done in any rooms of the suite, but his Majesty must have felt the shock from the explosion of the large shell in the drawing room at the end of the corridor.

The Royal Suite.

It is easy to reconstruct the scene in the King's apartments after the beginning of the revolutionary attack. There is a small room a few feet from the King's bed chamber, which was obviously occupied by an equerry or an aide-de-camp.

This officer was roused suddenly from his slumbers. He jumped out of bed—the disordered condition of the bedclothes indicates that he must have flung them back and leaped to his feet in a second, and then literally jumped into his day attire.

There are two or three uniforms lying over a chair and on the floor in the equerry's room, while drawers are pulled out, and the general appearance of the room suggests that the equerry ran out after scrambling into a few garments, hurried to the King, and then returned to put together a few personal effects preparatory to flight.

King Manuel's private suite included four rooms, all of moderate size, and simply though comfortably furnished. They suggest that the King is of a deeply religious nature, for there are two crucifixes over his bed and a rosary within reach of his pillow, while most of the pictures on the walls are of religious nature. His apartments are entered through a small ante-room, which leads into his study.

The King had written a letter before retiring to sleep for the last time in his palace and it still lies on the large, flat-topped desk which stands in the center of the room. It is written in Portuguese on a sheet of ordinary note paper, and signed "Manuel." The guards have scrupulously refrained from even touching the letter, and it remains just where the King tossed it, with the apparent intention of posting it the first thing the next morning.

The walls of the study are lined with cabinets, the drawers of which contain King Manuel's Portuguese and foreign decorations and many costly jewels, some of which are his personal property. One of the drawers is half open, and on the top of the decorations lying inside are the insignia of the Garter.

The King's Sword.

The King's bedroom is in a state of confusion. The bedclothes are thrown back, and King Manuel's night robe lies on top. His sword in its scabbard leans against the wall at the head of the bed.

At the foot of the bed and lying on a chair near by are several uniforms, including that of a naval officer, as though they had been brought to the King when he awoke, but discarded for the plain clothes that he wore when he left the palace.

His watch, in a hunting case, is on the dressing table with two or three rings. A box partially filled with cigars is on the dressing table, and a package of Portuguese cigars is under the table. The King's silk hat and frock coat are on a stand in the corner.

Instructions have been issued by the government that nothing be touched until a Republican official has made an inventory of everything in the palace. It is probable that the King's personal effects, including his clothing and jewelry, will be placed at his disposal as soon as the inventory is completed and that negotiations to this end will be opened through another power.

THE KOOKABURRA'S CALL.

An Australian Bush Song.

When the Southern stars are waning,
And the day is near at hand,
Have you ever felt the glamor
Of our wondrous forest land?
Down the hills, among the gullies,
Through the gum and river oak,
Hear the laughing Kookaburra,
Treat the day dawn as a joke!
Hear his laugh so long and hearty,
As the day breaks over all,
And the whole wide world seem
waking
To the Kookaburra's call.

Now the children still may slumber,
But the men must make a stir,
It is time to grasp the saddle,
And the stockwhip and the spur,
For the world awaits its workers,
And at those who slumber late
He will laugh in quaint derision
With a Kookaburra mate!
You may rise, and mount, and gallop,
But where'er you chance to go
Comes the hoarse, but thrilling,
laughter—
Ha, ha, ha, ha! ho, ho, ho!

Soon a million birds will follow,
But the dawn did he proclaim,
And he's laughing, for he's early,
And his pride no man can blame,
For he sets the world a lesson—
Every morning it's rehearsed—
There is wealth, and fame and honor
For the man who gets in first!
You may let the weak men follow,
But with goodwill through it all
Get in first, and take the lesson
From the Kookaburra's call!

So the bushman rises early,
For he knows he dare not sleep;
There's a day's work with the cattle,
There is trouble with the sheep.
There is work with maul and wedges,
And the hours for rest are few,
And the Kookaburra calls him
While the grass is wet with dew.
Soon the day will light the mountains,
And the world seem strange and grand;
But no town man understands it—
Only bush folk understand!
—Monarco in Brisbane Worker.

WISCONSIN NOTES.

A Socialist official often finds some of his duties far from pleasant. This has been the experience of the Socialist Sheriff of Milwaukee county, who entered his office with the beginning of the new year.

One of the duties of the Sheriff's office is to seize furniture bought on the installment plan which is forfeited because the payments have not been kept up. One of the new Socialist deputy sheriffs was sent out last week on an errand of this sort. He soon telephoned in that the family from whom he must take the furniture was in distress, that the father of the family had been suffering from typhoid fever and had been out of work for many weeks. The Socialist deputy said he would rather throw up his position than to seize this furniture.

The sequel of the story was that the Socialist Sheriff went down into his own pocket, and the furniture was saved to the needy family.

Now here arises a very serious problem. Given the present system, which cannot be abolished this year nor next year, and there must be "down and outs," men and women physically, mentally or morally unfit to compete with their stronger fellows. What shall we do with them?

Shall we leave the offices touching the lives of these poor people in the hands of hard and dishonest old party politicians?

Or shall we fill these offices with Socialists who will mitigate as far as possible the application of the system to these unfortunates?

The unfortunates themselves would certainly answer the latter question in the affirmative. When the Socialists carried Milwaukee county, among the mass of congratulations received, one of the most touching was from the prisoners in the jail. They reached their hands through the gratings and eagerly shook hands with the new Socialist Sheriff, expressing their gratification at his election. And, in fact, they had cause to be pleased. Our Socialist Sheriff is giving the prisoners better food than they had under old party rule. He has abolished the grafting system, by which the Sheriff could line his own pockets at the expense of the fare of his prisoners. In many ways they are more humanely treated, as, for instance, they are not subjected to the humiliation of handcuffs when taken to court.

So long as the system turns out these delinquents and deficients, it is better that they should be in the hands of those who will treat them like fellow-men.

E. H. THOMAS,

State Secretary.

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 19, 1911.

UNIVERSAL PEACE

By Theresa Malkiel

"Why in the world has your committee selected Universal Peace as the first subject on its list of lectures?" asked a woman comrade the other day. "Have we not more interesting, direct and necessary subjects to consider?"

It is well that the Woman's National Committee should have started its course of lectures with Universal Peace, for woman's original subjection dates back to the beginning of war.

To go back to the first stages of development in the human race, we find that war for the protection of the primitive objects of private property was directly responsible for the establishment of man's dominance and his tyranny over woman.

In the measure of the increasing possessions, and the necessity of their protection from an encroaching neighbor, physical force, or warfare, was necessary. Man had long been the hunter, hence a good fighter. This quality he now used to advantage, his position thus becoming superior to that of woman, who was the homekeeper, the primitive manufacturer, the child breeder.

"The men," says Frederick Engels, "seized the reins also in the house; the women were stripped of their dignity, enslaved, became tools of the men's lust, and mere machines for the generation of children."

"Let us imagine history without war," says Carl Heinzen, "or the weaker sex capable of engaging in war, and the entire position of woman is changed in an instant."

The great woman's rights man knew what he was saying, for, if we follow history, we see that woman suffered most amidst the warlike people. Her position among the warlike Greks was indescribable.

What was the chief work of history up to the nineteenth century, if not war?

The entire process of social evolution, from savagery to civilization, called for physical strength, for the power of defense, that resulted in wholesale murder, a distinction ascribed to man alone, and in whose glories woman had no share. It is this—her incapacity to kill—which has always been used as a chief argument against her enfranchisement.

Even to-day the warrior's trade is held in high esteem. With some persons it is the constant dread of war that constitutes their chief argument against equal rights of men and women.

The masculine mind is still under the influence of the past, the day in which the privilege of citizenship carried in its wake duties which only masculine strength could perform. If we scratch deep under the skin of nearly every masculine opponent to woman suffrage, we will find at the bottom that it is the thought of the past public life, so full of coarseness and violence, that is alone responsible for his opposition. Referring still to the past—whatever the causes of war may have been—it was woman, most of all, who suffered to the fullest extent the consequences of carnage and bestiality. The bereaved mother's heart bled more deeply than did the fatal wounds of her dying son.

Men may have won and conquered through war, but woman was always the loser. While the murderous profession of man was glorified, the achievements of women, and they were not few, did not count at all.

As we turn the pages of history and follow the progress of evolution, we find that wherever physical force has given way to mental development, where nations have risen nearer to the height of human being and farther from the beast, there the position of woman has risen also.

The more cultured and humane people become the more they abhor the predominance of one class over another, and the more do they realize that liberty and economy cannot be established among classes as long as it does not exist between the sexes.

It is chiefly for the realization of sex equality that woman should take a deep interest in universal peace. "The abolition of war," predicted Carl Heinzen, "would be the liberation of women."

The enfranchisement of women in one country, while the women of other countries are still without this right, does not mean the liberation of sex. Liberty, whether expressed in woman's enfranchisement, or in the abolition of wage slavery, stands in close connection, not only with all other developments of its own lands, but is dependent upon an equal development in all lands. Not until a country can rest assured that its progress and achievements will not be molested by some other power can it consider those achievements worthy or permanent.

So long as sons glory in militarism just so long will mothers remain of

secondary consideration in shaping the destiny of their children.

So long as dominion of man over man and of nation over nation holds sway just so long will man's dominion over woman.

So long as our armies force single life upon millions of men just so long will the prostitution of women flourish.

So long as workingmen of one land are persuaded to murder their brother workingmen of another land, for no other reason than the gain for their masters, just so long will the cloud of human slavery hang over the race.

The Milwaukee Socialists have met a heavy loss in the death of our comrade, Alderman Sultaire. For many years he had been equally active in the Socialist movement and in trades union circles. A machinist by trade, he was a fine type of the workingman in politics. His death was deeply felt by his comrades.

It will now be necessary at the spring election to fill the vacancy caused by his death. School directors and judges will also be elected at the same time. It is much to be hoped that Milwaukee will now secure Socialist judges. This has become a real necessity for the working people of Milwaukee. The election will take place in April.

St. Louis Socialist Campaign Fund —1911.

Chas. Buxton, England	\$ 3.00
J. A. Phillips	1.00
Henry Stueckemann	.50
Robert Schubert	.50
Jac. Rithaler	.75
A. Ulrich	.25
Convention collection	10.22
L. J.	1.00
F. Werner, lost list	.40
Carpenters' Union No. 1596	20.00
C. Hirschenhofer, tickets	1.00
Emily Kientz, tickets	.75
B. Bieniek	1.00
W. M. Holman, tickets	.90
J. J. Leuenberger, List No. 43:	
Fren Lannert	.50
J. J. Leuenberger	.50
Mrs. Leuenberger	.50
K. Caneford	.50
E. Caneford	.25
J. Fox	.25
Mrs. Randolt	.25
F. Frederich	.50

Total to January 17.....\$44.72

Universal Peace

By John M. Work.

If the cause of genuine human freedom ever demands it, we Socialists will shoulder our guns and get in line.

But we are in favor of universal peace, just the same. And we are in favor of the only economic measures that can insure universal peace.

Every war has an economic cause. Under the present capitalist system the industries of each nation are owned by a few capitalists. They hire wage slaves to do the work. Modern machinery has made the productivity of these wage slaves enormous. The capitalists pay them as wages, on an average, just about enough for them to live on and raise their children. As this is only a fraction of the value of their labor, it, naturally, follows that they are able to buy back only a fraction of the product. The capitalists and their retainers are unable to consume the balance. Consequently there is a great surplus that has to seek a market abroad.

Every civilized nation is in this same condition. Every civilized nation is, therefore, constantly on the lookout to preserve its markets abroad, to secure new ones, if possible, and also to gain or retain opportunities for the investment of surplus capital.

Right here lies the cause of all recent wars.

Here lay the cause of the Spanish-Cuban war.

Here lay the cause of the Spanish-American war.

Here lay the cause of the Philippine war.

Here lay the cause of the China-Japanese war.

Here lay the cause of the Boer war.

Here lay the cause of the Russo-Japanese war.

Every one of these wars was fought for the purpose of gaining or retaining foreign or colonial markets and gaining or retaining opportunities for the investment of surplus capital.

Here also lies the reason why the nations of the world are at swords' points.

They are all maintaining immense navies for the sole and only purpose

of gaining and retaining foreign markets and opportunities for investment.

Socialism will abolish war, because it will put an end to the fierce contest for foreign markets and investments.

When Socialism is established, the men and the women who do the necessary and useful mental and manual labor of the world will receive the full value of the product. They will consume the product themselves, they will shorten their hours of labor and not produce so much. As a matter of course, they will exchange. If they are not able to consume it all, products with other nations, each nation getting those things which it desires for use. But they will have no occasion at all to engage in a scramble for foreign markets or investments.

Therefore, when all nations are socialized, the cause of war will be gone.

The navies can be placed in the Socialist museum.

Some people have scoffed at us because of our opposition to war. They have contemptuously declared that our expectation is Utopian.

But when the cause of war is once realized, it is easy to see that Socialism will remove that cause, and that, therefore, the abolition of war is a certainty instead of an idle dream.

The Socialists have already made their influence felt in preventing war.

