

WITH WALES SCENE OF WAR ON MINERS

12,000 Workers and Their Wives March Against Cambrian Coal Mines, Beaten Back by Police.

By TH. ROTHSTEIN.
(Special Correspondence.)

LONDON, Nov. 8.—Wild news is coming from South Wales today. The miners are in open rebellion and police and military are invading the valleys prepared to bring about a civil war.

It will be remembered that an industrial dispute has been raging there since the beginning of September. For over eighteen months prior to that into the so-called conciliation committee of the South Wales coal trade had been discussing the price list for getting work in connection with a new man at Ely pit belonging to the Cambrian Company, itself a member of the Cambrian Valley Coal Trust. No result ensued from these protracted negotiations and the seventy hewers directly concerned laid down their tools in disgust. Thereupon the management of the pit served lockout notices upon the whole of the 950 miners employed by it. The entire body of 12,000 men employed by the trust in the Cambrian valley rose like one man in defense of the rights of the locked-out comrades, but were repulsed by the officials of the South Wales Miners' Federation, led by its president, the old and crafty Abraham M. P. (the famous "Mabon"), a return to work pending the decision of a general conference of the federation as to whether their strike should be sanctioned and supported by a general levy, or a general strike throughout the coal fields be declared upon the employers' federation.

The conference met and decided to ballot the entire body of the federation upon the two questions. The ballot yielded a majority with 50 per cent abstentions, in favor of the former course. All this lasted a month, during which the Cambrian men continued to work. After this month's notice was given to the employers, and the men still continued to work. It was quite plain that the whole procedure was a device of Mr. Abraham and company to gain time in order to negotiate further with the Cambrian employers. This, in fact, they did all through the time, but without result, so that by the end of October, the 12,000 men of the Cambrian trust went out on strike. But the negotiations continued and ultimately the conciliation committee drew up a price list which was then submitted to the men. The men, however, repudiated the agreed list unanimously and since then the strike continued.

Dramatic Action of Miners and Wives.

But the masters were not content with allowing the pits to stand idle. The engineers and stokers were afraid to leave their places for fear of being sued for breach of contract, and the masters, availing themselves

of this, got together a number of strikebreakers and continued work in the pits. Thereupon the strikers decided yesterday upon a drastic course.

There was a terrible storm, a gale and torrents of rain, falling all night in the valley, but at 4 o'clock in the morning a bugle was sounded by a man in Clydach Vale, and immediately the streets were filled by thousands of men and women, emerged from their homes; and marching four abreast, preceded by a life band, the crowd went round the marked pits, leaving strong detachments at the entrances to intercept those going to work, and then continuing to march up and down the streets of the villages. Scouts were placed on the hillside, and wherever an engineer appeared there was a chase after him which ended by his seizure and confinement under arrest. Women were just as energetic as men.

"They did not seem," an eye witness writes, "to mind the hurricane of wind and drenching rain, which beat upon them, and they joined heartily in the songs which the strikers sang." The police, of course, were soon in evidence, and there were repeated acts of resistance to their orders to move on, accompanied by strong words and even fusillades of stones and such like missiles.

This continued until midday, when new kinds of processions began to parade the streets of the various villages. Two miners dressed in white shirts—the symbol of cowardice as applied to blacklegs—would with halters round their necks, bearing a sign "take warning," be driven by two men holding heavy clubs, and so, accompanied by huge crowds, round the homes of the suspected and threaten revenge in case they should go to work. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon a measure still more drastic than mere picketing was resolved upon, namely, the seizure of the pits. A big crowd gathered outside one of the pits, broke through the cordons at the gates, made a rush for the machinery house, and having taken possession of the pit yard, extinguished all the furnaces and stopped the entire machinery. The same operation was continued at the other pits. Everywhere the pit yards were seized, the officials forcibly ejected, the police cordons swept aside, and the boilers and ventilation fans stopped. At the Glamorgan Colliery, the chief colliery of the trust, the scenes reached their culminating point. It was midnight, and a crowd of 500 men made a rush at the police, surged into the yard, was again surrounded by the police who this time drew their batons, and a regular battle ensued which only ended with the arrival of a fresh posse of constables. As I write, the disturbances still continue, troops have been drafted from Cardiff, and who knows but that at this moment there may be raging a real war between the miners and the king's troops in the peaceful valley of South Wales.

Not an Isolated Case.

