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VOL. X.—NO. 1.

A FEW SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

Socialistic Tendencies Manifesting Themselves in Many Unexpected Quarters.

A Prominent Bryanite Politician of Brooklyn Publicly Withdraws from the Democratic Party—His Explanation Points to the Truth of Socialism—A Remarkable Speech by Governor Lee, of South Dakota—Socialism No Longer Denied, but Candidly Examined.

The advance in public opinion regarding the principles of Socialism has been marked and rapid in the ten years last past. Ten years ago, Socialism was the monopoly of the Socialists. It was a book or magazine that spoke of Socialism, and if a reference was made to the theory or its supporters, it was couched in words of derision, and opposition was more or less hostile. Within the last five years both apathy and opposition have been mitigated. The standard magazine led the way, and now one can scarcely peruse a periodical without finding articles considering the questions formerly dealt with only in the books and periodicals issued in the interest of the Socialist movement. The questions in national economics and politics that were formerly discussed from a purely partisan or immediate expedient standpoint, are now considered in a broader and a deeper manner. Behind the calculations of all men whose opinions occupy the public mind upon important questions, is found evidence that the Socialist theory (and the probability, the possibility or the sureness of its realization) is considered no small factor in the conclusions put forth.

Not only is this true in regard to the printed opinions of the men of thought and knowledge in this country, but some of those who occupy positions of vantage in society are finding themselves unable to stem the tide of Socialist thought, and are driven sometimes reluctantly, sometimes with joy, to endorse and uphold the doctrines of collectivism.

The symptoms of this development were first found in the ranks of scientists. Then a few Christian preachers joined in the work. And recent events being testimony that the breaking away from old methods in thought and teachings of morality are to be followed by the adoption of the Socialist principle as a basis for action by men high in political life and activity.

When the revolt occurred some months ago in the ranks of the Democracy against the \$10-a-plate dinner spread for themselves by the magnates in New York, the indignation of the \$1-a-plate dinner in Brooklyn, which was attended by W. J. Bryan and those who were content to call him leader. E. V. Brewster was foremost in arranging the Brooklyn banquet. He has persistently supported Mr. Bryan by pen and tongue on all occasions. He has held Bryan up as the model orator and the ideal politician. But all this is changed now. Mr. Brewster's eyes have been touched with the light, and he has left the ranks of the Democracy.

In a letter dated March 17, directed to W. J. Bryan, he says, in part: "My Dear Mr. Bryan:—
"My Dear Mr. Bryan:—
"I am constrained to inform you that I can no longer consistently support the Democratic party nor myself for its leader, as long as you continue to retain the present well known position on public questions."
"I have always maintained that you are to-day the one great agitator and orator in the public eye. I have written a recent magazine article which showed by facts and figures how you could and should be elected. But in the past few months strange and unforeseen conditions have been forcing me to alter my position. . . . I think that there are thousands of aforesaid who will remain with you until the end, and I know they will still remember your name."

"How are the details to be arranged? I do not propose to go into that. No system ever had a fixed line of unchangeable details. Fit details will be supplied as the requirements of the system dictate. Details will come fast enough when the principle has been agreed to. The details of the present system are good enough. If the existing details are ever long as we do work for the whole people. Details are a matter of experience. No man could have predicted fifty years ago the details of the present business system; no man can forecast the details of a system fifty years hence. The details of a new system will be settled; a set of details which will enrich 5 per cent. of the population at the expense of the other 95 per cent., ought to be put to work in behalf of the great masses as speedily as possible. There is only one question involved: Shall the best of God and the legitimacy of man be monopolized for the benefit of a constantly narrowing column of plutocrats, or shall those blessings be appropriated to the use of the whole people? When this question is answered in the affirmative, the details of our new life will adjust themselves to harmonize with the principle of equity upon which the system is built."

"These propositions are met with the rejoinder that 'this is Socialism.' That does not disprove, but rather confirms its truth. The truth is Socialistic. It is private life and the legitimacy of man be monopolized for the benefit of a constantly narrowing column of plutocrats, or shall those blessings be appropriated to the use of the whole people? When this question is answered in the affirmative, the details of our new life will adjust themselves to harmonize with the principle of equity upon which the system is built."