When Norway withdrew from Sweden the capitalists of Sweden wanted to force her back into the alliance, because the two nations, combined, could exercise more power and influence in foreign affairs—that is, in the gaining and retaining of foreign markets and opportunities for investments. But the Socialists of Sweden declared that he would refuse to fight against the workingmen of Norway. And, as a very large proportion of the workingmen of Sweden are Socialists, the capitalists were compelled to abandon the war project.

Likewise, when France and Germany got into trouble over Morocco, because French and German capitalists had money invested in Morocco and wanted markets there, the French and German Socialists were unanimously of the opinion that the workingmen of France and Germany had no quarrel with each other and that it would be folly for them to help their masters, the capitalists, to fight with each other over markets and investments. Without a doubt it was their influence that caused the two nations to settle the question peaceably.

So the Socialists have already prevented war to a considerable extent and prevented the shedding of a vast amount of human blood.

It is useless for the capitalists to enter into a war, unless they can foment hatred among the people, so that they will go forth and fight the battles, while the capitalists themselves keep at a safe distance.

For the capitalists never fight battles. They may not be invincible in peace, but they are certainly invincible in war. They always stay at home and rake in the money, while the workingmen spill each others' blood.

When the workingmen are not foolish enough to consent to do the fighting the war has to be called off.

As fast as the Socialists become more numerous war will become less frequent.

When the Socialists gain control of all the nations war will cease altogether.

We will then have universal peace. We will then realize Tennyson's dream of a federation of the world. As August Bebel predicts, there will be a world parliament, formed of the representatives of all the civilized nations, which will regulate international relations and render them more and more stable.

Co-operative...

...Printery

966 Chouteau Avenue

—15—

ALWAYS READY

—10—

DO YOUR JOB WORK

Give us a Call!

Sheridan Webster

Attorney-at-Law

PHONES: Victor 1216 — Sidney 2497-B

1837 Kennett Place

COLUMBIA BOX COMPANY

10th and N, Market Sts.

Boxes of All Kinds

Union Label Boxes

ST. LOUIS LABOR

Published every Saturday by the
LABOR PUBLISHING COMPANY.


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

Subscription: \$1.00 per year in advance.

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.

Co-operative  Printery
966 Chouteau Avenue.

TO FOOL VOTERS BY NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING.

The Big Cinch Charter people are whistling their last tunes. Their so-called Charter Publicity Committee sent out another appeal for financial aid, which reads as follows:

"Saint Louis, Jan. 21, 1911.

"Dear Sir:

Pardon us if we seem insistent. We do need money.

"It's simply a fight of the people against the old combine in the HOUSE OF DELEGATES AND THEIR POLITICAL SUPPORTERS. TO KEEP THEM OUT FOREVER WE MUST PASS THE CHARTER. TO PASS THE CHARTER WE MUST HAVE MONEY.

"THIS IS AS GREAT A CRISIS AS THIS CITY EVER FACED.

"Can't you send a contribution to us, MOSTLY FOR NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING WHEREIN WE SET FORTH SOLID, LOGICAL REASONS WHICH WILL AROUSE THE THINKING PEOPLE OF ST. LOUIS TO ACTION—action that will pass the new Charter and forever close the doors of the city to the House of Delegates combine?

"THIS IS URGENT. PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK MONDAY, SO THAT WE MAY HAVE IT IN HAND BY TUESDAY TO ENABLE US TO MAKE CONTRACTS, WHICH CANNOT BE MADE LATER THAN TUESDAY.

"Very truly yours,

"CHARTER PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

"STEPHEN DOUGHTON, Secretary."

By means of plenty of money the Big Cinch Charter patriots expect to get just enough of their tommy-rot arguments into the columns of the daily newspapers to deceive and hoodwink the voters during the closing days of the campaign.

It is too late, however.

The people of St. Louis cannot get caught on this trip. The will be on deck January 31 and bury the proposed new Charter good and deep.

Brewery Workers Unanimously Against Proposed New Charter.

The Local Joint Executive Board of the United Brewery Workers of St. Louis, by unanimous vote, decided against the proposed new City Charter, at the same time endorsing the attitude of the Central Trades and Labor Union. The resolutions read as follows:

Resolved, That the Joint Local Executive Board of Brewery Workers is opposed to the adoption of the new Charter for the following, among other reasons:

1. There is no provision in the new Charter for direct legislation, except fake recall and referendum clauses which are unworkable and only inserted to catch votes.

2. The proposed new Charter concentrates legislation and administration into the hands of a handful of men, not responsible to the voters for their acts and gives greater power to the mayor than that of any European monarch.

3. The proposed new Charter fails to provide that all city employees must be citizens of St. Louis, thus forcing the direct issue in favor of the present policy of paying our tax-gathered money to unnaturalized foreigners.

4. The proposed new Charter fails to provide that all city work, whether performed direct or by contractors, shall be on the 8-hour basis at the prevailing rate of wages. In this deliberate omission the new Charter proclaims itself 25 years behind the times and directly in opposition to the spirit and laws of every trade and labor union in St. Louis.

Resolved, That we call upon all Union men to go to the polls Jan. 31, and vote and work for the defeat of the proposed new Charter.

JOS. FESSNER, Secretary.

Typographia No. 3.

To the Editor of ST. LOUIS LABOR:—

Dear Sir—The undersigned hereby wishes to inform you that at the last regular meeting of Typographia No. 3 the following resolution was adopted, and request the same to be published in your next issue:

Whereas, The Board of Freeholders and the business interests are making preparations to force upon the people of this city within 30 days, a time entirely too short for consideration, a new Charter, which, if adopted, would abolish our democratic form of municipal government; and

Whereas, The request of organized labor for the initiative, referendum and recall was entirely ignored by the Board of Freeholders; and

Whereas, The Central Trades and Labor Union at its last meeting unanimously decided to oppose and bring about the defeat of the new Charter; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we indorse the action of the Central Trades and Labor Union, and be it further

Resolved, That the press, including ST. LOUIS LABOR, be informed of our action.

JACOB EBERHARD, Secretary.

New Subscribers

have been received by the following comrades and friends: Arthur Jerger 1, C. Malone 1, F. Gerber 1, Jos. Bachmann 2, Jos. Greif 1, R. Nenssel 1, Fred Stocker 1, Chas. Coffman 1, F. Lindecke 1, O. Pauls 1, E. W. Albright 2, Geo. Schaefer 1, John Regert 1, Otto Kaemmerer 1, Mr. Brosin 1, F. E. Nye 1, Jac. Dorner 1, Wm. Mundy 1, Robt. Poenack 1, F. J. Kloth 2, W. C. Hoelscher 1.

Cigars { PEN MAR - 10c
SUNRISE - 5c
Brandt & Stahl, 319 Walnut Street

Serious Objections

Not Only the House of Delegates Would be Abolished, but the Council Would be Deprived of Much of Its Legislative Power.

To the Editor:

The question of time for due examination must remain prominent among the problems connected with this proposed new departure. One of the first things that strikes the investigator is the far-reaching modifications of the legislative department. These alterations are a marked decrease in legislative power. A Council of fifteen members would compose the entire legislative branch, and as the election of the Council would be at large, all might come from one particular section of the city. This point would rest with majorities in the total vote of the city. But a matter of urgent inquiry is the extent to which the legislative branch is reduced in its authority and functions as well as in its number of chambers.

The Council under the new Charter would be deprived of its present power of confirmation of the mayor's appointments. This exercise of the legislative co-operative control is a feature of the Constitution of the United States, and there has never been a movement to change it. The President appoints with the advice and consent of the Senate, and this provision has unquestionably been a valuable safeguard in its practical workings. To deprive the legislative department of St. Louis of this long-established check on the mayor's appointive power opens the question if this new limitation does not reduce what is to remain of the legislative branch from a co-ordinate to a subsidiary, not to say inferior, position. The centralization unquestioned of all patronage in the hands of the Mayor is a sweeping innovation in the new Charter, and will be a point on which students of the instrument will seek more light. They will ask what harm has come to the city government in the past by the Council's authority to confirm appointments, and if there has been any injury would it not probably have been greater under a strictly one-man power.

Scratch the "Yes!"

A FREE CITIZEN.

Letter Box

Proportional Representation

It Would Mean Justice and Fair Play to all Citizens, Irrespective of Party Affiliation.

To the Editor:

In the name of a number of friends, I request you to exclaim in your columns the meaning of the proportional system of representation, which has been introduced in Switzerland and in many municipalities of Southern Germany.

Hoping that you will comply with my request, I remain, yours truly,
JOHN M. McCLURY.

In compliance with the above request, we publish the following information:

Suppose there are 124,000 votes cast for a Council election. The Council consists of twenty-five members. The political parties poll votes as follows:

Republicans	49,500 votes
Democrats	49,400 votes
Socialists	25,100 votes

Total 124,000 votes

Under our present system of representation the Republicans would have "carried the city"—in other words: the Republicans would have elected every one of the twenty-five Councilmen. Now, see the result:

49,500 voters elect twenty-five Councilmen.

74,000 voters elect not one. Hence the 74,000 Democrats and Socialists are without representation in the Council, because the Republicans happened to poll 100 votes more than the Democrats.

This is the old—the present—system.

Under the proportional representation the result would be quite different. Every 5,000 votes, or major fraction thereof, entitle to one Councilman. Hence the Council would be composed as follows:

Republicans, 49,500 votes	10
Democrats, 49,400 votes	10
Socialists, 25,100 votes	5

Can any justice-loving citizen object to such a fair system of election as proportional representation?

The fundamental principle of the proportional system of representation is based on justice and fair play to all citizens, irrespective of political party affiliation.

Whether the citizen will vote with the majority or with the minority, he is sure to be represented in the legislative assembly.

To-day, under the present system, it may happen that the majority of the citizens have no representation in the City Council, because one of the political parties won the election, not by a majority of all the votes cast, but by a small plurality of the vote of the second strongest party.

But such a plurality may be the minority of the total vote cast, as can be seen by the above illustration.

In the proposed new Charter the Freeholders would abolish the House of Delegates, but would not provide their single-chamber Council with the proportional representation.

This is unfair, unjust. Hence the proposed new Charter must be defeated on January 31 by an overwhelming majority.

Scratch the "Yes!"

Resolution Against the New Charter.

St. Louis, Jan. 1, 1911

To the Editor:

Dear Sir—The following resolution was adopted by Local No. 24, United Garment Workers of America:

"Whereas, The Board of Freeholders and the business interests are making preparations to force upon the people of St. Louis, Mo., within a few days a new Charter, which, if adopted, would abolish our democratic form of municipal government; and

"Whereas, The request of organized Labor for the initiative, referendum and recall was ignored by the Board of Freeholders; and

"Whereas, The Central Trades and Labor Union at its last two meetings, by practically unanimous vote, decided to oppose and bring about the defeat of the new Charter; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the Garment Cutters, Local, No. 246, U. G. W. of A., indorse the action of the Central Trades and Labor Union; and be it further

"Resolved, That ST. LOUIS LABOR and Arbeiter Zeitung be informed of our action."

Fraternally yours,
JOHN WISSEL, Pres.
GEO. BREMER, Sec'y.

CONSTITUTIONALITY OF INITIATIVE.

(St. Louis Star, Jan. 17, 1911.)

Mr. Fauntleroy did not come to bat in the Charter game quite so soon as some of the lawyers who advised the Board of Freeholders that an initiative provision in the Charter would be unconstitutional, but he has made just as long a hit.

To the merely logical mind—not stored with legal decisions and precedents, and, possibly, better able to judge than one which is so loaded—it looks very much like a home run hit for the late batter. He says that, since the State Constitution now provides for legislation by the initiative, and that, as the provisions in the Constitution that the city shall have at least one legislative body does not say that legislation must be confined to that body, there is nothing to prevent the city from doing supplemental legislation by the initiative, just as the state does.

Of course, it is presumptuous for the mere layman to hold any opinion on so purely technical a matter as the constitutionality of anything, yet, when good lawyers take opposite sides of the question, the layman may be permitted to accept the side which appeals most to his own mentality.

That supreme courts often—indeed generally—find some technical point by which to overthrow the logical conclusion of the lay mind, does not alter the fact. It must think, and may even continue to think the same way after the court has said it is thinking wrong.

In this particular matter, it seems undisputed that the State Constitution establishes the principle of legislation by the initiative. No express inhibition of it in municipal legislation can be pointed out. The answer seems to be that it is constitutional—until, of course, the courts find some hidden objections on which to found a negative.

Such being the case, it is more than probable, should the Charter be adopted, that we shall soon be called upon to vote on an amendment to it establishing the initiative and a more complete referendum.

POINTERS.

Vote January 31!
Scratch the "Yes!"
Be not deceived by Big Cinchers!
Every vote against the new Char-

ter means a vote against the powerful corporation interests.

One Hundred Thousand Votes against the proposed new Charter will teach the enemies of the people a lesson.

Vote Condemns Charter.

South Broadway Merchants and Manufacturers on Record.

Unanimous opposition to the proposed new Charter was voted at a meeting of the South Broadway Merchants and Manufacturers' Association.