What lends additional importance to these unheard of proceedings is the fact that they are not an isolated phenomenon, but are being repeated on a similar, though so far smaller, scale at other parts of the South Wales coal field. At the present moment there are no fewer than 30,000 workmen striking at various pits of various companies in the teeth of the standing agreements with the masters and in disobedience of the injunctions of the head executive.

Especially acute is the situation at the Powell Duffryn collieries, Aberdare Valley, where the other day similar scenes were enacted, only with more destruction of property, as at Cambrian Vale.

No doubt this phase of the present unrest will soon pass, but it will not soon be forgotten nor its traces effaced as symptoms of the deep fermentation through which the labor world is now passing. The situation in the shipyards is worth noting in this connection. Against all expectation the executive of the Boiler Makers' Society decided to take a second ballot on the question whether the terms agreed upon by it and the Employers' Federation for the prevention of sectional strikes by the imposition of fines upon "unruly" members should be accepted.

In calling upon the members to reconsider their previous decision the executive did not hesitate once more to point out the empty state of the society's exchequer, and it added the following impertinent remarks: "Your previous vote was a denial of representative government, and was brought about to some extent by the outside interference of those who do not understand the first principles of trade unionism, namely, collective bargaining; much less do they understand the intricacies of our trade and the machinery necessary for adjusting the relations between ourselves and the employers. As your elected representatives, we have done our work without courting the smiles of our friends or fearing the frowns of our enemies in asking you to accept conditions which, in our opinion, we are prepared to accept for ourselves, fully convinced that in all the circumstances we have done the best possible."

Living in Revolutionary Times.

The allusion to what constitutes representative government is very amusing considering that the efforts of the executive throughout have been to establish a sort of oligarchy of officials who could bind the men to the employers as they pleased.

Equally entertaining is the allusion to outside interference of those who do not understand the first principles of trade unionism, considering that among these outsiders was not only Mr. Chloema Monev, the well known author of "Riches and Poverty," but also Mr. Barnes, who had only last year resigned the secretaryship of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and was the leader of the great strike of twelve years ago which first established the principle of collective bargaining. It is evident that the rank and file of the boiler makers have estimated the words of their executive at their true value, because the new ballot has resulted in a still larger majority in favor of rejecting the terms of settlement than the first. At the moment of writing the exact figures are not yet known, but it is certain that the boiler makers' executive has been repudiated once more. We are simply living in revolutionary times—we are witnessing the birth of a trade unionism.

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VOTERS OF FRISCO RETAKE BALLOT BOX

Have Secured Notable Advance Step in Municipal Government—Min- imum Wage of \$3.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Nov. 17.—Following the adoption at Tuesday's special election of a series of charter amendments, which for the first time in the history of this corporation dominated the front of the franchise advanced municipal legislation, the vote will be officially canvassed by the board of supervisors prior to the presentation of the amendments to the legislature for ratification in January.

"Big Business," which opposed most of the amendments probably, will make its last stand in the legislature, but there is little likelihood of success. The amendments will be ratified, as it is now known, "controlled by the railroads." The big problem of whether San Francisco, once corrupt, has purged itself, entirely of corruption by the passage of these amendments remains to be seen. The amendments themselves mark a long step in advancing the science of municipal government, and several theories involved have never been tried in this country. The most vital amendment of all, which establishes majority rule by simplifying the official ballot, carried over-whelmingly. "Big Business" made a hard fight at the polls, but defeated the amendment against which it fought, and that was the provision for the establishment of a free city employment bureau, which failed by a few hundred votes.

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MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee taught us an important lesson. And because we were ready pupils we were rewarded with a great increase in our vote some days ago. Milwaukee taught the entire Socialist movement in this country the necessity of distributing literature. We now have the fact that we must get people to read deeply impressed in our minds.

It is true that you are a Socialist and wish to work for the realization of our goal, then it follows as does the night the day that you are anxious to get the fellow next to you reading our literature.

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LIST OF PUBLIC LECTURES TODAY

De Witt Clinton High School, 59th street and Tenth avenue; "Shakespeare's Cradle and School," Dr. Homer B. Sprague.

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Public School 52, Broadway and Academy street, Inwood; "Canada," William T. Smith.

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RESTAURANTS. LITTLE HUNGARY, 237 E. Houston St.

CLINTON HALL, 151-153 CLINTON ST.

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PROSPEROUS.