ORGANIZATION.

The Work of the Joint Committee on Socialism.

CARRIED ON IN A COMRADESHIP.

Three Days Devoted to the Work—Solidarity—Fellowship and Comradeship.

The Unity Committee of the National Labor Party and the Social Democratic Party convened at the Lyceum, 64 E. 4th street, New York City, at 10:30 a. m., Sunday, March 23, 1900.

The delegates elected by the Boston (B. L. P.) convention were: J. M. H. Barnes, Philadelphia; G. B. Benham, San Francisco; C. E. Fenner, Worcester, Mass.; M. Hayes, Cleveland, O.; J. H. Harriman, Los Angeles, Cal.; Morris Hillquit, New York City; N. I. Stone, New York City; F. J. Steverman, of Hoboken, N. Y., and W. E. White, New Haven, Conn.

The delegates elected by the Indianapolis (S. D. P.) convention were: Wm. Butcher, Brooklyn, N. Y.; John C. Chas. Milwaukee, Wis.; James Chas. Haverhill, Mass.; Jas. F. C. Haverhill, Mass.; Margaret Healy, Roxbury, Mass.; Frederic Heath, Milwaukee, Wis.; G. A. Hoehn, St. Louis, Mo.; W. P. Lomergan, Rockville, Conn.; Seymour Stedman, Chicago, Ill.; Victor Berger did not attend.

Job Harriman was elected chairman. John C. Chas., vice-chairman for the committee. Margaret Healy was secretary for the S. D. P. delegation, and N. I. Stone secretary for the S. L. P. delegation.

After a short preliminary discussion it was decided to take up the matter of importance, and after their consideration, to take a vote upon the best arrangement for the holding of a convention of unity upon national terms.

The subjects were taken up in the following order: Name, constitution, party, and platform.

Upon strictly party lines, the Hoehn opened the debate with brief argument for the name, Social Democratic Party, pointing to its prestige in Germany and the victories already won by the party under that name in the United States during the past eighteen months.

Benham presented an argument against the name. Attention was called to the fact that the name was meaningless from the Socialist standpoint; that the name was misleading, and that the name lost its significance when translated into English. Definitions were given and it was shown that the Socialist conventions in the United States in 1877 and 1884, although composed almost entirely of Germans, had discarded the name as inappropriate for a political party in this country. The prospect of a party in this country, by the Democratic Party in any or all States was, in addition to many other objections, alluded to in this statement made in opposition to the name.

Nearly all the delegates took part in this discussion, and many interesting facts were developed, although the chief arguments in favor of the name were made on its behalf because of the hold it had made upon the people and the success that had attended its career in this country. Margaret Healy carried in this country, the word "Socialism" from an etymological standpoint, and man, Butcher, and Chas. particularly desired the name Social Democratic Party. Carey did not particularly like the name, but declared its necessity for the present campaign.

NEW YORK, 1900.

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ADOPTED. Halle and Stedman only abstained.

Julius Geber, organizer of Section Greater New York, announced that New York desired to entertain the delegates. When the committee adjourned at 7:30 they proceeded to the dining-room, where substantial refreshments and speakings were indulged in. Comrade Lissauer, of New York, was toastmaster and received the guests with an eloquent address, and commenting favorably upon the work of the Rochester and Indianapolis conventions and that of the conference committee. Chas. Harriman, Hayes, Carey, Steverman, Hillquit, Stedman, Galle, Benham, and Barnes spoke. All the speakers were met with manifestations of great delight whenever the subject and sureness of unity of the Socialist forces were touched upon. This mark of hospitality is one of many evidences of the splendid movement in New York.

MONDAY MORNING.

Committee met 9:30 a. m., Monday, March 26.

Chas. speaking for S. D. P. delegation, said that after full consideration, it was decided that in the interests of the movement two names be submitted to the referendum. This statement was received with manifestations of satisfaction by the S. L. P. delegation.

The matter of the National Executive Committee was now taken up. Stedman desired a national council of two members from each State, this council to select a national executive committee, and proposed Chicago as the seat of the committee.