Before balloting members heard the document both praised and denounced.

C. J. Anderson and several members also spoke, chiefly against the adoption of the new Charter.

A. J. Albrecht was elected president to succeed Benjamin Westhus. The first and second vice presidents and secretary and treasurer were re-elected. Max Rubenstein was elected sergeant-at-arms and the following were chosen members of the Board of Directors: Gus Frey, Joseph Goettler, C. J. Anderson, P. J. Doerr, L. F. Hammar and Jacob Bastian.

Confidence in Ourselves

We Must Not be Vassals, but Men Conscious of Our Rights and Duties.

To the Editor:

One of the cheap phrases that the advocates of the new Charter have lately coined is that "Confidence is the accompaniment of strength."

If it is the right kind of confidence, yes. But not the confidence some of these gentlemen are talking about.

For instance, I have no confidence in a king-mayor, be he ever so good, because king-mayorship is opposed to our democratic institutions.

I have full confidence in the people.

At a time when the world is moving farther away from the divine right and arrogant assumptions of superiority in ruling classes, when once Bourbon France is a republic, when the legislative representatives of the Germans have put a bit in the mouth of the kaiser, and the English are on the point of abolishing the veto power of the hereditary House of Lords, it is passing strange to hear the essence of the doctrine of lese majeste proclaimed in an American city. The gist of the opinion of the Freeholders is that, of St. Louis should put their confidence of studying the Charter for themselves and pointing out articles and sections in it which are dangerous—aye, instead of even asking questions in an effort to be enlightened on obscure points, the people dence in men who made this Charter and who are now supporting it.

This is not democracy. It is not republicanism. I would trust the members of the Board of Freeholders to the utmost limit of men's personal integrity and sense of honor, sure that, in any of the delicate relations of private or business life, they would betray no trust. But I would not accept their ipse dixit as to what is my public duty on any point. I would not let them hand me a copy of the proposed Charter and say in effect: "Read it if you choose, but vote for it anyhow, for it is all right." And for the fact that I am but one of a great majority is best proved by the fact that the fact that the printing and distribution of the document is necessary. Were the man in the street taking orders from anybody, a decree of the Board of Freeholders might be enough to set the new Charter running.

L. CLEDE.

Some New Charter Points.

St. Louis, Jan. 25, 1911.

To the Editor:

After twenty months of arduous labor by the highly respectable, educated and talented Board of Freeholders, we find the following evi-

dences of scholarly care and intelligent forethought in the proposed Charter:

Section 6, Article 3, defining the powers of the Council, among other things, provides that "no member shall be expelled a second time for the same offense." I suggest an amendment to the State Constitution, providing that no man shall be hanged by the neck until he is dead more than once for the same crime.

The eighth subdivision of Section 23 of Article 3, gives the Mayor and Council authority to light, clean and sprinkle "streets, boulevards, viaducts; subways, tunnels, sewers and drains." I am firmly of the opinion that subways, tunnels, sewers and drains should be sprinkled only between midnight and 4 o'clock a. m. so as not to impede public travel.

Yours, in solicitude,
X.

Brewery Workers Oppose Charter

The seven local brewery unions of St. Louis, representing about 6,000 members, have unanimously decided to oppose the new City Charter.

Every member has been called upon to do all in his power to help defeat the Charter on January 31 by sticking to the battle-cry:

Scratch the "Yes!"

Showworkers Oppose New Charter.

Joint Council No. 25, Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, adopted a set of resolutions against the proposed new Charter and called upon all citizens to work against it.

Whose Servants Are the Freeholders?

The Plutocratic Civic League Is Paying the Bill for Circulating the "General Summary" of the Board of Freeholders.

Is the Board of Freeholders composed of men elected to serve the people, or of political servants of the Civic League?

A forty-page pamphlet, printed on fine paper, and with an expensive red cover, is circulated by mail and otherwise to all the voters of St. Louis. It is called "An Abstract of the Provisions of the Old and New Charters of St. Louis, With Explanatory Comment. Rearranged for the Information of Voters by the Civic League of St. Louis."

The pamphlet contains a "General Summary Statement of the New Charter by the Board of Freeholders," which is simply an attempt to make the proposed new Charter appear in the finest and most glowing colors.

This statement of the Freeholders seems to be made to order for the Civic League and the Business Men's League, and the Pro-Charter patriots are now using it as molasses to catch flies with.

In this campaign the voters do some deep thinking and cannot get so easily caught by the mouthpieces of the Big Cinch interests.

On January 31 every citizen who is opposed to municipal despotism will not fail to do his duty. He will vote against the new Charter—I. e. he will

"Scratch the Yes!"

Second Ward Socialist Party Club

Will give its annual family entertainment Saturday, February 18, 1911, at Reiss' Hall, Blair avenue and Salisbury street. There will be a fine program and a good time for all who attend. Admission, 10 cents.

FOR SALE.

4116 Schiller Place. Two rooms and kitchen; gas and water. \$1,300. \$50.00 cash; balance, \$25.00 every 3 months. Inquire 2818 Wyoming st.

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

11th and 13th Ward Socialist Clubs

Saturday February 4, 1911,

AT THE

SOUTHWEST TURNER HALL,

Potomac and Ohio Ave.

Concert, Entertainment and Dance.

SPEAKERS

L. G. POPE in English.

HENRY BARTEL, Editor of the Chicago Arbeiter-Zeitung, will deliver the German address.

Family Tickets \$1.00. Refreshments free.

Concert opens at 8 o'clock p. m.

TENTH WARDERS OPPOSE NEW CHARTER

By Unanimous Vote the Association Goes Against Corporation-Made Instrument

By a Vote of 300 to 1 the Association Opposes Charter.

That the Citizens of South St. Louis are practically a unit in their opposition to the proposed new City Charter of the Freeholders was shown at the last monthly meeting of the Tenth Ward Improvement Association, held at Fountain Hall. When the chairman called the meeting to order the hall was so overcrowded with people that fully one-third of the audience could not get seats. So interesting became the meeting that these people good-naturedly remained standing for fully three hours.

Messrs. McPheeters and Bates Spoke. Secretary McPheeters of the Board of Freeholders and City Counselor Bates were there by invitation and were given unlimited time to say all they could say in favor of their new Charter. Both speakers were respectfully and attentively listened to, and answered a number of questions asked by some of the audience.

Dr. Wm. Preston Hill and Mr. George Webster spoke against the Charter and advanced good reasons why the fundamental law prescribed for our city by the Freeholders should be voted down on January 31.

Both Sides were Heard.

Thus for nearly three hours the audience of over 300 people had the finest opportunity to listen to the best arguments advanced for and against the proposed new Charter, and when the final vote was taken every member of the association knew what he was voting on.

Charter Opposed by a Vote of Three Hundred to One.

When the question was put to a vote there were 300 members against the new Charter and but a single voice was heard in favor of it, but even this one member later on stated that on January 31 he would also vote against the proposed new Charter.

MANY GOOD REASONS

Why Citizens Should Vote Against the Proposed New City Charter

Are contained in the final report of the Committee on Charter Revision of the Tenth Ward Improvement Association, which was submitted at the last monthly meeting. For the

information of the voters a number of these reasons are herewith presented:

Demands Were Just.

"Among the measures which this association then wanted to have inserted in the proposed revised or new Charter were such fundamental rights of the people as direct legislation, without any corporation string or political boss guardianship attached to it; the Initiative, the Referendum, the Recall and Proportional Representation, without which legislation becomes a mockery and a farce.

The Freeholders disregarded these just demands.

NO CZAR-MAYOR.

Tenth Warders Want the People to Govern St. Louis.

"This association, by unanimous vote, insisted that the veto power of the Mayor be abolished, because when the people make their own laws, either by means of the representative system of government or by direct legislation, no single man in the community should be empowered to kill such legislation by the mediaeval method of his veto power, which smells very strongly of ancient feudalism.

"This association insisted on Proportional Representation, whereby the representative form of government will become a fairer and more just expression of the will of the people.

AGAINST MONOPOLISM.

But the Freeholders Disregarded this Demand of the People of St. Louis.

"This association further insisted that the new Charter should contain specific and clear-cut provisions authorizing the people to emancipate themselves from the monopolistic clutches of the public utility corporations by municipal ownership of the gas, electric light and power, street railways, etc.

NO ONE-MAN RULE.

But Extension of the People's Right Was Demanded.

"This association also went on record, in unqualified language, in favor of extending the popular right

of suffrage by including in the list of the elective public officials several department chiefs who to-day are appointed by the Mayor.

"And one of the principal demands of this Tenth Ward Improvement Association, made three years ago and advocated ever since, was a real, bona fide Merit or Civil Service system.

"There were numerous other modern improvements and progressive measures asked for by this Association, every one of them a necessity for any great municipality like the city of St. Louis.

FOOLED THE PEOPLE.

Freeholders Refused to Let the People Know Anything About Their New Charter Work.

"The people objected to this unprecedented way of Charter making, but the objection was sneered at, and the Special Charter election fixed for January 31.

"As late as last summer this Tenth Ward Improvement Association, very politely, asked the Board of Freeholders that they should, from time to time, publish the result of their deliberations, so the people could learn in time what kind of a Charter they were going to have.

"But the Freeholders failed to comply with the request, and to-day we are forced to an expensive election and without giving the people a chance to properly inform themselves as to the contents of the new Charter, on the adoption or rejection of which they are expected to vote on January 31.

PUBLIC WAS IGNORED.

No Attention Was Paid to the People's Welfare by the Board of Freeholders.

"In perusing the proposed new Charter of the Board of Freeholders we find, much to our regret, that the measures and reforms asked for and advocated for years by this Tenth Ward Improvement Association have been disregarded by the charter makers, especially those measures which we regard as fundamental and paramount in any modern, progressive municipal government that claims to stick closely and conscientiously to the great democratic principles and republican institutions for which generations have fought, suffered and died.

CORPORATION DESPOTISM.

Instead of More Power in the People's Hands, the New Charter Curtails People's Rights.

"We find that the proposed new Charter does not only not affirm, strengthen and guarantee the political rights already secured by the people after centuries of struggle and persecution, but, to our amazement, we find that the new Charter attempts to lead the people of St. Louis into the land where benevolent corporation despotism would reign supreme.

Would Abolish Democracy.

"The new Charter abolishes the House of Delegates (which is to the city what the House of Representatives is to the nation), without an attempt to give the people proportional representation, whereby they might, even with a single-chamber Council, be in a position to control the legislative branch of our municipal government.

MUNICIPAL MONARCHY.

New Charter Would Abolish the Suffrage Rights of the People.

"A Council of fifteen members is to legislate, with a King-Mayor at the helm who is equipped with almost unlimited power.

"Instead of extending and broadening the suffrage right of the people to elect their own public servants for the important offices, the new Charter abolishes that suffrage right of the citizens, and, instead, equips an almost almighty Mayor with the power to appoint the chiefs of the most important municipal departments.

"While the Council is deprived of some vital legislative power, the same Council, by a vote of 10 to 5, may chase the Mayor out of office, though the same Mayor may be the choice of the overwhelming majority of the 150,000 voting citizens of St. Louis. This is a mockery and a farce unknown in any community governed by the people.

DANGEROUS AND WRONG.

To Abolish Office of Auditor Would Rob City Treasury of Safeguards.

"We find that the important office of the Auditor is to be abolished, and the Comptroller, one of the few elect-

ive officials, may be suspended by the Mayor and removed by a majority vote of the Council. This is unsound, dangerous, undemocratic, and will lead to serious complications at the expense of the people.

ABSOLUTISM.

That is What New Charter Would Establish in Our Municipal Government.

"We find that after the people have elected their President of Assessors the King-Mayor is given the right to suspend him, and the Council may remove the Assessor 'for cause,' of course, for kings and despots will always find a cause for their action.

"The King Can Do No Wrong."

"We find that, according to Section 6 of Article VIII, 'Any officer appointed by the Mayor may be removed by him without trial. This Charter clause is based on the old 'divine right' that the King can do no wrong.

"We are supposed to accept a Board of Public Improvements consisting of five appointees of the Mayor, and said board is equipped with almost unlimited power, ruling absolute over the Street Department, Water Department, Building Department and Public Utilities Department.

WORSE THAN RUSSIA.

Instead of Free Citizens, the New Charter Would Make Igorotes Out of Our City Employees.

"In conclusion, we must call the citizens' attention to the outrageous provision contained in Section 7, Article XXXIII, of this so-called new Charter, which reads as follows:

"No officer or employe of the city shall be a member of any committee of any political organization, or of any similar body, or any officer of either, and any such officer or employe becoming such shall thereby forfeit his office or employment."

"This section is an insult to every intelligent and progressive citizen whose political idealism and activities are directed to elevate mankind and bring about better conditions in the political life of our country, locally, in the state, and nationally.

"To adopt the new Charter with this outrageous section would con-

demn the four thousand or more city employes of our municipality to political servitude—i. e., to a state of political inactivity—as is enforced to-day in Darkest Russia by a cruel Czar and his henchmen.