"Good times" seem to be overflowing and oozing out at certain points, but not at all. For example, the opera season opened with a financial brilliancy and jewel display never before equaled in this country. In the grand tier were diamonds and other precious stones that represented at least \$200,000,000 stolen from the working class. A dozen of the men there to show that they could appreciate music when it is expensive have stolen enough to pay the national debt. Mere tickets to a decent seat cost a sum equal to the "keep"—that's a beautiful word—of a working class family for a month, that is, the keep as shown in the budgets benevolent gentlemen so carefully compile.

At the horse show the jewels were worth far more than Madison Square Garden itself, and in some cases the bejeweled ladies toted around precious stones that were valued higher than all the horses exhibited. Thus the opera and the horse show were seized on as opportunities to demonstrate that we are prosperous, highly prosperous, and that some few people possess millions on millions of dollars.

But a few steps west from the Metropolitan and a few steps east from Madison Square were hungry men and women. Before this winter is well under way there are going to be more of them. Charitable organizations report an increase in applications for relief. Employment bureaus report an increase in applications for work and a decrease in applications for "hands." There is an enormous increase in the number of strikes. Likewise, there is an increase in the insolent and brutal methods used in crushing strikes, and it is well shown in the attitude of Mayor Gaynor. Finally, there is an increase in the number of families dispossessed.

All of which proves, in spite of the jewel and wealth display at opera and horse shows, that the working class is not the one that is prosperous. They are even denying themselves amusement, or economic conditions are preventing them from indulging in amusements. Many of the New York theaters are playing to small audiences because the cheaper seats, the ones that are always paid for, are not being bought by the working class.

"We have been blessed," as the Thanksgiving proclamation puts it, with bounteous crops. The capitalist class has been blessed with an increased proportion of the fruits of labor. The workers have been cursed with increased robbery. All wage increases are more than discounted by the increased productivity of the working class not only as a whole but as separate individuals. There is scarcely a trade, from clerical work to digging ditches, where, either through improved machinery or through improved organization of the working force, there has not been increased productivity and decreased working force.

The ladies and gentlemen in the grand tier and in the boxes represent the class that has profited. The other side is represented by the class that has done the work. The contrast will become ever greater, and the sufferings of one will become more acute. That is, they will unless the working class determines not to be robbed and puts its determination into force.

THE MAYOR'S PROGRESS.

Mr. Gaynor, while on the bench, made many and spectacular plays for the idea of personal freedom. Just previous to the time of the mayoralty nominations he made an especially impressive and spectacular play. He used the case of Duffy to pound the Police Department which was then, as is usually the case, in bad standing with the public. Since he has been Mayor, Mr. Gaynor has protested much in favor of personal freedom. All of that may be good. It may be in line with progress and reform.

But when Mr. Mayor Gaynor stacked up against a real problem he showed himself a thorough reactionary. He showed that he is with the capitalist class, heart and soul and cunning. Of the latter he has more, probably, than any other man who ever headed the government of this city. He has used it all in dealing with the men engaged in the transportation strikes. He adroitly worked a "settlement" of the express strike. He has used adroitness, bluff, bluster and testiness in dealing with the strike of the chauffeurs. He has also used the police, not for the purpose of keeping the peace, but for the purpose of forcing on the chauffeurs the settlement their own sense of decency and right forbade them to take.

Gaynor is the Mayor and the servant of the big interests. If the workers of this city want anything they will have to get it themselves.

This placing of policemen on the taxicabs is a warning to the men on strike that the city government is against them. The police have no right there, and Mayor Gaynor is misusing the force in placing them there. Let him order, or request, that the directors, the stockholders or those master minds of capitalism that profit by the business go out on the cabs and wagons. For the police are not or should not be the servants and strikebreakers of the employers.

DENOUNCED.

"The American Federation of Catholic Societies, numbering 3,000,000 members, in convention assembled at New Orleans, wishes to put on record the horror felt at the inception of the so-called republic of Portugal."

That is the opening paragraph of a resolution unanimously adopted by the convention.

If the convention had represented 30,000,000 instead of 3,000,000, the action would have been equally disgraceful. If it represented only 300 members the action would not be less disgraceful.

In spite of searching inquiry, in spite of the will to twist, magnify and malign every action, in spite of ready lies quickly set in circulation, the fact remains that there has seldom been a governmental overthrow accompanied by less violence than that in Portugal. But facts did not disturb the delegates, and truth did not influence them in drafting and passing this vile and lying resolution. Paraphrasing the third paragraph of their own resolution, it is a disgrace to them as men, and as citizens of a great republic they have done a horrible injustice to the people of a small republic.

SOAKING THE SUBURBANITE SOME MORE.