Benham stated that accessibility to membership and expense of meeting should be considered. That no one city should select, nor could the National Executive Committee be brought from localities; long distances apart. By selecting a city within reach of Massachusetts and New York all good results could be obtained, advanced New Haven as the seat and that a provisional committee of 14 be elected, 6 from New York, 2 from Connecticut, and 6 from Massachusetts, half the delegation of each State to come from each party as now constituted. A discussion of considerable length now took place on seat of National Executive Committee. Carey presented the name of Springfield as the seat of the National Executive Committee. Hayes and Steverman spoke for New York City. Hoehn advocated Cleveland. Halle advocated Chicago. One name in favor of the latter.

It was decided that it was to be the home of the party, and would like to be in Chicago. The Executive Committee was organized.

Constitution was taken up. Boards of appeals abolished; Word local to be used instead of either branch or section; now used in the parties' organization. Committees shall form State, National Council to meet yearly. On motion of Hoehn, a new system of dues adopted, and many other alterations, changes and abbreviations made, both S. L. P. and S. D. P. constitutions being considered.

Party press taken up. Carey proposed two party organs, one for official news, one for propaganda. Hoehn saw impracticability. Benham wanted National Executive reports and other official matters furnished to any paper that wanted them. Stedman declared that in the open field the S. D. "Herald" could not exist, as it had been used as a propaganda sheet and sent to every party member. It was finally decided to have the United Party pay any deficit on the S. D. "Herald" not exceeding \$50 per week for six months following the election of the party. Hoehn proposed that the National Executive report and other official matters furnished to any paper that wanted them. Stedman declared that in the open field the S. D. "Herald" could not exist, as it had been used as a propaganda sheet and sent to every party member. It was finally decided to have the United Party pay any deficit on the S. D. "Herald" not exceeding \$50 per week for six months following the election of the party.

Provisional Executive Committee authorized to make proper arrangements for organization in American colonies.

The S. D. P.'s voluntary offering to submit two names was an evidence of their sincerity in union and confidence in the membership. The S. L. P. also signified the proper spirit when it decided to stand by the choice of the S. D. P. as to the seat of National Executive Committee.

It was a conference that will have a great historical significance and one that not only reflects credit upon the organizations represented, but upon the rising Socialist movement of the United States. The proceedings of the conference were carried out with dignity and precision. No actions, except those that they believed to be for the good of the movement were performed by those members who sat through its sessions.

FROM STRANGE QUARTERS.

Come Tardy Words of Sympathy for the Idaho Miners and of Doubtful Warning for Other Workers.

The New York "Evening Journal" Tells Some Plain Truths and Makes Some Astonishing Comments in Regard to the Struggle of the Miners in the Cour d'Alene—What Are We to Think?—Half Truths or Whole Lies. Which Are the Worse?

From a very strange quarter comes the following editorial upon the outrages perpetrated by the mine owners and the government authorities in the Cour d'Alene district of Idaho. The article is worthy of careful reading; and it is worthy, moreover, of the champion the cause of the working class and help it to strike a blow for the future would prevent a free press so valuable an ally—even at the expense of having to read through some pages of sickening slush daily served up by the "Journal" in order to find the morsel of courage and truth.

But we do not and we cannot believe this. The whole conduct of the "Journal" is prompted by self-interest and a desire to be always in the position of the "strong" article which we have summarized in the "Journal" really wanted to champion the cause of the working class and help it to strike a blow for the future would prevent a free press so valuable an ally—even at the expense of having to read through some pages of sickening slush daily served up by the "Journal" in order to find the morsel of courage and truth.

There are some very plain truths told in the article—as that "a mine owner can always hire government officials and the army, while strikers cannot." That is very true. But what is the inference? Where is the remedy? Again, the editorial remarks about the way in which workmen "will continue to vote for their enemies, are very true and very pertinent. But what is the reason? And what is to be done?"

"Think, if you know how." Good. But the "Journal" never helps its readers to think right. "Kick anyhow." But the "Journal's" style of aimless ticking is as likely to hurt friends as foes. But, after all, what does the whole article come to? A just and vigorous denunciation of McKinley, for something—which is quite right. But for the rest, a careful avoidance of the fact, which ought to have gone hand in hand with the attack on McKinley, that Stuenkelberg, Thomas, Lomergan, and McKinley's partner in crime were in fact, more directly concerned even than McKinley himself.