"To carry out the provisions of this section would mean to employ none but idiots, cowards and lickspittles to public office in our municipality and to keep all public-spirited and able men out of office.

Only Igorotes Could Submit to Such Humiliation.

"In order to carry out this provision the King-Mayor might soon be compelled to import eight thousand Igorotes from the Philippine Islands and put them to work in our City Hall and other public buildings and institutions, for no freedom-loving, public-spirited man, woman or boy would submit to such political humiliation by accepting a position in the public service of an American municipality.

FARCIICAL CIVIL SERVICE.

Political Boss Could Hold String to Employment of Every City Employee.

Civil Service Clause a Farce.

"We find in the proposed new Charter, Article XXII, provisions for Civil Service, which, if adopted, would make this city the laughing stock in the eyes of the entire country. In the first place, the three members of the Civil Service Commission are to be appointed by the Mayor, two of them directly, the third indirectly, for, before the Board of Public Improvements can appoint the third member of the commission, the Board of Public Improvements members themselves must be appointed by the Mayor.

A DANGEROUS MACHINE.

Board of Public Improvements Would Establish Iron-Clad Rule Under Dictatorship of a King-Mayor.

"We find that the Board of Public Improvements, in some respects, would become the dictator over the Council, and, since the board is the creation of the Mayor, the Mayor may dictate to the Council.

"We find that the new Charter gives us a partial referendum and a recall, which are jokers, not worth the paper they are written on.

More Light on New Charter

A Referendum Without Initiative.

But what have we in the new Charter. A fake Referendum and Initiative. On one thing only, namely, franchises for public utilities, can the people petition for a vote on a bill, and even in this case the petition must be signed by 15 per cent of the voters instead of 5 per cent. That is, under our present registration, the petition must have more than 25,000 names to become of any value.

The Recall is Farcical.

The sop thrown to the people in what is called "The Recall" is even more farcical. If the people want to remove any elective officer, from the Mayor down, the new Charter demands, to secure a vote on the question, a petition signed by 25 per cent of the registered voters. That is, more than 42,000 voters must petition; each signer must give the street and number of his residence; each signed petition must state the same specific ground for recalling the officer; and each separate petition must be sworn to ten days before the election. Instead of making it easy for the people to register their will, the new Charter makes it an impossibility.

An Absurdity.

A greater absurdity still in "The Recall" is, that even were the people to recall the Mayor, for example, in a November election, he would still remain in office until the following April, when his successor qualifies. Thus the recalled and discredited Mayor would hold his office for six months after the people had declared him unfit. O tempora! O mores!

An Afterthought.

The Recall, in its wording and in the fact that it is made almost the last article of the new Charter, indicates that it was an afterthought; mere dust thrown into the eyes of the people.

Haste, and Yet Eighteen Months!

It is certain from the manifest haste in which at last the new Charter was revised; the mistakes, the

ambiguity, and the contradictory statements it contains, it is certain that its adoption will result in a protracted period of litigation in the courts, to the great expense of the tax payers and to the great delight of the lawyers. We know what the old Charter legally means, all its provisions having been passed upon in judicial proceedings. But who in Heaven above, or on earth below, or in the waters beneath, knows what the new Charter means?

There is No Agreement.

The men who framed the new Charter do not agree as to its provisions. One says one thing, and the other, another thing.

A Compromise?

"It was a compromise," says the secretary of the board. Rumor has it that on some of the more important points the Freeholders stood 9 to 4; and so often did this peculiar vote occur that it recalled the famous vote that seated President Hayes—8 to 7. And it is certain that the president of the board was the leader of the 4, and a certain notorious Republican politician—a far better politician than the president—led the 9.

A compromise! And yet, if adopted on January 31, the people must live under it for the next thirty years. "A compromise," says Emerson, "is a good umbrella, but a poor roof."

A Political Municipal Trust.

The new Charter is the best possible example of a political municipal trust. Its framers urge as its chief value that it "concentrates power in a few hands in order to fix responsibility." Rockefeller founded the Standard Oil trust on precisely this principle. It has worked well for Rockefeller, but how about the general public? The whole machinery of the United States government has been used, for the last ten years, to fix the criminal responsibility of the Standard Oil, and has not yet succeeded in doing so. If the city government becomes a trust, made up of a few men with absolute pow-

er, who is going to call them to account?

Now a Great Trust Buster.

How like the irony of fate that the president of the board that conceived and now urges the adoption of this municipal trust, should be summoned to Washington to assume, under the national government, the functions of the Great Trust Buster!!!

The Gates Are Left Wide Open.

Have you read Article III, Section 23, second paragraph, of the new Charter, on the Council's power to borrow money? It gives power for the issue or sale of "Notes," as well as bonds; and puts no limit as to time or amount. In the old Charter the power to issue notes is carefully guarded thus: "But no note for the purpose of borrowing money shall be made or issued for a longer period than 12 months." The idea is to prevent one administration from piling up a big floating indebtedness for the succeeding administration to pay. But under the new Charter the gates are left wide open.

Call This a Business Government?

What would you think of a large business corporation which would let one of its managers audit his own accounts? Yet the new Charter abolishes the Auditor's office, which in the past has saved the city untold defalcations, and authorized the Comptroller to audit, not only the accounts of other city departments, but his own as well. And this is called a "business government."

Exchange of Compliments.

The Post-Dispatch throws itself into a theatrical attitude of double-leaded condemnation of what it represents to be the omissions and imperfections of the existing City Charter of St. Louis. And yet, when the Freeholders completed their long labors and presented the result, some of them declared that fully three-fourths of the present Charter was used in the making of the proposed new one. Thus the Post-Dispatch may find itself called to answer to the Freeholders for intimating that fully three-fourths of their work is bad.—Globe-Democrat.

New Charter Will Be Snowed Under.

The Proposed New Charter Will Be Defeated by a Vote of Three to One—South and North St. Louis Solidly Against Measure.

The People's League, composed of the Central Trades and Labor Union, the Building Trades Council, and the progressive Civic Improvements and Business Men's associations of St. Louis, claims through its officials that the proposed new City Charter will be defeated on January 31 by a vote of 3 to 1.

According to Secretary Wilson of the league, there will not be over 80,000 votes polled on the Charter, and he predicts that 60,000 of these will be cast against the instrument.

President W. P. Hill of the People's League has announced that his organization will have watchers and challengers in every polling place in the city, although the Election Board has ruled that only representatives of the recognized political parties are permitted by law to have such men in the polling places.

The league is carrying on its campaign by means of public speakers at various gatherings, and through anti-Charter literature. Union labor anti-Charter literature.

Scratch the "Yes!"

Coercion by Interests

Shameful Coercive Work by Members of the Big Cinch Charter Publicity Committee.

One of the leading members of the Pro-Charter Publicity Committee is Mr. Elias Michael, president of the Rice-Stix Dry Goods Co.

This worthy gentleman, Mr. Elias Michael, issued an order to his employes practically coercing them to vote for the corporation-made new Charter.

We object to such outrageous work against the wage workers. Every liberty-loving citizen should resent such plutocratic coercion by

voting against the proposed new Charter on January 31.

Scratch the "Yes!"

UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST IT.

Seven Hundred Members of Workingmen's Benefit Society Oppose Charter. St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 24, 1911.

To the Editor:

The Workingmen's Sick Benefit Society, representing 700 members, held its quarterly general meeting at Druids' Hall last Saturday evening. Mr. Gustav Eckhoff acted as chairman and Philip H. Mueller as secretary. After listening to an address on the new Charter by Mr. George W. Wilson of the People's League, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolution.

"Branch No. 71 of the Workingmen's Sick Benefit Society of America, in general meeting assembled, fully and unqualifiedly endorse the action of the Central Trades and Labor Union in opposing the new Charter proposed by the Board of Freeholders, and that we pledge ourselves to do all in our power to defeat said new Charter at the special election, January 31.

"Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the People's League and to the press.

"GUS ECKHOFF,

President.

"Ph. Mueller, Secretary."

The People Will Have Nothing to Say..

The new Charter is not a unity. It tries to be representative by letting the people once in four years elect a few officers and seven members of the Council; but these must be elected at large, and may come entirely from the Twenty-eighth Ward or the West End. At the same time it abolishes all ward representation by cutting out the House of Delegates. Thus the majority of the wards will have absolutely no representation in the city government.

The real framers of the new Charter are keeping back under cover.

Servile Press Organs

Joe Pulitzer's Post-Dispatch Swallowed Up Body and Soul by the Big Cinch Interests.

One of the daily press organs that lined up with the Big Cinch Interests in the present Charter Campaign is Joe Pulitzer's Post-Dispatch.

This press organ is getting desperate. It has been swallowed, body and soul, by the Big Cinch corporations, and is badly worked up because the people refuse to be any longer fooled and deceived by this press organ that is dependent on the Nugents, the Crawfords, the Scruggs-Vandervoorts, the Rice-Stix, the Simmons, etc., for its advertising patronage.

This same Post-Dispatch, that pretends at every opportunity to represent the people's welfare, is now lining up with the corporations and institutions that are the recognized enemies of the great mass of the people.

Here is the language of Joe Pulitzer's Post-Dispatch, used in its mercenary fight against the people of St. Louis:

"After summing up the progressive and beneficial changes in the new Charter, intelligent citizens can realize the absurdity of the suggestion of the organs and oratorical wild asses of the opposition that the 'good things' in the new Charter be added to the old by amendment."

Some day the servile Post-Dispatch may make the unpleasant discovery that there is a limit even to daily newspaper corruption, carried on under the disguise of public benefaction. And the "oratorical wild asses of the opposition" may in the near future so arouse the masses of the people that the Post-Dispatch and the entire Big Cinch crowd will be taught a lesson which they may never forget.

In spite of the Big Cinch work of the Post-Dispatch, the people of St. Louis will attend to their own political business on January 31 by casting a solid vote against the proposed new Charter.

Scratch the "Yes!"

NATIONAL PLATFORM OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

PRINCIPLES

Human life depends upon food, clothing and shelter. Only with these assured are freedom, culture and higher human development possible. To produce food, clothing or shelter, land and machinery are needed. Land alone does not satisfy human needs. Human labor creates machinery and applies it to the land for the production of raw material and food. Whoever has control of land and machinery controls human labor, and with it human life and liberty.

To-day the machinery and the land used for industrial purposes are owned by a rapidly decreasing minority. So long as machinery is simple and easy handled by one man, its owner cannot dominate the sources of life of others. But when machinery becomes more complex and expensive, and requires for its effective operation the organized effort of many workers, its influence reaches over wide circles of life. The owners of such machinery become the dominant class.

In proportion as the number of such machine owners compared to all other classes decreases, their power in the nation and in the world increases. They bring ever larger masses of working people under their control, reducing them to the point where muscle and brain are their only productive property. Millions of formerly self-employed workers thus become the helpless wage slaves of industrial masters.

As the economic power of the ruling class grows it becomes less useful in the life of the nation. All the useful work of the nation falls upon the shoulders of the class whose only property is its manual and mental labor power—the wage worker—or of the class who have but little land and little effective machinery outside of their labor power—the small traders and small farmers. The ruling minority is steadily becoming useless and parasitic.

A bitter struggle over the division of the products of labor is waged between the exploiting propertied classes on the one hand and the exploited propertyless class on the other. In this struggle the wage working class cannot expect adequate relief from any reform of the present order at the hand of the dominant class.

The wage workers are therefore the most determined and irreconcilable antagonists of the ruling class. They suffer most from the curse of class rule. The fact that a few capitalists are permitted to control all the country's industrial resources and social tools for their individual profit, and to make the production of the necessities of life the object of competitive private enterprise and speculation is at the bottom of all the social evils of our time.

In spite of the organization of trusts, pools and combinations, the capitalists are powerless to regulate production for social ends. Industries are largely conducted in a planless manner. Through periods of feverish activity the strength and health of the workers are mercilessly used up, and during periods of enforced idleness the workers are frequently reduced to starvation.

The climaxes of this system of production are the regularly recurring industrial depressions and crises which paralyze the nation every fifteen or twenty years.

The capitalist class, in its mad race for profits, is bound to exploit the workers to the very limit of their endurance and to sacrifice their physical, moral and mental welfare to its own insatiable greed. Capitalism keeps the masses of workingmen in poverty, destitution, physical exhaustion and ignorance. It drags their wives from their homes to the mill and factory. It snatches their children from the playgrounds and schools and grinds their slender bodies and unformed minds into cold dollars. It disfigures, maims and kills hundreds of thousands of workingmen annually in mines, on railroads and in factories. It drives millions of workers into the ranks of the unemployed and force large numbers of them into beggary, vagrancy and all forms of crime and vice.

To maintain their rule over their fellow men, the capitalists must keep in their pay all organs of the public powers, public mind and public conscience. They control the dominant parties and, through them, the elected public officials. They select the executives, bribe legislatures and corrupt the courts of justice. They own and censor the press. They dominate the educational insti-

tutions. They own the nation politically and intellectually just as they own it industrially.

The struggle between wage workers and capitalists grows ever fiercer, and has now become the only vital issue before the American people.