The heads of the Pennsylvania road assert that they should increase commutation rates more than they have, because under the present rates it is mere, gross charity to carry town dwellers to their work in this city. Other roads doubtlessly say Amen to this idea. So, also, do the traction companies. They are all in business to do charitable acts to the persons who have to travel to and from work.

For doing it they seem to get quite as large a rake-off as that enjoyed by collectors for charitable institutions.

Suburbanites are soaked in all ways, by higher rates, by inadequate service and by scurvy treatment when they protest either to the officials of the roads or to public officials.

Consequently the time is ripe to relieve the Pennsylvania and all other roads and all traction companies of their burden. It is not well to look to them for so much charity. The public might as well be its own source of charity, and the public, furthermore, might just as well manage its own affairs. It is cheaper, better and far more satisfactory.

WHY NOT?

By L. B. BOUDIN.

One of the accusations brought forward during the last electoral campaign against John A. Dix, the Democratic candidate for governor, was that he had a bad "labor" record. The fact was cited that his men were unorganized and worked eleven and thirteen hours a day at the magnificent wage of 1 1/2 cents an hour. To offset the effect of this charge the Dix managers got Jake Tazelaar, an organizer of the American Federation of Labor, to give Mr. Dix a clean bill of health in the shape of a public testimonial certifying to the fact that Mr. Dix was a good master to his factory slaves. As the official leaders of "labor" have, in the past two years, swung half around the circle, and are now usually to be found in the Republican camp, this action of Brother Tazelaar aroused the ire of his fellow "labor leaders." Among other things it moved Brother Timothy Healy, president of the International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen, to write a letter of protest to Mr. Samuel Gompers, which, of course, found its way to Mr. Roosevelt, who used it as a campaign document in behalf of Mr. Stimson. In that letter Mr. Healy says:

"I am a believer in your policy of rewarding our friends and defeating our enemies, and an account of those principles I keep aloof from party politics. I know something of the paper-making industry, having been active for ten years in an endeavor to organize our craft in the paper mills, and I am glad to say that we have been fairly successful in getting a scale of wages and the eight-hour workday in New York and the New England States. The first eight hours went into effect in that industry eight or nine years ago, but the Dix mills are still in the eleven and thirteen hours, and the reason for that is this: The wall paper trust has been able to defeat every attempt that has ever been made to organize its mills. Mr. Dix is the man who is responsible for those conditions, and why a paid organizer of the American Federation of Labor should come to his rescue and make excuses for him is more than I can fathom."

We would respectfully ask Mr. Timothy Healy, or Mr. Gompers, or both, why not? Why should not Brother Tazelaar have done as he did? What is there in the tradition or practice of our "labor leaders" that makes Brother Tazelaar's action either exceptional or reprehensible?

Every game, and every political "game" in particular, should be played fair. And the game of "rewarding our friends and punishing our enemies" should form no exception. Now, it is one of the first rules of that game that corporations should be strictly differentiated from the individuals who compose them. It is well known that under our laws corporations are distinct entities, leading a separate existence from the individuals who compose them. It is true that a corporation can act only through individuals, and individuals are the beneficiaries of all profits made by corporations; still these individuals should not be held responsible either for their bad acts on behalf of the corporations, or for the "taint" on the

income which these bad acts brought to them. This applies to trade unionists as well as to other citizens. For good trade unionists are first and foremost among the law-abiding citizens of this country.

And so this rule has been adopted from the very beginning by the chief players at this game, such as Mr. Gompers and Mr. Mitchell. It is because of this rule of the game that they have been able to render those valuable services as members of the Civic Federation which we all appreciate. There is a rigid distinction between Mr. Belmont as Mr. Belmont and Mr. Belmont as the head of the New York traction trust; between Messrs. Schwab, Frick and Carnegie as private citizens and "public benefactors" and as managers and beneficiaries of the steel trust, etc., etc. Mr. Belmont as the head of the traction trust is, of course, an enemy of union labor, a ruthless crusher of strikes, a slave driver, who works his employees all sorts of God-forsaken hours at miserable pay, and is, therefore, our enemy to be punished. But Brother Belmont the individual is a fellow member of the Civic Federation and therefore a friend to be rewarded. The acts of Schwab, Frick and Carnegie, in their collective and representative capacity as the steel trust, are such that they deserve to be considered the worst enemies of Labor in this country. There is not on the calendar a crime against Labor that they are not guilty of. But only in that capacity—not as individuals. As individuals, they are our best friends, to be supped and banqueted with and rewarded, as our friends always should be.