When the election approaches, where will the "Journal" be found? Will it then repeat the true things it has here said about the Socialist vote? Will it advise its readers to vote for the candidates of the Democratic party, as men who are in fact, more directly concerned even than McKinley himself.

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THE PEOPLE

Official Organ of the Socialist Labor Party PUBLISHED WEEKLY At 184 William Street, New York.

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Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post Office on April 6, 1891.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES. In 1888 (Presidential) . . . 2,068 In 1890 . . . 13,331 In 1892 (Presidential) . . . 21,157 In 1894 . . . 33,133 In 1896 (Presidential) . . . 35,564 In 1898 . . . 82,204

THE MAY DAY NUMBER.

The issue of The People for Sunday, April 29, will be a special May Day Number. It will be of double size—eight large pages instead of four.

Now is the time of all times for the active propaganda of Socialism. Presidential, congressional, state, and local elections are in sight.

This passage, with some that follows it, have a peculiar significance for us in America to-day.

The Socialist parties in this country are to-day on the verge of union. The union is certain to be accomplished, if not in one form, then in another.

The iron is hot. Let a giant blow be delivered at the end of this month, by the holding of mass meetings, demonstrations, parades, festivals, under the red flag of the Socialist Party.

While the May Day Number is to be double the ordinary size, the price will not be increased.

THE "DAILY BOGUS" AND THE "DECENT ELEMENTS."

The "boss" perpetrated a fresh job upon his confiding readers last week in the shape of a picture of the "new press" that he claims to have bought for the publication of the "Daily Bogus."

Another feature of this number of the "Bogus" is worthy of comment. The "boss" writes a long editorial upon the persecutions which Tammany is inflicting upon him and winds it up with a fervid and significantly worded appeal.

Let it be remembered that the Republicans, just at present, not being in power and having no chance at the official stealings, are very loud in their denunciations of the Democratic rule, which they describe, rightly enough, as "Organized Crime."

Organized Crime means the Democratic party and very rightly. "All decent elements in the community" means the Republican party—and very wrongly.

Well, just when these phrases are being dished in every one's ears, along comes this same disappointed "boss" and appeals to his followers, "together with all decent elements in the community" (as the worded picture), to elect

him to say, and exactly the proper phraseology for him to use, seeing that he has long maintained suspicious relations with the Republican machine, and that those relations seem to be growing closer every day.

"SIGNS OF THE TIMES." In Engels' remarkable introduction to his book, "Socialism, Utopian and Scientific," there occurs this passage, explaining the purpose of the book:

"The present little book is originally a part of a larger whole. About 1875, Dr. E. Dühring, 'privat-docent' at Berlin University, suddenly and rather clamorously announced his conversion to Socialism, and presented the German public, not only with an elaborate Socialist theory, but also with a complete practical plan for the reorganization of society.

"This took place about the time when the two sections of the Socialist Party in Germany—the Eisenachers and Lasswellers—had just parted their fusion, and this obtained, not only an increase of strength, but, what was more, the faculty of employing the whole of their strength against the common enemy.

"The development of industrial conditions and the natural progress of the labor movement are bringing larger and larger numbers of workmen and also members of the middle class nearer to Socialism, and must very soon bring a large part of them into the Socialist Party.

The Socialist Party is soon to "become a power," a recognized power, in American politics. It behoves us, as to-be-honored, common sense—twenty-five years ago, to see to it both that our united party shall not go astray in quest of recruits, and that no new, crude and half-developed party shall be allowed to arise.

In an article printed upon the first page of this issue, under the heading, "A Few Signs of the Times," attention is called to the fact that many elements hitherto hostile to us show some indications of throwing in their lot with ours.

Now these "signs of the times" cannot but encourage us; at the same time they should give rise to careful consideration on our part. The situation is full of opportunity for us; it is also full of danger. It is for us to use the opportunity, it is not necessary to speak further.