The wage-working class, therefore, has the most direct interest in abolishing the capitalist system. But in abolishing the present system, the workingmen will free not only their own class, but also all other classes of modern society: The small farmer, who is to-day exploited by large capital more indirectly but not less effectively than is the wage laborer; the small manufacturer and trader, who is engaged in a desperate and losing struggle for economic independence in the face of the all-conquering power of concentrated capital; and even the capitalist himself, who is the slave of his wealth rather than his master. The struggle of the working class against the capitalist class, while it is a class struggle, is thus at the same time a struggle for the abolition of all classes and class privileges.

The private ownership of the land and means of production used for exploitation, is the rock upon which class rule is built, political government is its indispensable instrument. The wage-workers cannot be freed from exploitation without conquering the political power and substituting collective for private ownership of the land and means of production used for exploitation.

The basis for such transformation is rapidly developing within present capitalist society. The factory system, with its complex machinery and minute division of labor, is Party strives to prevent land from rapidly destroying all vestiges of individual production in manufacture. Modern production is already very largely a collective and social process. The great trusts and monopolies which have sprung up in recent years have organized the work and management of the principal industries on a national scale, and have fitted them for collective use and operation.

There can be no absolute private title to land. All private titles, whether called fee simple or otherwise, are and must be subordinate to the public title. The Socialist being used for the purpose of exploitation and speculation. It demands the collective possession, control or management of land to whatever extent may be necessary to attain that end. It is not opposed to the occupation and possession of land by those using it in a useful and bona fide manner without exploitation.

The Socialist Party is primarily an economic and political movement. It is not concerned with matters of religious belief.

In the struggle for freedom the interests of all modern workers are identical. The struggle is not only national but international. It embraces the world and will be carried to ultimate victory by the united workers of the world.

To unite the workers of the nation and their allies and sympathizers of all other classes to this end, is the mission of the Socialist Party. In this battle for freedom the Socialist Party does not strive to substitute working class rule for capitalist class rule, but by working class victory, to free all humanity from class rule and to realize the international brotherhood of man.

PROGRAM

As measures calculated to strengthen the working class in its fight for the realization of this ultimate aim, and to increase its power of resistance against capitalist oppression, we advocate and pledge ourselves and our elected officers to the following program:

GENERAL DEMANDS

1—The immediate government relief for the unemployed workers by building schools, by reforesting of cut-over and waste lands, by reclamation of arid tracts, and the building of canals, and by extending all other useful public works. All persons employed on such work shall be employed directly by the government under an eight-hour work-day and at the prevailing union wages. The government shall also loan money to states and municipalities without interest for the purpose of carrying on public works. It shall contribute to the funds of labor organizations for the purpose of assisting their unemployed members, and shall take such other measures within its power as will lessen the widespread misery of the workers caused by the misrule of the capitalist class.

2—The collective ownership of railroads, telegraphs, telephones, steamboat lines and all other means of social transportation and communication.

3—The collective ownership of all industries which are organized on a national scale and in which competition has virtually ceased to exist.

4—The extension of the public domain to include mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water power.

5—The scientific reforestation of timber lands, and the reclamation of swamp lands. The land so reforested or reclaimed to be permanently retained as a part of the public domain.

6—The absolute freedom of press, speech and assemblage.

INDUSTRIAL DEMANDS

7—The improvement of the industrial condition of the workers.

(a) By shortening the workday in keeping with the increased productivity of machinery.

(b) By securing to every worker a rest period of not less than a day and a half in each week.

(c) By securing a more effective inspection of workshops and factories.

(d) By forbidding the employment of children under sixteen years of age.

(e) By forbidding the interstate transportation of the products of child labor, of convict labor and of all uninspected factories.

(f) By abolishing official charity and substituting in its place compulsory insurance against unemployment, illness, accidents, invalidism, old age and death.

POLITICAL DEMANDS

8—The extension of inheritance taxes, graduated in proportion to the amount of the bequests and to the nearness of kin.

9—A graduated income tax.

10—Unrestricted and equal suffrage for men and women, and we pledge ourselves to engage in an active campaign in that direction.

11—The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall.

12—The abolition of the senate.

13—The abolition of the power usurped by the supreme court of the United States to pass upon the constitutionality of legislation enacted by Congress. National laws to be repealed or abrogated only by act of Congress or by a referendum of the whole people.

14—That the constitution be made amendable by majority vote.

15—The enactment of further measures for general education and for the conservation of health. The bureau of education to be made a department. The creation of a department of health.

16—The separation of the present bureau of labor from the department of commerce and labor, and the establishment of a department of labor.

17—That all judges be elected by the people for short terms, and that the power to issue injunctions shall be curbed by immediate legislation.

18—The free administration of justice.

Such measures of relief as we may be able to force from capitalism are but a preparation of the workers to size the whole powers of government in order that they may thereby lay hold of the whole system of industry and thus come to their rightful inheritance.

Carriage Drivers Install.

Carriage Drivers' Union, Local No. 405, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, installed officers Thursday night in New Club Hall. Thirteenth street and Chouteau avenue. A banquet for 200 followed. Edwin B. Diehl was toastmaster. The officers are: Robert J. Moore, president; Louis Garvey, vice president; William Reynolds, secretary-treasurer; Edw'n B. Diehl, recording secretary; Charles Anderson, William Pearson and Peter A. Stratta, trustees.

The Grade Crossings and the Railroads.

St. Louis taxpayers would like to know why it is proposed that they shall pay consequential damages in abolishing grade crossings, when the United States Supreme Court has decided that the expenses should be borne by the railroads. Let those who are trying to fasten this expen-

sional burden on the people of St. Louis supply the answer if they can.

NEW CHARTER CRITICISED.

St. Louis, Jan. 21, 1911.
Editor ST. LOUIS LABOR.

I wish to call your attention to something the Charter advocates point to with pride—e., they say that all applicants for clerkships will have to pass a civil service examination. Now, I believe the members of the Board of Freeholders, with the exception of Boss Howe, believed they were doing the proper thing when they put that in the Charter, but the Boss knew better, and probably advocated it in order to overcome the objection that the Mayor would have too much power, etc. As a matter of act, that provision is, as you have shown in your article on the subject, a howling farce, when, as in this case, the Mayor appoints the Commissioners. Every one believes that the civil service examinations held here and elsewhere by and under the United States Civil Service Commission are very strict and that it is impossible for any one to secure even an idea as to what questions are to be asked. Yet I remember back about fifteen years of reading an article in the Western Watchman, a weekly paper, published by Father Phelan. Here is what the reverend gentleman said:

"A great many people in this city are wondering how it happened that only two or three out of about thirty-five Catholic young men failed in the United States Civil Service examination for postoffice positions, held here a few weeks ago. They did not know that these young men had been rehearsing the proposed work in the Sodality hall on Jefferson avenue and Biddle street for three months prior to the date set for the examination."

Now, if it was possible to get this information from the United States Commissioner at that time, I have no doubt the same influence has got it ever since. Very likely they have some of their fellow-members in the office of the commission, and you know to whom they owe their first allegiance.

You can easily see that to get the necessary information from our proposed "Mayor's commission" should be "dead easy," and if this Charter is adopted you will find that very few outside of the "chosen ones" will "pass the examination."

I am not writing this to see it in print, but to ask you to take up this phase of the subject and write it up to suit yourself. It might show some innocent voters that all is not gold that glitters.

Yours respectfully,

C. O. RECTOR.

French, Roumanian, Bulgarian, and Russian.

The comrades of the above nationalities are advised that it is probable that Comrade Dr. Racovski of Roumania may visit this country in the near future. Dr. Racovski has been instrumental in bringing about the organization of the Socialist Party and trade unions in his own country, having been actively engaged in this work for the past ten years. He was in attendance at the International Congress at Copenhagen. All persons who desire to assist in making up a tour for Comrade Racovski will please address the National Office at once.

New Recruits for Freedom's Army.

Applications for membership in the Socialist Party of St. Louis are coming in at a rate that indicates great things in the municipal election this spring.

The Tenth Ward Branch now has over 100 members in good standing and a good start on the second hundred. Other branches are making fine gains also. As no particular effort has been made to secure new

members, this shows that the workingmen of St. Louis are taking a deep interest in their political duties.

Charter Discussion in First Ward.

The Socialist Branch in the First Ward has arranged a mass meeting for Friday, January 27, at 8 p. m., at Prescott Hall, 6100 Prescott avenue.

Wm. M. Brandt will discuss Socialism and the People's League will be represented by a speaker to take up the new Charter. Every reader of ST. LOUIS LABOR in the First Ward should attend this meeting and bring as many neighbors as possible. Get posted on the new Charter.

SOCIALIST PARTY NOTES.

Reported from National Headquarters by Secretary J. Mahlon Barnes.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 21, 1911.

The National Executive Committee is now voting upon a motion authorizing Comrade Hillquit to prepare a statement concerning the Keir Hardie-Vaillant resolution, upon which an expression has been requested by the International Socialist Bureau.

The Socialists of Fallon, Nev., desire to get into communication with an all-round printer and newspaper man. Address J. E. Worden, Secretary.

At a special election, held January 14th, in Oil City, Pa., the following comrades were elected over the combined opposition of the old parties: C. E. Martin, Select Council; A. C. Feick, Common Council; N. G. English and W. B. Wilson, School Controllers.

"The Masses," a monthly magazine, devoted to the interests of the working people, appeared with the initial number dated January, 1911. The purpose and scope of the magazine may be best understood by noting the names of some of the capable contributors and their subjects, as follows: "The American Co-Operative Movement," by William J. Ghent; "Must It Be So?" by Leo Tolstoj; "United in Buying as in Selling," by Eugene Wood; "The Tendencies of German Socialism," by Paul Louis; "The Increased Cost of Living," by Gustavus Meyers. The publication office of "The Masses" is located at 112 East Nineteenth street, New York.

By recent referendum, Frank H. Streine, Dumfries avenue, Fort Thomas, Ky., has been elected a member of the National Committee, and Walter Lanfersiek, Fifth and York streets, Newport, has been re-elected as State Secretary.

The Russian Agitation Bureau of the Socialist Party has issued two postal cards of general interest, "Finland and the Two-Headed Eagle" and "Bloody Sunday, January 22, 1905, St. Petersburg." The proceeds will go to raise funds for organizing and propaganda work among the Russians in America. The price of these cards is 2 cents each.

WORKINGMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY "FORWARD"

Meets every second Thursday at Labor Hall, 966 Chouteau avenue. All friends of the co-operative idea are welcome to attend and join the organization. Every member will be pleased to give information regarding the aims and plans of the society. Payments on shares are accepted in any business meeting.

PETER KIEFER, Secretary,
5116 Cologne Avenue.

UNION MEN AND FRIENDS.



Kindly insist that your Barber displays this Shop Card in his Barber Shop. It stands for short hours, sanitary conditions and a fair day's pay. HELP THE BARBERS who are struggling to maintain these conditions and build up their organization. This is the only Emblem of our Craft recognized by the A. F. of L. JOURNEYMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA, LOCAL NO. 102.

FRANK TOMBRIDGE, President. JACOB F. LEIENDECKER, Vice-Pres't and Notary Public

TOMBRIDGE AGENCY

ESTABLISHED MARCH 13, 1885.

A General Real Estate and Insurance Agency.

Fire and Tornado Insurance.

We represent good and responsible Insurance Companies. We loan money on Real Estate and our charges are reasonable; you will make no mistake in dealing with us.

Have your legal papers, such as last wills, deeds and conveyances, drawn at our office; they will be drawn correct.

First Real Estate Mortgages for sale, secured by double their face value. Tell us how much money you have and we will tell you what we have on hand.

Twenty-five years of fair dealings have made the office of the TOMBRIDGE AGENCY well liked by the public.

Office No. 324 Chestnut Street. Both Phones.

in any quantity over five. Order from the Russian Agitation Bureau, 180 Washington street, Chicago, Ill.

By recent referendum, Charles H. Otten, 309 Davis street, Portland, was elected State Secretary of Oregon.

Forest 3797 DeJmar 2148

Elmer Shepard UNDERTAKER EMBALMER

Active Member Typographical Union No. 8

5921 Easton Avenue.

STRICTLY UNION

Olive 2333—Central 6637

JOHN DEMPSEY BAR

Fine Wines, Liquors and Cigars

S. W. Cor. 11th & Couteau Ave.

Kjnloch Central 2054-R.

HANNAUER & OELKERS

Book Binders

420 MARKET STREET.

R. Mederacke BUILDER

General Carpenter Work and Repairing.

Plans and Estimates Furnished

4430 Arsenal Street.

KINLOCH, VICTOR 693-R

MULLEN UNDERTAKING COMPANY

Coleman and North Market Sts.

and St. Louis Ave. and Sarah St.

Strictly Union

BOTH PHONES

Bell, Main 645; Kinloch, Central 1697

L. G. POPE

...LAWYER...

814-17 NAVARRE BLDG.,

S. W. Cor. Sixth and Chestnut Sts.

Collections and Consultations a Specialty.

DR. L. H. DAVIS

Physician and Surgeon

Office: 2102 South Eleventh St.