And it is only this rule that Brother Tazelaar applied to Mr. Dix. It would be unfair to attempt to punish Mr. Dix personally for what he did in his representative capacity as director of the wall paper trust. The wall paper trust may be an enemy and had the wall paper trust run for Governor Brother Tazelaar would certainly have done his best to punish it, after its emity had been duly proven. For no good union man would, of course, help the enemy wall paper trust politically, any more than Mr. Gompers or Mr. Mitchell would sup or fraternize with the enemy steel trust or traction trust. But the Democratic party showed its consideration for labor by not nominating the wall paper trust, but only Mr. Dix individually. Brother Tazelaar had, therefore, a perfect right to take him under his protection. Unless you want to establish one rule for Mr. Gompers and Mr. Mitchell and their relations to the big trust magnates and another for Mr. Tazelaar and his relations to the little ones, such a proceeding would be highly un-American. The sacred principle of "equal opportunities for all and special privileges to none" should ever be upheld.

The election was Brother Tazelaar's opportunity. And we have no more right to criticize him for taking advantage of it than we have of criticizing Gompers, Mitchell and others for utilizing theirs. Be fair, brothers, even to the meanest among you!

AN APPEAL TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Will Regeneration be suppressed? Has not the United States government done enough against us without now destroying the only means whereby we can make our voices heard?

We have been on American soil for seven years. Seven long years ago we came to your country as political refugees. Our only crime has been that we are opponents of despotism, enemies of slavery. Because these are crimes in Mexico we fled from Mexico. Our experience here has taught us that they are also crimes in the United States.

During all these seven years we have not been allowed to rest. The agents of Diaz have hounded and harassed us without ceasing and the government of the United States has protected them and aided them in their iniquity.

Again and again we have been arrested without just cause and without legal warrant. We have been assaulted and beaten; our homes have been burglarized; several of our number have been kidnapped. Your authorities have been furnished evidence of these outrages, but never has a serious attempt been made to bring the perpetrators to justice. Your government has conspired to deport us so that we might be killed for political reasons. It has imprisoned us on false charge after false charge, and finally it sent us to the penitentiary on the "evidence" of a Mexican detective, who committed perjury so openly that if there had been any justice in our trial we would have been set free, and the said detective would have been taken to jail in our place.

Twice during these past seven years the paper that we were publishing was suppressed with the aid of your public officials. In the first instance our second-class privileges were taken from us at the request of Diaz. In the second instance our paper was suppressed by arresting every editor that we employed, one after another, until eight of us were in jail together, and there was no one left to do our work.

During all this time we committed no crime upon the statute books. One-half of the seven years we have spent in jail, the other half we have spent in our trial, in trying to keep out of jail, for no other reason than that we are opposed to the Diaz system of slavery and political oppression and would abolish it.

Twice our paper has been suppressed. It is about to be suppressed a third time.

August 3, 1910, we left the penitentiary at Florence, Ariz. September 3, with the help of our good Mexican and American friends, we re-established Regeneration in Los Angeles. The paper was a success from the start. We have been printing 15,000 copies weekly and have been practically no advertisements, and have sought none, but our income from subscriptions alone has been sufficient to pay all of the legitimate expenses of our work.

But—Two weeks ago we applied for the second class privileges in your post-office. Our application was made in

legal form. We furnished the necessary proofs as to subscriptions. All the legal requirements were complied with. Of this we were assured by the superintendent of second class mail in the Los Angeles postoffice.

Having complied with the law, we were given a temporary permit to take advantage of the second class privileges while our application was being finally passed upon in Washington. Provided we should deposit each week a sum equal to one cent for each and every copy presented for mailing at the postoffice.

This rule was complied with and we have now on deposit with the Los Angeles postoffice the sum of \$50, which we cannot withdraw until such a time as the Third Assistant Postmaster General shall send word that we have duly complied with the law.

Three weeks is usually the limit of the temporary permit. We do not intend to pass upon an application for the second class mailing privileges. Our application has been on file for ten weeks.

What does it mean? We have complied with the law. There is no valid excuse why we should not have been given the privileges seven weeks ago, and we should now have the use of our money to extend the circulation of our paper.

Does it mean that, by laying an extra burden of \$50 a week upon our shoulders, the United States government is planning to put us quietly out of business?

As we have stated, our paper has been a success from the start. But we have only enough money at the start to get out the first issue of the paper and we cannot stand this extra burden. If we are not fairly dealt with we shall be compelled to suspend.

