

The Worker.

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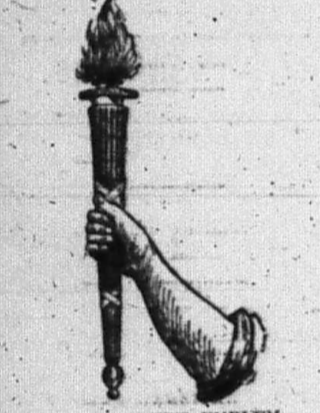
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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist vote in the United States from 1888 to 1900. Includes columns for Year, Presidential, and Total votes.

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THE PARTY'S EMBLEM.

TO NEW READERS.

This issue of The Worker will fall into the hands of a large number of workmen who have never seen the paper before. To each of these we say: Give the paper a careful and candid reading.

WHY DON'T THE MEMBERS OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD SET WORKINGMEN AN EXAMPLE BY NOT HOLDING MEETINGS ON SUNDAY?

Since McKinley has declined a third term, the millions of American citizens who "have a chance to be president" can breathe freely again.

WHY DON'T THE MEMBERS OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD SET WORKINGMEN AN EXAMPLE BY NOT HOLDING MEETINGS ON SUNDAY?

When the capitalists endow universities they are only providing means to have the question, "Does a College-Baccalaureate Pay?" settled in their favor.

WHY DON'T THE MEMBERS OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD SET WORKINGMEN AN EXAMPLE BY NOT HOLDING MEETINGS ON SUNDAY?

Constitution or no constitution, the working people of the colonies will be forced anyway—only the capitalist politicians are choosing the easiest way to do the forcing.

WHY DON'T THE MEMBERS OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD SET WORKINGMEN AN EXAMPLE BY NOT HOLDING MEETINGS ON SUNDAY?

The New York "Journal" is mainly tainting its reputation for generally discussing things of which it knows nothing by writing editorials upon "news-paper news."

mean and Democratic judges would probably get over that difficulty. But Socialists are against it, constitutional or not.

The nearer the municipal election comes the further away from the question of vice wanders the mind of the reformer, and the closer it draws to the question of spoils.

The capitalist press of New York apparently act upon the theory that the only "news fit to print" about Socialists concerns nobody, but individual Socialists themselves.

There is no danger or taint in anti-monopoly laws while private ownership of monopoly is left untouched. That's why the monopolists in many cases are also anti-monopolists.

If appearances are not deceitful, Mr. W. J. Bryan of Nebraska will soon be running Hon. Sam Jones of Toledo a hot race for the dubious distinction of being "a man without a party."

The people who assert that there are no classes in America might explain how it is that while a comparatively few people can go to the seashore and mountains for the summer, the great majority are compelled to stay in the city.

Rev. Banks, who has the effrontery to call Comrade Geo. D. Herron a tramp, was a resident of Cleveland during the street car strike two years ago, and actively assisted the company in breaking the strike. A correspondent says that Mr. Banks made tramps of many strikers and helped break up many homes. Altogether, it certainly looks as if Comrade Herron can be proud of the enemies he has made.

President Cutting of the Citizens' Union is a great practical reformer. He wants to "give the East Side the moral equivalent of fresh air and pure food." This is good. It would cost something to give them the real thing. But "moral equivalents" are cheap. Are women starving in the "swamplands"? The Citizens' Union will feed them with "moral equivalents." Are workmen's babies stifling in the tenements? The Citizens' Union will fan their fevered cheeks with cool breezes of "moral equivalents." What more do you want?

Another nice disaster! Every day comes fresh news of some new holocaust. This time it is in Port Royal, Pa., and nearly thirty lives are lost. What an old story it is to be sure! It has become so frequent that few pay more than passing attention to it. And yet each disaster means suffering and privation for women and children left behind, and each disaster could be avoided with proper precautions. But profits count for more than human life, and the welfare and happiness of working people weigh for little against the luxuries and bank accounts of a small class.

BREAKING UP THE HOMES.

In reply to the charge that Socialists seek to break up the home, we have repeatedly asserted that the present system of private ownership is breaking up the home faster than Socialists could desire it. This statement is borne out by no less an authority than the New York "World," than which a stancher supporter of capitalism does not exist. The "World" states that the divorce granted in all other civilized countries put together do not equal the number granted in the United States, while our population is growing at the rate of 23 per cent. per annum, the number of divorced persons is increasing at the rate of nearly 70 per cent. per annum.

These figures vividly reflect the terrible conditions that prevail in modern society. In the face of them, what must be the mental and moral standard of those who proclaim that the existing family life is the basis of civilization, and that a change in the economic system of society would destroy the sacredness of that family life? There can be no certainty, no peace, no security in the homes of the people while their livelihood is uncertain, while they are haunted by fear of ruin and beggary, while the satisfaction of social wants is the plaything of economic insecurity. The struggle for existence, with its incident, social failures and thwarted ambitions, fosters distrust and jealousy, breeds jealousy and betrayal, and makes love an outcast and beggar upon the human highway. Economic conditions dictate marriages in the majority of instances and from the beginning these are already spiritually and morally failures.

The true basis for a permanent family life will be found in a just and rational industrial system where all men and women will be assured of the opportunity to live their own lives as reason and love may dictate. There can be no nobler task for men and women who love their kind to undertake and follow than the establishment of such a system. And the task should be the nobler and more inspiring knowledge that against us are massed the forces whose existence depends upon the perpetuation of a system that drives love and kindness and sweet

charitableness from the hearts of human kind. Every one who cullies under the banner of the Social Democratic Party becomes one in a world wide crusade against the existing system of lovelessness, immorality, and hypocrisy. Every one who joins in this crusade clasps hands with a universal army of workers and thinkers whose every heart throbs is committed to the coming of Socialism. We are calling for recruits. Every recruit gained is one more added to the great roll of world emancipators.