Hours: 9 to 10 a. m., 2 to 3 p. m. and 7 to 8 p. m.

Phones: Kinloch, Central 8056; Bell, Sidney 268.

Residence 1032 Morrison Avenue.

Hours 7:30 to 8:30 a. m. and 12:30 to 1:30 p. m.

CHAS. WERZ & CO.

Wood, Brass, Muslin, Embossing on Glass, Etc.,

SIGNS

1505 CASS AVE., St. Louis

Kjnloch, Central 1461

ASSIST THE BAKERS!

DOES THE BREAD UNION YOU EAT BEAR THE LABEL?

IF NOT, WHY NOT?

St. Louis is the headquarters of the \$3,000,000 BREAD TRUST. Its managers have been fighting organized labor for years.

They are opposed to short hours and high wages. They tell you and their customers they are your friends and the friends of organized labor. Yes, they are your friends as long as they can get your money; but for the men in the bakery they have no use, if they belong to their respective unions.

Therefore, union men and women and citizens, show that you are opposed to slavery and that you are further opposed to a concern which tries to monopolize the bread market of St. Louis.

Therefore, we ask the public in general for their support; you can give us your support by asking for bread with the Union Label.

Shun the product of the following firms—they are Trust bakeries: Heydt Bakery Co., Condon Bakery Co., Hauck-Hoerr Bakery, St. Louis Bakery Co., Welle-Boettler Bakery, Home Bakery Co., Freund Bros. Bread Co. Ltd., McKinney Bread Co.

They want the men to fall at their feet and ask them for a job, so they can pay the employes small wages and work them the hours they like.

The Cost of Scandal

So far Congress has done nothing except talk about Lorimer and his election.

Days and weeks have been expended in discussing whether Lorimer is entitled to his seat in the Senate or not.

This means hundreds of thousands of dollars of expense, says the Chicago Daily Socialist.

The cost of the special committee was not a trifle, either. The members of that committee traveled in the finest cars, put up at the best hotels, engaged expensive rooms, and run up a big court-reporting and printing bill.

It costs a lot of money.

The State of Illinois has had several dollars to pay. Almost an entire session of the Legislature was consumed to elect Lorimer. Then the trials of the bribers and the bribe-takers, with all the long list of expense.

All this cost a lot of money.

During all this time the newspapers had to be supplied with sensational stories. The special reporters had to be paid, the telegraph service to ten thousand papers had to be paid, the news writers and editors had to be paid, the printers and paper mills had to be paid.

This takes a lot of money.

If the material printed in the Lorimer case had been paid for at advertising rates it would amount to millions of dollars.

And it is paid for—paid for by the workers.

For, after all is said, it is the workers who have to bear the burdens of all the antic of the ruling class. You can't get away from it.

And there are other scandals.

Take the divorce scandals. Do you know what they mean?

In the first place, only divorces of rich people are spread over the profit-making capitalist sheets—of the rich who refuse to "come across." For in most cases the wealthy who get into trouble pay fabulous sums to hush up the press. The capitalist press is the most unscrupulous blackmail of the age. No one is as well aware of this as the rich.

Then take the ordinary individual thievery. A strike costs the firm a great deal more than the loss of operation. For the mouth of every newspaper must be stopped. Every capitalist rag must be made to favor the owners.

This takes a big pile of money.

If you add what the publicity agents demand from practically every gambler and every rich man who lives a questionable life, you have an enormous sum.

In the last analysis the workers pay the bill. Who else pays it?

It is upon the shoulders of toil that this heavy burden of scandal falls.

We can do away with it only by doing away with the capitalist system, which is the cause of it.

Get after the system; clean it out. Then you will get rid of all scandals and the immoral influences now pestering our race.

THE BIG CINCH CHARTER PATRIOTS

Are Spending Many Thousands of Dollars to Deceive the People About Their Unpopular Instrument.

POST-DISPATCH AND ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC GETTING DESPERATE IN VIEW OF PROSPECTIVE DEFEAT OF PROPOSED NEW CHARTER.

THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE IN FIGHT TO WIN.

Only four days more and the fate of the proposed new Big Cinch Charter will be decided.

The Civic League, the Business Men's League and the other leagues of the Big Cinch interests are unanimous in favor of the Charter.

On the other hand, every labor organization in the city and all the leading, progressive civic improvement and business men's associations have lined up against the proposed new Charter.

Not a single labor union has declared for the Charter.

Such leading associations like the Tenth Ward Improvement Association and the South Broadway Merchants' Association declared unanimously against the new Charter.

Three hundred thousand pieces of literature will be distributed under the auspices of the People's League, setting forth the reasons why the people should vote against the new Charter.

There will be strong efforts made to get a full vote out on January 31. Every Socialist and every Union man must work day and night, from now till election day, to arouse the citizens to the importance of the Charter election.

GOOD ARGUMENT AGAINST CHARTER.

Why the Instrument Must be Voted Down January 31.

Editor ST. LOUIS LABOR:

A serious objection to the proposed new City Charter is that it places too much power in the hands of the Mayor, while placing the Mayor himself too far beyond public control. The mayoralty, as proposed, does indeed become a tower of strength to its garrison. At first, no doubt, the "interests" will revel in the advantages the new Charter affords them. But when, at last, the workman has learned "politics," has learned to aim higher than merely "two-bits more pay for one hour's less work"—when he has stopped whining about trusts and has learned to understand trust methods and to apply them for his own, the common good—when he has selected and seated some capable man of his own complexion in the Mayor's chair—then, aye, then, he may be glad that the solid framework of this Charter protects his "Seidel" from the storm of discordant advice and criticism of those of his sympathizers, who claim infallibility, and from the threats and machinations of snarling, backbiting, disappointed patriots, while he is putting some definite plan to the crucial test of execution.

War between labor and capital, between labor and stored-up labor, is an absurdity; war between workers and their storekeepers, between workers and capitalists, is a sad reality. Though the new Charter may come to rest heavily on either side of this great war, it is, nevertheless, a weapon of such cruel efficiency that any party in opposition can prevail only after protracted suffering, and it should, therefore, be tabooed in this strife, like the poisoning of wells and missiles in international warfare.

For this reason—besides many others—kill the new Charter!
JOHN Q. ADAMS.

LETTER-BOX.

Upholsterer:—The Initiative is the right of the people to initiate laws by petition and enact them by general vote of the people. When the citizens of any city, county or state initiate a law—i. e., when they secure a certain percentage of signatures of voters to any measure—it must then be submitted to a vote of the people; if a majority of the people vote in favor of it, said measure will become a law without the need of any further action on the part of any executive or legislative body.

The Referendum means that the more important laws enacted by the representative bodies of legislation shall be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection, if a certain per cent of the voters so petition. The Recall is the right of the people to recall or remove from public

office any official neglecting his duty by means of a referendum vote of the citizens.

Proportional representation is the rule that all political parties should be represented in the legislative bodies according to their voting strength. Suppose municipal assembly consists of 25 members. The Republicans and Democrats have 40 per cent each of the entire vote, the Socialists the remaining 20 per cent. Hence the old parties would get ten seats each, and the Socialists five.

The New Politics.

First New Woman:—It is very important to get all cooks interested in the suffrage movement.

Second New Woman:—Why so? **First New Woman:**—Because every cook controls two votes—her own and that of her mistress.—Life.

Milwaukee at Work

Socialists Push Good Work in Municipal Government — Serious Obstacles to be Overcome.

The Socialist county administration has not been in office two weeks in Milwaukee county, but it has already begun to make good.

At first sight it may not appear that a Socialist coroner can do anything for the working people. However, the new Socialist coroner of Milwaukee county has already proved his value in this respect.

Since he entered on the duties of his office three cases have been submitted to coroner's juror. In each of these the Socialist coroner, by cross-examination, brought out the fact that the deaths were caused by the negligence of the companies employing the victims.

One of these men was killed while putting out a fire in the plant of a gas and coke company. He became buried in the coal and his head was severed from his body by a steam shovel.

The company brought witnesses on their side, but no witness appeared for the unfortunate workman. Under a capitalist administration the company would have had things all its own way. However, the Socialist coroner and district attorney carefully cross-questioned the company's witnesses. They finally brought out the fact that proper safeguards were not furnished by the company, that there were no regular lights or signals, and that counter orders were issued by the foreman and superintendent, and that these conditions were the direct cause of the workman's death. The jury could not do otherwise than bring in a verdict charging the accident to the negligence of the company.

Under former administrations, it must be remembered, such verdicts were few and very far between.

Moreover, our Socialist coroner will establish in connection with the morgue a laboratory, in which cases will be directly investigated by the coroner himself. This will mean the saving of thousands of dollars to the county which were formerly paid to outside physicians. But of far more importance than this saving is the fact that this laboratory will investigate the causes of the deaths, with a view to suggesting legislation for safeguards for workmen.

The coroner's office is also considering the purchase of an automobile, so that when accidents occur the coroner can be first on the spot and get all evidence at first hand.

It is needless to say that the result of all this will be a good deal more care on the part of employers in future. If they are obliged to pay damages for every workman killed through their negligence, the lives of working people will go up in the market.

The new Socialist Sheriff has also been showing the difference between the new regime and the old.

The former Sheriff received from the county 14 1/2 cents for each meal furnished the prisoners in the jail. Some of the meals he gave these prisoners cost about 3 cents. It was a nice little revenue for the Sheriff—but it did not fatten the prisoners.

The Socialist Sheriff has recommended to put a stop to this game. With the consent of the Socialist Supervisors, he had adopted a new system. The prisoners are now fed directly by the county. This will save the county 100 per cent of the expense and it will give the prisoners much better fare.

Queer people, these Socialists! They are more interested in caring for the "downs and outs" than in making profits for their own pockets.

The new Socialist deputy court clerks and deputy sheriffs were selected from the working class. They were taken from the shops and the factories. It appears, however, that they are thoroughly competent for their new duties. The judges—capitalistic judges, it must be remembered—admit that they are more than pleased with the way these new men are doing their work. Which is another proof, if proof were needed, that the working people are thoroughly capable of discharging all the various functions of government.

E. H. THOMAS,

State Secretary.

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 12, 1911.

SINDELAR SHOE CO.

2612-14-16-18 North 14th Street

... FOR ...
UNION MADE SHOES

THE MARX & HAAS LOCKOUT.

Organized Labor of Denver in Fight Against Unfair Firm.

Misses Katherine Hurley and Fannie Sellins are doing some good work out in Denver, Colo., as the following item, appearing in one of the Denver papers, will show:

"The Marx & Haas Strike.

"The Misses Sellins and Hurley, members of the St. Louis Garment Workers' Union, and representing District Council No. 4, are in the city. They addressed the Denver Trades and Labor Assembly Sunday, and will remain in the city several weeks visiting local unions and calling on business men whom they seek to influence to prevent them from handling the Marx & Haas ready-made clothing.

"Miss Sellins spoke first, and told the delegates of the struggles the Garment Workers are having with the firm of Marx & Haas. She said that an injunction has issued in St. Louis similar to the one issued in Denver by Judge Whitford, and the unionists are prevented from walking on certain streets and from talking to certain people and from doing most everything. Miss Sellins told of how the workers for that firm were laid off for a week, penalized and fined for the merest trifles, and were worked under conditions that were almost unbearable.

"Miss Hurley spoke last. Her address is exactly the opposite of Miss Sellins'. While Miss Sellins' talk tended to create sympathy, Miss Hurley's attitude was militant and urged the delegates to battle; while Miss Sellins told of the pathetic side of the fight for a living, Miss Hurley spoke of the things accomplished and in the comedy noted in incidents of the strike; while Miss Sellins had the delegates reaching for their handkerchiefs, Miss Hurley convulsed them with mirth over how they defeated one Mr. Kelly for alderman.

"The two ladies make a great team, and the way they were received by the assembly shows that the Garment Workers of St. Louis made no mistake in their selection of representatives.

"Delegates Hall, Bryan and McClure were appointed by President White to assist the girls to accomplish what they are here for."

FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS SOCIALIST PARTY.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 14, 1911.

Good Socialist Vote.

At the city election held the 10th inst in Medford, Ore., Comrade C. H. Miller was elected Councilman of the Third Ward by a plurality of 39 votes. Ed E. Wolter, Socialist candidate for Mayor, received 238 votes. Two years ago our candidate received but 34 votes.

The Polish Section of the Socialist Party respectfully requests State secretaries and organizers to inform it of places or localities where Polish locals may be organized. Two Polish organizers will shortly be routed by the section. Information as above requested should be addressed to H. Ciezewski, 1033 Milwaukee avenue, Chicago, Ill.

British Socialists on Warren Case.

"22 Arica Road, Brockley,

"London, S. E.

"To the Editor of the Appeal:

"At a meeting of my branch, held last evening, the following resolution was moved and carried unanimously:

"The Deptford (London) branch of the Social-Democratic Party sends fraternal greetings to the American Socialist Party, and desires to express its sympathy with Comrade Fred D. Warren in having been the victim of such gross injustice at the hands of capitalistic agents; and heartily congratulates him and all connected upon the courageous, self-sacrificing battle they are putting up against the forces of Capitalism, and sincerely hopes that their efforts will arouse in the proletariat of America a recognition of its interest and succeed in inducing it to range itself on the side of Socialism, by which alone it can gain its emancipation."