We need help. First, we beg our friends to protest against the conspiracy to crush us. We have complied with the law. Demand that your government cease discriminating against us in order to favor our enemies, the tyrant of Mexico. Write to the Third Assistant Postmaster. Write to your congressman. Write to your local newspaper.

Second, we need money, not to support our paper, but to tide us over the difficulty raised by the discrimination that is being practiced against us. We need this money at once or we will lose everything.

The death of our paper would be a blow to the movement to abolish the slavery, the peonage and the political oppression of Mexico, and to establish democratic institutions in our country. Think of the hundreds of thousands of Mexican slaves being beaten and starved to death in Valle Nacional, in Yucatan—all over Mexico! They are dying today—those men, women and children. We hear their voices crying their agony out to us to help them. We ask that you hear our voices, that you oppose the conspiracy against us, that you give us what you can to help us save our paper, that you give it now.

ANTONIO I. VILLARREAL, RICARDO FLORES MAGON, LIBRADO RIVERA, 518 1/2 East 4th Street, Los Angeles, Cal.

Letters to the Editor

TWO MORE LETTERS.

No. 1.—From the editor of a leading New York magazine to George Allan England:

November 11, 1910.

Dear Mr. England—I am afraid that I am a hopeless individualist. After having read Nietzsche, and above all, Max Stirner, "Der Einzige und sein Eigentum," I am afraid that I am what Nietzsche would call "an aristocratic radical." Still, I must say that your plea did shake me just a little. Yours faithfully, N. Y. Z.

No. 2.—Reply to above: Bryant's Pond, Me., Nov. 15, 1910. N. Y. Z., Esq., "The Blank Magazine," New York City:

Dear Mr. N. Y. Z.—Let me thank you for your kind letter re Socialism. I am glad mine had some effect upon you; but you make a mistake to call my remarks a "plea." No; there was no plea in them. I made simply a plain statement of incontrovertible facts. The scientist, when he has established certain phenomena of evolution, need make no plea for their acceptance. Presented to the inquirer or to the honest-minded man, those facts need only be weighed according to their value. The truly scientific thinker will not let a personal conviction interfere with his acceptance of truth.

The matter of your being an individualist, though interesting, has nothing whatever to do with the truth or error of the Socialist philosophy, with the evolutionary trend of society toward collectivism, or with the duty of the logical thinker to recognize such evolution. The fact that a man may be a Baptist or an agnostic has nothing to do with the laws of gravitation or the binomial theorem. Your individualism does not affect the laws of the concentration of capital. It does not affect the other three cardinal principles of Socialism. It is a purely personal state of mind. It cannot be applied to the science of economic and political evolution—i. e., Socialism.

Individualism, by the way, has nothing to do with the inevitable conquest by Socialism of the means of producing and distributing wealth. Capitalism is, for the vast majority of men, a highly degrading force as regards individuality. We look upon Socialism as a force which will liberate the individual in many ways. Space-lacks here for a full discussion of this point; but if any apprehension exists in your mind regarding it, that is merely a false conception of Socialism.

Your mention of "Der Einzige und sein Eigentum" reminds me that you should read the debate between Mecken and LaMonte, now published in book form by Henry Holt. It is a record of a series of letters between the former, a strong individualist, and the latter, a Socialist. Many of the points which we might discuss are covered so fully and so entertainingly in that volume that I strongly recommend it to you. You really should get and read this book. I cannot help feeling that if you would do as I suggested in my last letter—read with some care a few standard works on Scientific Socialism—your difficulties would vanish.

The whole matter is one so profoundly scientific, being as it is the interpretation by strictly deductive methods of the phenomena of social evolution, that it should appeal to you with special force.

As a matter of political application, I enclose two platforms, one in German and one in English. Will you read these and—demolish them at once? Faithfully yours,

GEORGE ALLAN ENGLAND.

THE ETERNAL FEMININE AND MILWAUKEE.

Editor of The Call:

Will you let me know if the women of Milwaukee have municipal suffrage, and if not, whether the Comrades in the Milwaukee administration have taken any steps in the matter? I have not heard of any special agitation there for enfranchising women, and would like to know. Fraternally,

MARY DUNBAR.

New York, Nov. 15, 1910.

A PROPOSAL.

Editor of The Call:

According to all indications, we may surely say that day is dawning at last, that the great Socialist sun has sent out its bright rays to announce its glorious coming.

There was always lots of work to be done, but now it seems that we Socialists have to strain every muscle and spare no effort, until we accomplish something in our own days.