When, owing to some rapid change in social conditions or to the sudden realization of those changes, large numbers of new recruits come into a heretofore small but clearly defined revolutionary movement, there is a great danger that these new converts, generally less clear in their ideas, and always less amenable to revolutionary party discipline, may commit the party to some unwise action.

We cannot refuse to receive those recruits. We do not wish to do so. We welcome them gladly. We wish they were more numerous and that they had come earlier. But in the very sincerity of our welcome to them there may lurk a danger.

The most marked danger of all is the tendency of those now in the movement to regard the getting of Socialist votes as the highest immediate aim of the Party. This is a false and pernicious view. We want votes, indeed. We are a political party; and, as such, we nominate candidates and try to poll a large vote for them.

Especially in America it is difficult to establish this idea. Immediate victory at the polls is likely to be the American criterion of party success.

educate and to discipline them as we have been educated and disciplined. There is also the danger that certain elements only half understanding the truths of Socialism, may leave the old parties without joining us; may set up a new, semi-socialist party. Such an event would be most unfortunate.

To avoid this danger, it is necessary that we should always evince a spirit of fraternity, of sympathy, of that sort of toleration which does not mean compromise, toward those who are tending toward us. We must treat them with due respect, as agreeing with us in part, and in part honestly differing.

"THE SAPHO" CASE. So Olga Netherless has been indicted by the grand jury, here in New York, for presenting a play, Dando's "Sapho," which is alleged to be an offense against public decency.

It is not necessary, however, to insist upon the "yellowness" of the moralizers, nor more than barely to refer to the malodorous personal character of some of the individuals engaged in the crusade.

What is the result of the attempt to suppress such plays as "Sapho," such books as the "Kreutzer Sonata" and Zola's works, such objects of art as the Helne monument or the "Advent of Spring"?

The "World" frankly declared that the first result of its attack upon "Sapho" was an immense demand for the book on which the play is founded.

But if the suppression crusade is effected—if such plays and books could be effectively suppressed—what then does any one suppose that ignorance is better than knowledge? Does a one really suppose that ignorance is innocence are the same? Does any one suppose that right judgments can be founded on anything else than knowledge? Does any one suppose that knowledge can be gained in any other way than by free observation and discussion? Finally, does any one suppose that to silence a word destroys the thing that the word denotes?

To every question, the only answer is "no." If the Comstocks and the low journals and the prudish mamms and parsons of good society could succeed in stifling the freedom of art as of discussion in these matters they would do an even worse work than if they actually do.

Comrade Frank Mueller, of Oneida N. Y., sends in 44 subscriptions for The People. Comrade Charles Drees, Philadelphia, will have to keep a close watch on his laurels lest they be snatched away.

In next week's issue of The People will appear an article by the author of the "Sapho" case.

ever observe this thing about the capitalist corporations are almost always the pre-conditions? The Standard Oil and the Whitney-Brady carried on a "war" in the New York lighting business. Presto! The Third Avenue and Metropolitan Street Railway companies were "enemies."

Comrade Long, at the Cooper Union, gave a few tremendous blows on this line the other night by referring to an old luminate lady, one of our system, who, though believing herself to be dead, is yet competent to rope in an immense annual income from our incomparable system of unproduced results, and unrewarded prodigious, causeless effects and effectlessness causes.

Working with unparegued crimes in Kentucky, having poisoned the political atmosphere of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Montana, and elsewhere with bribery and debauchery, the Republican party still has the effrontery to continue the role of moral reformer in New York, toward her twin sister in all opportunity, the Democracy of Tammany.

But society cannot stop there. Without confessing the very reason of its prudery, it cannot make a distinction between the portrayal of unhealthy and of healthy human life in regard to the relations of the sexes.

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Does any one still believe that large fortunes are the product of intelligence, industry, or any thing in the nature of human worthiness? If so, let that one take a week off and spend it in some of the surrogate or appeal courts, where the wills of our millionaire bread-masters are in litigation.

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MOSQUITO BITES.

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But if the suppression crusade is effected—if such plays and books could be effectively suppressed—what then does any one suppose that ignorance is better than knowledge? Does a one really suppose that ignorance is innocence are the same? Does any one suppose that right judgments can be founded on anything else than knowledge? Does any one suppose that knowledge can be gained in any other way than by free observation and discussion? Finally, does any one suppose that to silence a word destroys the thing that the word denotes?