"This resolution I was instructed to forward you, and I shall be glad if you will see that it reaches our Comrade Warren and the Headquarters of the Socialist Party.

(Signed) "FRED C. POPE,

"Secretary."

FRED. GEITZ & CO.,
UP-TO-DATE

Furnishers and Hatters

For Union Men

3755 S. Jefferson Ave.

Indiana State Convention.

The State Convention of the Socialist Party of Indiana will be held in Kokomo, Saturday and Sunday, January 28 and 29, 1911.

Oklahoma is Enthusiastic.

Comrade Branstetter, State Secretary of Oklahoma, reports:

"The annual State Convention of the Socialist Party of Oklahoma was held in Oklahoma City December 29, 30 and 31. It was the most enthusiastic, constructive and successful convention ever held in the state. A feature of the convention was a monster meeting addressed by Comrade Berger, at which we filled the largest auditorium of the town with paid admissions, something which has seldom been accomplished by either of the old parties with their most distinguished representatives, when admission was free. The convention initiated a constitutional amendment re-establishing the dues system, which was abolished last year; "made arrangements for a systematic, statewide distribution of literature and for a great improvement in the system and effectiveness of our entire work and organization."

Comrade Branstetter further reports that the convention suspended J. H. Holcomb, reported to be a railroad detective, and endorsed the action of Local Oklahoma in the expulsion of C. H. Armstrong, Marvin Brown and G. W. (Pap) Davis.

From the International Socialist Bureau.

"Dear Comrade Barnes—A great European movement has been organized, in favor of our Japanese friends, against the prosecution of Socialists by the government in Tokio. If you read European papers, you will see meetings took place in nearly all great towns. I shall transmit, notwithstanding, your resolution to all affiliated parties.

"I draw your attention to the new situation of the American delegation in the International Socialist Bureau by the nomination (election) of Comrade Berger as a member of your Central Parliament (Congress). According to Article IV of our Regulations, the parliamentary members have the right to nominate a special secretary in the bureau.

"The composition of the American delegation will be this: (1) Morris Hillquit, (2) Daniel DeLeon, (3) Victor L. Berger (Interparliamentary Commission Delegate).

"Fraternally yours,

(Signed) "CAMILLE HUYSMANS."

The Progressive Woman.

A special propaganda edition of The Progressive Woman will be prepared for Women's Day, February 26th. The locals of the party are requested to take advantage of this splendid opportunity to interest the women comrades and workers. Special bundle prices for this edition are: Thirty-five copies for 50 cents; 75 copies for \$1.00; in lots of 100 or more, 1 cent each. Address The Progressive Woman, Special Edition, Girard, Kansas.

Socialist in Pennsylvania Legislature.
Comrade James H. Maurer, mem-

ber of the State Legislature of Pennsylvania, is going after the state constabulary, better known as the Cossacks. Ex-Gov. Pennypacker, the father of this law, regarding the same wrote to the American Federation of Labor convention in Pittsburgh in 1905 the following: "It is a satisfaction to me * * * that at my own suggestion a law was passed creating the constabulary, which will, in time, it is hoped, make the coal and iron police unnecessary."

Certainly the capitalists were relieved of the expense of maintaining private police and at state expense have the services of the Cossacks free. This is the great service rendered by a capitalist governor to the working class of Pennsylvania. The advocates of the Cossacks now justify their existence on the plea of the protection given to the farmers' hen coops.

Comrade Maurer has circulated among trade unions and all radical organizations a form blank containing questions as to the value of the services rendered by the constabulary, and will have some rock-bottom facts to present for the consideration of the members of the legislature.

The following is from a letter by the secretary of Local Deadwood, Alaska, to explain why the local does not meet oftener than once a month:

"Some of our members live great distances from our meeting place, two at seventy-odd miles, some at thirty, and while a few live near, the majority have to walk from two to eight miles. I had to cross a divide in a storm, with the thermometer at 30 below zero, to attend this meeting, a distance of at least eight miles. Even those who have no range of mountains to cross have to walk over the glaciers forming in the creek, always with the danger of getting wet feet and the possible chance of freezing them. My intention in mentioning these things is not to show up our zeal—that would only bring down the wrath of the local on my bald head—but to enable you to see conditions as they exist here and overlook any little irregularities in our reports."

J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

TRI-PARTISAN ELECTION BOARD
(Editorial in St. Louis Star.)

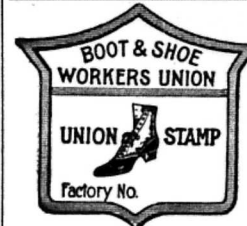
More safeguards in the system of conducting elections must then be the remedy. Unfortunately, when details of such safeguards are considered at Jefferson City, partisan politics take command and the members of each party seek to shape the law to their own party advantage.

We are likely to see a great struggle along this line during the session, and shall be lucky to get any reform legislation that goes to the meat of the evils that seem so firmly fastened upon us. Each party wants to have control of the election machinery, and it should be in the hands of neither.

We need a strictly tri-partisan board, and not the bi-partisan, or the one-party majority board we now have. Two Democrats, two Republicans and one Socialist would make a board three-cornered in its vigilance.

GET YOUR HAMMER AND KNOCK THE BREAD TRUST. KEEP ON KNOCKING TILL THE SIDEWALK IS CLEARED OF ALL THE

HEYDT-FREUND-MCKINNEY-CONDON-HAUCK-HOERR-WELLE-BOETTNER-HOME AND ST. LOUIS BAKERIES BREAD BOXES. ALL THESE FIRMS ARE OWNED BY THE BOYCOTTED BREAD TRUST WHICH REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE THE BAKERS' UNION.



By Insisting Upon Purchasing UNION STAMP SHOES

You help better shoemaking conditions. You get better shoes for the money. You help your own Labor Position. You abolish Child Labor.

DO NOT BE MISLED

By Retailers who say: "This shoe does not bear the stamp, but be made under UNION CONDITIONS."

THIS IS FALSE. No shoe is union unless it bears the Union Stamp.

Boot and Shoe Workers' Union

246 Summer Street. Boston, Mass.

John F. Tobin, Pres.

Chas. L. Baine, Sec'y-Treas

Phone, Kinloch, Delmar 1489-L

Window Shades To Order Estimates Given **FURNITURE** Special Terms To Couples Contemplating Housekeeping

STOVES, KITCHEN OUTFITS AND HARDWARE

PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS

ECKHARDT FURNITURE AND HARDWARE CO.
28057 N. GRAND AVENUE

Miller's Letter to the Mayor

And the Reply by the Central Body's Legislative Committee.

Mr. Owen Miller, whom the Board of Freeholders seemed to consider the fifth wheel on their little wagon, saw fit to write a long letter (not to the central body of Organized Labor) to Mayor Kreismann, stating his reasons for not signing the proposed new Charter.

We publish Mr. Miller's letter in full, also the answer by Mr. McDonough, chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Union.

Whether Mr. Miller was fooled by the Board of Freeholders, or whether he attempted to fool the Central Trades and Labor Union, is the question yet unanswered.

In the open meeting of the central body Mr. Miller, as a freeholder, made the positive statement that the new Charter would not, and could not be reported by the Board before the end of March or the first part of April.

This was before Christmas. Forty-eight hours after Owen Miller had made this statement the newspapers announced that the Freeholders "were ready to act", and that they had "fixed" January 31 as the day of the Charter election.

It is time that this point be brought out here, since Mr. McDonough failed to mention it in his reply to Miller.

(Copy.)

LETTER OF OWEN MILLER.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 19, 1911.
Hon. Frederick H. Kreismann, Mayor of St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir—As a member of the Board of Freeholders, failing to sign the Charter just submitted to you, I think I owe the public at large to understand the reasons of my failure to append my signature to the Charter.

The question of what was necessary for remodeling the Charter had been publicly discussed for many years previous to its being submitted to the people. I have expressed myself on numerous occasions, and insisted that as far as my own personal influence was concerned, it would be used to incorporate in the new Charter the initiative, referendum and recall. This was the consensus of opinion of the people with whom I associated in various organizations and associations with which I was connected.

Had Pledged Himself.

When the matter finally came to the point of being submitted to the people, this point was again made, and I was chosen, the Central Trades and Labor Union, who had endorsed me as a member of the Board of Freeholders, and other civic organizations, and I pledged my honor as a man that I would refuse to sign the Charter, unless it contained these three provisions.

After being elected on the board and getting acquainted with my colleagues, I found myself among those who were together opposed to this reform. They were what might be called Hamiltonians. However, after canvassing the members of the board, I had the assurance from ten of its members that they would support these provisions.

Article Was Prepared.

In conjunction with some of my friends, I had prepared a Charter article incorporating the initiative, referendum and recall, and submitted it to the Board of Freeholders, who in turn submitted it to the counsel of the board, Mr. Charles F. Bates.

It was but natural that one of the first propositions that came before the executive department of the city under the new Charter. This question, in turn, brought out the recall, and a considerable discussion. Bates presented a substitute for my proposition, as it now appears in the Charter. One of the next things to come up was the question of public utilities. I had already succeeded in the referendum clause in the Charter, which gives the people the right to pass on franchises before becoming operative. During the discussion on the changes in the Charter, many questions that came up that did not particularly suit me, but I always consoled myself with the idea that the incorporation of the initiative in the Charter would place the hands of the people the ready opportunity of getting just what they wanted.

Antagonized at Bates' Opinion.

During the sessions of the convention of the American Federation of Labor in St. Louis, I was considerably antagonized at the meetings of the board, as I happened to be not only a delegate to the convention, but also chairman of the local convention committee. When that convention adjourned and I attended the next meeting of the board, I was very much astonished that Mr. Bates had given a written opinion that the incorporation of the initiative in the Charter would be unconstitutional and might invalidate the Charter. I refused to accept this opinion of Mr. Bates, and it was referred to Messrs. Judson and Schnurmacher, who had attended with Mr. Bates' opinion, and so did all the lawyers on the Board of Freeholders. I insisted that no matter what the opinion of all the lawyers in the State of Missouri might be, the proper method of procedure would be to incorporate the initiative and let a competent court decide upon its constitutionality. I was not reconciled to the thought that any court in the state would decide that the initiative, as applied to the people in the city of St. Louis, would be unconstitutional, when the same applied to the people in the state. My contention, however, had no weight, and on my proposition being put was defeated by a vote of 12 to 1. I have frequently pledged that I would refuse to sign the Charter unless this was incorporated, I feel that I would be acting like Benedict Arnold if I failed to keep that pledge.

Defends Freeholders.

I desire to say right here that I have no sympathy with the vicious manner in which the Charter has been attacked, and more particularly the slanderous manner in which the Board of Freeholders has been assailed. I have associated with these gentlemen since April, 1909, and I know that every one of them was actuated by only the purest of motives. The formulating of the Charter for the great city of St. Louis by a board constituted as this board was, must largely become a matter of compromise. It is not true that the Board of Freeholders were acting as agents for great corporations of the city. On the contrary, a comparison between the old Charter and the present Charter will show the board has protected the people much better against the encroachments, monopolies, and corporations than were contained in the old Charter.

"One Mass of Misstatements."

The statement made in the report of the Legislative Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Union to the Board of Freeholders on Christmas Day was one mass of misstatements, and it is the first time in the history of that body that a report known to be incorrect was deliberately adopted. The statement of the Charter was a document of 200 closely written pages, the pages 629, was without any foundation of fact whatever. The fact was that the Charter was a book of 132 pages, printed in the largest type used by printers, namely, ten point, and only printed on one-half of the page, leaving a margin for corrections. The statement of the Charter was a document of 200 pages, 629, the actual space was 132 pages, 32 1/2, and twenty-five pages of these 132 were almost entirely vacant.

Said Central Body Was Wrong.

Further statement made in the same report inferring that the Board of Freeholders had refused to listen to the people as to suggestions in fram-

ing the Charter was utterly without foundation. In fact, for eight months the board did nothing else but listen to all who chose to come before them. The Central Trades and Labor Union, among other organizations, received a written invitation to appear before the board by delegates. The doors were open to every citizen of St. Louis, none were turned away, and not until no further responses were received to the invitations of the board for public hearings before them did they go into the work of framing the Charter. All statements of the parties who appeared before the board were taken in shorthand, transcribed, indexed and filed for future record, and were frequently referred to during our deliberations.

"Gross Misstatements."

If people have reasons for opposing the Charter, surely they can find grounds for it, without making such gross misstatements. The insinuation that the board had a slush fund of \$100,000 to push the Charter through, made by the chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Union, was unworthy of him and unworthy of the body he represented. The Board of Freeholders are not that kind of men.

If the initiative was incorporated in the Charter, I would sign it gladly and support it enthusiastically, as it is a very important measure, and the old Charter and contains many beneficial provisions in the interests of the masses, but its stability is much weakened by the absence of the initiative, less the honor to remain very respectfully.