Talking from soap boxes, lecturing in halls, may be a very good way of propagating Socialism, but I know of no better means than by bringing the Socialist word into the very houses of the people. Flooding the country with Socialist literature is the most adequate means of coming to the mountain, since the mountain is reluctant in coming to us. I hope to see our Comrades, the country over, organize into an army, and do this fruitful work.

Now comes the question: Why cannot we here in the East create an army to work with our beloved Call, as the sprightly army out West does with the Appeal to Reason? But the Call, with all its fine qualities of an honest, upright, modest Socialist paper, does not lend itself so easily to the work of the Western army as does the Appeal. First, it is a daily; on the morrow of its appearance, the news is stale. Secondly, it is a local paper, with local interests, and then it costs 2 cents.

Now, I wish the Comrades of The Call to consider the following propositions:

To compile a weekly copy from the short articles, the best short editorials, etc., that appear during the week, without interfering in any way with the regular daily and weekly issues. That special propaganda Call should go to the Comrades at the same rate as the Appeal; namely, at 25 cents per year in a club of ten.

I can see the devoted Comrades rush out for subscribers. It may safely be predicted that most members

of the radical organizations and trade unions will smilingly "throw away" a quarter and have that paper coming to their homes for a year. Numbers of subs. for the Appeal have thus been collected from people who would never have sought the paper, but who could not refuse so paltry a sum. And in many instances these subscribers were converted to Socialism, and now continue the good work in their turn. The advantage of a paper of this kind over the cheap leaflets that we have for propaganda is enormous. The smallest pamphlet is a large article, which those not interested are too indolent to tackle. The proposed paper should, of course, consist of small items, of snappy matter to catch the eye of the beholder.

Think what an advertising medium it would be for both the daily and the weekly Call, and for Socialism in general.

Nor is this all. There suggests itself a novel way of doing excellent propaganda. Thousands of copies of The Special Call will be bought by all Socialist organizations, which will, as a part of their activity, spread it broadcast. It will become the duty of every member of those organizations to bombard his selected district weekly, with these most effective missiles. Such a paper must call for activity on the part of every Comrade, not only during the feverish time of election, but the whole year round; and every town, village, and hamlet, every library, police station and office building will have to become acquainted with our demands.

I hereby pledge myself for a hundred subs. a year. With Socialist greetings, MRS. ADELLA KEAN, Jamaica, N. Y., Nov. 14, 1910.

AS TO SPEAKERS, ETC.

Editor of The Call:

Now that we have had our say about the faults of our speakers, let us see what we can do to better matters. So far as I can see, one of the greatest troubles is that many of us have not a clear outline of Socialism on which to base speeches or explanations. Frequently I have seen this difficulty occur, both in street speaking by Comrades and in talking to individual non-Socialists. Now, the best advice I can give is that those who wish to carry on propaganda in the most effective way should memorize, even if only roughly, some good, short outline of Socialism. Around this as a skeleton any number of good speeches can be made.

Now, what shall we take as our outline to memorize? The national platform of 1908 is excellent for this purpose; it is clear and comprehensive. Comrade Kerr's introductory chapters to C. H. Kerr & Co.'s book, "What to Read on Socialism," are equally good, yet vast; different. H. M. Hyndman's summary of Socialism, published in *Wiltshire's Magazine* last May, is another excellent basis for speeches. In "The American Farmer," by A. M. Simons, an adequate recapitulation of Socialism is found on pages 168 to 174.

There is one other matter that needs discussion. When Comrade Simpson spoke at the Harlem Forum on Sunday he laid some stress on the inactivity, timidity and copying spirit of our party. He showed how we waited for Roosevelt & Co. to expose our opponents and how we are slothful in distributing literature. He showed how our party congresses devote themselves to matters that are important in Europe, but not so here. He showed how much of our gains has come spasmodically and almost in spite of our puny efforts; how in our efforts to be "practical" we are hurting ourselves and the future of the cause.

What is to be done? Comrade Simpson said it is not The Call's business to arouse us to these things. On the contrary, if The Call is really a Socialist paper, if it is to be of any use to the cause, let it speak out. Merely because the bourgeoisie of this country are timid and copy from Europe, should we also do so? No. If Comrade Simpson means what he says (and doubtless he does), let him give it to us all in The Call, and keep on giving it until something is accomplished. He is surely not editor in order to hide his views from most and give them to a few at a lecture.

Yours fraternally,

S. G. RICH.

New York, Nov. 15, 1910.