To every question, the only answer is "no." If the Comstocks and the low journals and the prudish mamms and parsons of good society could succeed in stifling the freedom of art as of discussion in these matters they would do an even worse work than if they actually do.

Comrade Frank Mueller, of Oneida N. Y., sends in 44 subscriptions for The People. Comrade Charles Drees, Philadelphia, will have to keep a close watch on his laurels lest they be snatched away.

In next week's issue of The People will appear an article by the author of the "Sapho" case.

What are business men to do? The principle of competitive profit-making is so false and ferocious that its success, tremble on account of the treachery, deceit and unfaithfulness fostered around them by their own business methods.

Comrade Long, at the Cooper Union, gave a few tremendous blows on this line the other night by referring to an old luminate lady, one of our system, who, though believing herself to be dead, is yet competent to rope in an immense annual income from our incomparable system of unproduced results, and unrewarded prodigious, causeless effects and effectlessness causes.

Working with unparegued crimes in Kentucky, having poisoned the political atmosphere of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Montana, and elsewhere with bribery and debauchery, the Republican party still has the effrontery to continue the role of moral reformer in New York, toward her twin sister in all opportunity, the Democracy of Tammany.

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of principle does now, and reasons like Aristotle or Plato like Cicero, what does it amount to—adds perhaps a little to the pliancy of the evening's program—of brass tubes, but whether angos or devils speak what matters? We know what the vote will be—a strictly party vote—"a gold vote." The young maiden liberty which appears so pretty in statuary is bespoken; she is engaged.

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REVIEWS.

THE TRUST QUESTION.

TO WHAT ARE TRUSTS LEADING? By James R. Smiley, Chicago, 1900. Pp. 64. Price, 15 cents. Sold by the Socialist Literature Co., 64 E. Pearl Street, New York.

This pamphlet of sixty-four pages is the best popular presentation of the Socialist attitude on the much-discussed subject of trusts that has as yet appeared. Yet it is far from being the best that could be written by a Socialist. The author seems to have succumbed to the wealth of information he had, and as a consequence the treatment is not systematic, the topics are not arranged in consecutive order and a good deal of matter has been put in which could easily have been spared without any loss to the reader, giving place to more relevant information.

No doubt the only scientific point of view to take in treating the question of trusts is that of evolution. In fact, the Socialists were among the first, if not the very first, to take that position. This the author has attempted to do, but not very successfully. To do justice to such a subject within the space of a pamphlet, one should confine himself strictly to the question at issue, making no more digressions than are absolutely necessary. This our author has not kept in mind.

In the various subdivisions of the pamphlets we are taken repeatedly back to the primitive stage of our savage ancestors with the result that on account of lack of space the whole intervening span of human history has to be hurried over in the space of a page or two, hardly leaving a clear conception in the mind of the reader who is unfamiliar with that part of the history of mankind, and only diverting his attention from the subject proper.

The reader would have been far better off had Mr. Smiley given us a sketch of the economic evolution during the last few decades and shown, with the aid of facts and figures, the necessity for the development of the question go untouched. Instead of that he has chosen the method of arguing, of comparing the methods of co-operation and competition, of drawing analogies between the social and plant life, etc. While such arguments may prove convincing to some, and at least the ingenuity and common sense of their author, they show that he has not quite shaken off the ways of the social Utopian who thinks that arguments and analogies can change a social order.

Another point which the author has failed to bring out is the question of how the interests of the working class are affected by this whole development. A work written by a Socialist cannot very well afford to let that side of the question go untouched. Instead, the author has treated the whole question largely from the consumer's standpoint. Some twenty odd pages of the pamphlet give a good deal of useful statistical information in connection with the latest industrial development. This is one of the best features of this interesting pamphlet, which, in spite of all the "dots of omission" enumerated here, is generally sound as far as it goes, and deserves to be put into the hands of non-Socialists as a counterpoise to the silly stuff dished out by the "trust-slinging" political demagogues and their organs.