OWEN MILLER.

Member of the Board of Freeholders.

REPLY TO MILLER'S LETTER.

St. Louis, Jan. 21, 1911.

In a letter to the Mayor, Mr. Owen Miller gives his reasons for not signing the proposed new Charter of the Board of Freeholders. He has a perfect right to do so. In said letter Mr. Miller attempts to show how insistently he had worked to get the initiative, referendum and recall incorporated in the new Charter. For this we give him credit.

Mr. Miller also informs the Mayor that when it came to a vote he was defeated by a vote of 12 to 1, because two of the Freeholders, who had pledged to incorporate in the Charter, what he declared unconstitutional. From this, we judge what Mr. Miller was up against as a member of the Board of Freeholders.

Was Labor's Representative.

Mr. Miller represented the Central Trades and Labor Union in the joint conference on charter revision, and when the Charter revision was finally agreed upon by the Municipal Assembly, my Owen Miller was nominated and elected as the labor representative on the Board of Freeholders, and as such he was bound by the charter revision program of the Central Trades and Labor Union, whose president he was at that time.

Not Only the Initiative.

It was not only the initiative that the Central Trades and Labor Union demanded and to which Mr. Miller was pledged, but also numerous other important measures, some of them being the retaining of the House of Delegates, the election of an increased number of public officials by the people, etc. Mr. Miller says that if the initiative had been put into the new Charter he would have signed it like the rest of the Freeholders. In other words, Mr. Miller would have sacrificed all the rest of the Central Trades and Labor Union program. But we shall not go into any lengthy discussion of this phase of the question at this time.

It is Well for Mr. Miller to Defend the Board of Freeholders, and to Protest Against any "Slanderous" Manner of Assault that may or may not have been made upon them, and we are glad indeed to have it from his lips, or from his pen, that the Freeholders were actuated by none but pure motives in doing their work.

Not Tracing Motives Now.

The people of St. Louis are not now very much interested in tracing the motives of the thirteen Freeholders, but they are vitally interested in the result of the work, which the citizens may be called upon to swallow in short order, not later than January 31.

Mr. Miller takes pleasure in telling the Mayor of St. Louis that the report of the Legislative Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Union, submitted to and unanimously adopted by that body on Christmas Day, was "a mass of misstatements," and that it was "the first time in the history of that body that a report known to be incorrect was deliberately adopted."

How Many Pages.

Mr. Miller repeats once more that the new Charter covers only 132 pages, and not 200, as the Legislative Committee had reported. In view of the fact that Mr. Miller was the sole and only privileged person in the Central Trades and Labor Union on that memorable Christmas Day who was in possession of a copy of the Charter, while the Legislative Committee had to take its information from newspaper reports, it is certainly in order to appraise Mr. Miller's wounded conscience by frankly admitting that the committee had erred as to the number of pages.

However, if we add to the new Charter the many pages of the pre-Charter pamphlets issued by the Board of Freeholders, together with the Charter, the 200-page limit will be reached after all.

What About Misstatements?

Now, what about the alleged misstatements of the Legislative Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Union which Mr. Miller in his letter to the Mayor attempts to make so much noise about? The Legislative Committee on December 25, 1910, report to the Central Trades and Labor Union? Let us see:

1. The proposed new Charter is not such a Charter as the Central Trades and Labor Union was pledged to support.

2. The new Charter did not contain the provisions demanded by organized labor, and to which Mr. Miller himself was pledged.

3. The new Charter would not increase the political power of the people, but curtail said rights.

4. The new Charter proposition had been discussed at a public hearing at the House of Delegates' chamber, but the Freeholders had not seen fit to be represented, and that the people's will as to the demanded postponement of the Charter election had been disregarded.

5. That the special election would cost the city \$70,000, and that thirty days was not sufficient time for the people to study the Charter.

6. That the committee had used every honorable means to have the Charter election postponed, to give those who are to be governed by it an opportunity to learn just what they were going to vote for, but it was of no avail.

7. That it was, no doubt, understood when the bill was introduced that at a special election the Charter, the product of masterly minds, could be put over, regardless of the protests of the citizens of this city.

8. That at a special election a large number of people do not think it important enough to go and vote, and that this was the hope of those who wish to deprive the people of the democratic form of government.

9. That any intelligent workman would vote for such a Charter as was indicated by the extracts published in the newspapers would not only do an injustice to himself, but to all liberty-loving citizens.

10. That the gentlemen who composed the Board of Freeholders are, no doubt, very bright and educated gentlemen, in the law and otherwise, but they must not assume that they have all the gray matter under their hats.

11. That the Freeholders ought to have consulted the people first—not a few of the people.

12. Mr. Owen Miller has been insufficient time for a workman to study the Charter intelligently, especially when he has to get up at 6 o'clock in the morning, work nine or ten hours a day, eat, sleep, and wash, and get up in the evening, finishing his supper at 8 p. m.

13. That the proposed new Charter was a dangerous Charter, and that for these and many other reasons the Legislative Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Union recommended that the Charter be defeated.

What Did Central Body Do?

And what did the Central Trades and Labor Union do?

By unanimous vote the report of the Legislative Committee was adopted and the recommendations concurred in. Mr. Owen Miller, who appeared before the board were taken in shorthand, transcribed, indexed and filed for future record, and were frequently referred to during our deliberations.

We leave it to the people, to the voters of St. Louis, to decide whether the business of the organized workmen of St. Louis to call a halt to his irresponsible and loose talk in public print.

Unions Unanimously Against Charter.

Up to this hour we have not heard of one single trade union in this city that has endorsed the new Charter or in any way declared its opposition to the action of the Central Trades and Labor Union.

Because a man feels sore at the Central Trades and Labor Union of St. Louis is no reason why he should stoop to misrepresentations and express his sickly soreness in a public letter to the Mayor in a manner which will enable the pro-Charter patriots to use it as a campaign document.

J. P. McDONOUGH,

Chairman Legislative Committee Central Trades and Labor Union.

Put this on File.

Under the caption, "Extremists and Privilege," Pulitzer's Post-Ditch of last Sunday published this editorial:

"There is one manifest political factor, aside from the gangsters of the leading parties, in the opposition of the new Charter. The radicals, embracing the Socialists and extreme social reformers, are trying to beat the Charter for the purpose of demonstrating the strength of the radical elements and organizing a radical political party to fight for revolutionary measures.

"These radical extremists are not Frank in their opposition. They do not admit their purpose, nor do they attack the Charter on the ground that they want revolution instead of reform. They are magnifying the defects of the proposed code. They are picking flaws and

warning the people against alleged dangers. They ignore its good points and safeguards and enlarge its flaws and possible failings.

The extremists would not accept any charter unless it conformed to their extreme views. They do not want a better charter. They want the old Charter because it gives them material for radical campaigns. They want the abuses and contentions of the old leading parties to continue; they want them to grow worse in order that the people may be driven to revolutionary measures. They want the charter to be as bad as possible and the government under it to be as inefficient and corrupt as possible for their own political ends.

Will the people follow their counsel? Will the people reject reform to feed the campaign resources of men who want to postpone all reform until they can carry their own extreme projects to success? Do the people want St. Louis to stand still until a charter satisfactory to the extremists shall be adopted? The franchise interests secretly stand with the extremists. They want the present Charter on account of its opportunities to grab and misuse privileges and to maintain the power of their spoils bosses.

"Will the people stand with the extremists and the interests against a progressive charter and a new St. Louis?"

At this late hour of the campaign we shall not waste any time to go into any discussion with the corrupt Pulitzer organ.

Tuesday, January 31, the citizens of St. Louis will give their verdict on the Big Cinch corporation Charter, for which the Post-Ditchpatch has been "captured," body and soul.

If the Pulitzer organ would only publish, in big type, the names of the big corporation managers that constitute the Executive Committee and the General Committee of the so-called Charter Publicity Committee the few people who are still kept in the dark on the new Charter question would soon line up with the powerful opposition that is sure bury the corporation-made instrument next Tuesday, January 31.

MORE CHARTER CRITICISM.

"Curious" Raises Some Very Timely Questions.

Editor ST. LOUIS LABOR:

It is clearly set forth in the new Charter that every member of the City Council shall be "a qualified voter, at least 25 years of age, and shall have been a citizen of the state and a resident of the city for three years next before his election," and if he shall cease to possess any of the qualifications in this Charter required, he shall forfeit his office."

The statutes of the State of Missouri are very definite as to what constitutes a qualified voter. The Charter states that the term "officer," when used in the Charter, applies to all persons holding situa-

tions under the government or its departments, who shall be "required to take oath or give bond by this Charter or by ordinance"; further that "every officer shall be a citizen of Missouri."

The Mayor is required to be at least 30 years of age, and shall have resided in this city not less than five years next preceding his election. These restrictions evidently were thought good by the framers of the Charter; yet they seem to fail to harmonize, so far as they apply to the acting Mayor, the President of the Council who would not measure up to the standard of age, and the Mayor falls in qualifications. Of the Comptroller it is only required that he shall have been a resident of the city for at least two years prior to his election. The Collector is not hampered by any restrictions, and the President of the Board of Assessors must be no less than 30 years old and have resided in the city seven years prior to the election.

All appointive officers by the Mayor shall have been citizens of St. Louis for at least two years, but the Council, by the vote of a majority of all the members elected, may authorize any appointive officers to appoint any person, "although he may not have been a citizen of St. Louis for two years." A man may be a citizen and yet not able to qualify as a voter. Would it not have been better if safeguards had been placed around all officers, elective or appointive, as in the case of Councilmen? To place the legislative powers of the city into the hands of inexperienced young men of 25 years may not appeal to most people, but this can be safeguarded before nominations are made. This still leaves a question in one's mind, Why so careful about Councilmen and so careless about all other officers? Of course, is one to assume that everything will go on in proper form under any charter, so far as qualifications of officers are concerned, whether elected or appointed, then restrictions are unnecessary, but why leave a doubt?

CURIOS.

Effective Literature Distribution. Last Sunday morning another broadside against the proposed new Charter was distributed from door to door all over the city. On January 29 the last distribution will take place. Every comrade that can make use of some of this anti-Charter literature should call Friday or Saturday at 966 Chouteau avenue and get a supply. If you live in a section that is not being covered, then it is up to you to get busy on the job. Next Sunday is the last opportunity to agitate against the "Jep" Howe Charter.

Opposed to the Charter.

Strodtman Heights Improvement Association held a mass meeting Thursday night to discuss the Charter. Mr. R. Eilers and C. Laxton spoke for the Charter. Mr. M. Seegers and Richard Goodenough spoke against it. The meeting went on record as unanimously opposed to the Charter.

H. J. JOST, 1424 SOUTH BROADWAY 1424

Umbrellas Parasols and Canes Large Variety at Lowest Prices H. J. JOST 1424 South Broadway. REPAIRING AND RECOVERING

Fine SHOES UNION MADE.

Frank Siedhoff, 3944 S. Broadway Fine Repairing a Specialty.

CLEARING SALE ON FLEECE UNDERWEAR Shirts or Drawers, all sizes Per Garment so it 75 cents

M. J. COHEN, 1233 Chouteau Avenue, Opposite New Club Hall.

HARDWARE GLASS, PAINTS AND OILS, STOVES AND RANGES

Chas. Blasberg, 4302 LINTON AVENUE

J. HAHN BAKERY COMPANY (WHOLESALE AND RETAIL)

Union Label Bread Delivered to All Parts of City 2801-5 S. 7th St. Both Phones

Glasses 50c up. WM. JACQUES, Optician.

1554 South Broadway, WITH FRIEND'S.

Julius Friton Jeweler, Optician AND Watchmaker. 121 N. Seventh St.

NEU & LIND 916 Franklin Avenue.

Union Gents' Furnishers.

Bartenders' Union Local 51

Patronize only Saloons displaying Union Bar Card and where the Bartenders Wear the Blue Button HEADQUARTERS: 3206 LUCAS AVENUE Phone: Kinloch, Central 3281.

Sweeping Sale Now Going On

500 single suit patterns will be disposed of BELOW COST (Not More Than One To Each Costumer)

400 trouser patterns; only one to each purchaser for \$3.50

Note Sweeping Prices In Our Windows All Garments Union Made OPEN EVENINGS

ARGADE TAILORING CO., MERCHANT TAILORS 1326-28 FRANKLIN AVE. ESTABLISHED 18 YEARS AT THIS STAND Kinloch, Central 5443

Grand Reception given by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen LOCAL NO. 88, A. F. OF L.

at Wagner's Hall, Cherokee and Texas Saturday Evening, January 21, '11 Tickets, 10 cents a Person. The Committee.

SAVE GOLD TRADING STAMPS REDEEM THEM FOR UNION LABEL

Clothing, Collars, Cuffs, Neckwear, Hats, Nightshirts, Shirts, Shoes Sox, Overalls, Suspenders, Jumpers, Underwear. Largest Stock Lowest Prices

See SCHWARZ. GLOBE Seventh and Franklin Ave

The Best Hat Made \$2.00 and \$3.00 Wm. H. Roetter Hat Co., 518 PINE STREET.