[Comrade Simpson can say for himself that he has never made a secret of his thoughts. There was hardly anything he said at the Harlem meeting that he had not, on various occasions and in various forms, said or suggested in The Call. He did not say at the Harlem meeting that it was not the business of The Call to arouse, etc. What he did say, in reply to a question, was that he was not the schoolmaster of the Socialist party, which is something quite different from the words imputed to him in this letter.—Ed. The Call.]

CONSCIENCE VS. ART.

Thomas Nelson Page, in the smoking room of the Baltic, contrasted the literary and the scientific temperaments.

"But a letter will best bring out my point," said the famous author. "You've heard, of course, of Tenyson's poem, 'The Vision of Sin.' An eminent mathematician wrote to Tenyson, on the appearance of his poem, a letter that ran like this: 'Dear Sir—I find in a recent poem of yours entitled "The Vision of Sin," the following unwarranted statement: "Every moment dies a man, and every moment one is born." I see hardly point out that this calculation, if correct, would tend to keep the sum total of the world's population in a state of perpetual equilibrium, whereas it is an established fact that the said population is constantly on the increase. I would, therefore, suggest that in the next edition of this poem the erroneous calculation to which I refer should be corrected, as follows: "Every moment dies a man, and one and a sixteenth is born." I may add that the exact figures are 1.167, but something must, of course, be conceded to the laws of rhythm."

Washington, D. C., Nov. 15, 1910.

Potpourri.

LOST, STRAYED OR STOLEN.

THE WOUNDED KNIGHT.

From the German of Heinrich Heine

I know an old, old story,
A sad and cheerless tale;
A knight who in love lies burning;
A maiden whose faith is frail.

As faithless he needs must come,
Who yet is his soul's best part,
Must stifle as base and craven
The sorrow that rends his heart.

How faint in the lists he'd enter,
And loud 'mid the knights exclaim:
"Let him for the fight prepare him,
Who dares to impeach her fame."

All round would he still, as ever,
The pangs he himself confessed;
He must level his lance and aim it
At his own accusing breast.

—Translated by J. E. Wallis.

THE PHILANTHROPIC PLUTO CRAT AT THE GATE OF HEAVEN.

"But Saint Peter," protested the Philanthropic Pluto-crater, "I got my money in accordance with the law."

"Yes," said Saint Peter, "you've had the credit of that already, haven't you? What good have you done for the love of man?"

"Why," said the Millionaire, "my donations to the charities—you have the subscription lists—my endowed Chair of Political Economy, the Dives Hospital, the Dives Library—are these not—?"

"I said for the love of man," said Saint Peter.

"Well, then, if you say solely for the love of man—why, oh, yes. A widow came to me once in great distress. Her son was her sole support; he was about to lose his place for lack of a pair of shoes. I got her the shoes."

Saint Peter pushed a button and an imp of Satan appeared. "Where are they boy? Oh, you're the one. The lad," said the Saint to the Millionaire, "went to the devil because he did not get that place as errand boy. You may have done that for love—but you see you only helped one at the expense of the other."

The Millionaire frowned. "I gave \$50 to my wife for her Flower Guild work," he said.

Saint Peter turned over his book. "Your wife has the credit for that," he said.

"I paid for free coal one winter," said the Millionaire, "and said nothing at all about it."

Saint Peter looked at the book again. "That was part of the money you got in the shape of slum rents from the people you gave the coal for, was it not?" he said.

"I contributed to the Salvation Army Immigration Fund," said the Rich Man.

"So you did," replied the Saint. "But that was because you wanted some cheaper labor on your Canadian farms, wasn't it?"

"But the hospitals," pleaded the Millionaire, "and the subscriptions—truly I gave them partly out of kindness. Then the Employment Society that I organized."

"Employment Society," said Saint Peter, "now that's something practical. Did you give the people employment?"

"Well-eh-no," said the Millionaire, "but we found them places."

"Oh," said Saint Peter, "then you only found them somebody else's places—anything else?"

"Well-no-o," said the Millionaire. "I'm afraid you must join your friends," said the Saint.—London Labor Leader.

MR. GRUMBLES'S COMPLIMENT.

There was a worried look on the grocer's face as he rushed hither down the street and ran up the steps of Acadia Villa.

"I'm sorry to say there's been a slight mistake, Mr. Grumble," he panted. "You ordered two pounds of oatmeal yesterday, and by mistake my apprentice put up some sawdust that our grapes came packed in."

"Oh," replied the lady; "then I reckon my husband must 'ave got through about 'arf a pound of 'ood for breakfast!'"