N. I. STONE.

When we are all "reformed" in New York, by those hapless Johns who emerge from the political wilderness just before every election, who will reform the reform John? In the name of law and order, these people display more rebellion and savor more contempt for public authority during one season of partisan righteousness than the Chicago anarchists ever thought of. The good newspapers are now teeming with unmerciful, reckless, and slanderous speech against the police and all the authority of New York's city government. In the name of righteousness, the reformers have formed a Sunday School of hatred and anarchy. They now show such needs as partitions running in whirlwinds of crime and shame as their toll. But behind and within is slowly rising, brick for brick and tier for tier, the veiled commonwealth of the builders themselves; who, though it be at her bidding, are building now more wisely than they know. These slabs and plaster shall fall like the walls of Jericho, and when the dust is abated the successor of capitalism shall appear a finished structure—the Socialist Commonwealth.

Professors Herron and Gates, who have been guilty of teaching Christianity at Grinnell College, Iowa, are ousted by the strong pagan sentiment prevailing in the board of management. They raised their voices in behalf of Justice, and rose up and stoned them. One more step, gentlemen professors; and let it be into class-conscious Socialism.

"There is a Society for the Suppression of Vice," writes Mr. Comstock, "but it is unfortunate that there is also a Society for the Prevention of Crime"; with the result, still further complains Mr. C., that the latter has got hold of a two hundred thousand dollar bequest intended for the former. If Mr. Comstock could only suppress the "prevention of crime" and get those dollars, or if the other fellows could only prevent "the suppression of vice" from being remembered in any more wills, vice would be suppressed and crime prevented in well printed annual reports until the day of reckoning with Socialism.

Workshippers of the yellow calf are looking forward to the greatest thing ideology has experienced since her first pan-capitalistic pilgrimage to London in 1852. The patriots, the sword-fighters, the pen-fighters, and the tongue-fighters of the world will forget their "anti" views, their local hostilities, and will blend together for mutual admiration and pocket-picking in one bright yellow at the Paris Exposition. There will be more unconscious Socialism, achieved and potential, at that one show, despite the intentions of its promoters, than was ever seen before in one place since men began to devour one another. Will you be there? If not, why not? Wouldn't you like to go? As an American, you have an inalienable right to pursue your happiness over there on that occasion. Ah, "you will be working in the coal mine, or maybe on strike." No accounting for tastes. People find happiness in various ways. Let us try to appear satisfied, or we may lose our jobs.

As long as the cause of political liberty continues to be the romantic fetish element of public life, we will continue to have their ambitions greedily followed by a better ordered slavery of labor. When this war is over it will be found that about everything has been destroyed but the gold mines and the bondholders. The romance of the war shall pass away, the grass shall smile green over thousands of the graves of the dead, romantically slain. But these gold mines, the ever open graves of the world's

James Walsh, who has been suing the Cornell Injuries for damages on account of injuries received through a defective derrick of theirs, has been non-suited by the learned Judge O'Brien, of the Appellate Court, because, though the plaintiff proved that an accident had happened, and also the way it happened, he had not proved WHY it happened. James Walsh was hit on the head; proven. This thing hit him on the head; proven. But J. W. not having proved WHY the said what-you-call-it hit him on the head, and wherefore he had a head there and then on the premises aforesaid, the case is dismissed. This is a court logic for laborers. When will laborers begin to reason for themselves?

The Marquis of Aurelia Hanna is not to be left alone at Washington; many other eminent specialists in the industry of corrupting legislatures are taking their seats beside him now, and many more are coming. When a legislature begins to condone these crimes against itself, the need of further indulgence in the intemperate use of money at election time grows upon it like the drinking habit, and it soon begins to blink in the morning itself. Bribery, militarism, imperialism, it seems as if the history of the Roman republic were written for us to shiver over. What a mindless, soulless dogmatism the parliaments and congresses of capitalist nations become. Re-fusing the semblance of deliberative assemblies, going through all the make-believe of reasoning and debating their way to a decision and a vote, they are in fact merely automatic assemblies sent there to record the will of the gold masters. Instead of Hon. Gentlemen in their places, it were just as well to have the Senator James

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