The "Journal" and the "World" are fond of posing as "friends of labor." Here is an example of their friendship. Last week a ladies' waist manufacturer named Goldsmith arbitrarily locked out the girls who had been working and making profits for him for years, because they got tired of submitting to petty tyranny and insult. The "Journal" and the "World" showed their friendship for labor—the former by disfavoring the other by suppressing the news of the lockout, and both by printing for Mr. Goldsmith an advertisement for seals to take the places of the locked-out girls.

Next fall these papers will tell their working-class readers which capitalist candidates they should vote for. Will the workmen voters take their advice?

A happy omen for the outcome of the Indianapolis convention may be drawn from the frantic endeavors of Mr. DeLeon's paper to sow the seeds of mutual suspicion among Social Democrats by the publication of imaginary conversations alleged to have been overheard by the ever-watchful "Cissie" McDonald. Nothing would please DeLeon better than to see the convention fall to effect through organic unity. But his plan for cultivating discussion is altogether too transparent. It will not work. The would-be dictator may as well resign himself to his fate—to be leader of an insignificant sect instead of foremost fighter in a self-controlled and advancing party.

New York is not the only city afflicted with wrong-headed "moral crusades." Albany is suffering from the same sort of outbreak just now and the latest symptom is the issuance of an order instructing the police to stop children dancing to the tunes ground out on hand organs in the street. The order is inspired by the so-called Human Society. The idea of all these hypocritical reformers of the species represented by Comstock and Gerry seems to be that the pleasures of the poor are necessarily immoral and must be suppressed. If you suggest that they turn their attention to abolishing the exploitation of labor—which allows the workmen's children no playground except the streets, they hold up their hands in horror and say you are attacking the foundations of society.

A PROPOSED CAPITALIST BOYCOTT.

The company engaged in building "model tenements" reports a handsome dividend after interests, taxes, and all other charges are accounted for. The company is quoted as being philanthropic and practical, too. All very well, but it should be remembered that the company's success is based upon the fact that there are bad tenements. There is a demand for model tenements because there is an excess of bad ones. Should the latter be rare instead of plenty there would be no demand for "model tenements." So these gentlemen are reaping a good dividend from their philanthropy because the operators of public morals is as hypocritical and inconsistent as are all the pretensions of the corrupt and servile defenders and beneficiaries of the present system.

The most striking feature of the whole affair is the manifestation of the close alliance existing between the various newspapers and magazines, which apparently differ in interests, views and methods upon other occasions. We see the "Journal," yellowest of yellow journals, a Democratic deceitful purveyor of "radicalism," working in harmony with the "Sun," the bitterest and most consciousness supporter of capitalism in the metropolis, notorious as a "scab" Republican sheet and defender of all that makes against progress for humanity. Then we have such weeklies as "The Outlook," among representatives of all that is irreligious in harmony with the "Sun," the bitterest and most consciousness supporter of capitalism in the metropolis, notorious as a "scab" Republican sheet and defender of all that makes against progress for humanity. Then we have such weeklies as "The Outlook," among representatives of all that is irreligious in harmony with the "Sun," the bitterest and most consciousness supporter of capitalism in the metropolis, notorious as a "scab" Republican sheet and defender of all that makes against progress for humanity.

Whenever the workers are the recipients of so-called privileges gratuitously granted by their employers, it may be depended upon that the employers expect the workers to yield something in return. This something is not profits alone, but invariably the workers' manhood. The employers provide both tube, curling irons, or free towels and demand in return that the workers shall waive their independence, their right to organize into trade unions and to conduct their own affairs. In short, while the employers are trying to hide the class struggle by attempting to belive the workers with "concessions," they are demanding the abandonment of that which empowers the existence of a class struggle, i. e., the organization of the workers into class organizations. The interests of the capitalist class and working class are not identical, and any concessions granted by one to another must inevitably result in injury to one or both. The class struggle permits of no compromise.

The imperialists already have their eye on another country to be "beneficially assimilated." There is beginning to be open talk of the necessity of "interference" by the United States in Mexico, where President Diaz shall cease to rule—an event which is likely to come only with his death. American

found in an article in "The Outlook" itself. Commenting in the usual strain upon Comrade Herron's marriage—a marriage morally and legally correct—it closes by saying: "The only penalty upon an offender can be made to feel is empty audience rooms and unmarketable books, and we trust that the American public will visit this penalty on Dr. Herron."

In those few words is laid bare the full animus of the attack upon Comrade Herron. It is not his supposed "sin" that frightens the slavish gophers of his detractors—it is the message he brings in the written and spoken word that causes fear and alarm among the enemies of the exploited working class. If Comrade Herron could be ostracized by the public, if those he wishes to reach and rouse to a proper realization of the monstrous conditions existing to-day could be induced to turn away from him with eyes and ears closed to righteousness and reason then his detractors would rest well satisfied.

But these sages know neither the time nor the people. Comrade Herron will be heard, and the people will listen because the time for him, and such as he, to speak and be heard is now. The people can no more be prevented from hearing the truth of Socialism than can the persecution of Comrade Herron prevent him from speaking it. And his vindication must as surely follow after as "it is inevitable" that Socialism will triumph against all the obstacles, great and small, that may be thrust in its pathway toward victory.

The newspapers are being deluged with letters complaining about the manner in which the street car system of the city is operated. Some people will apparently never learn that if it is right for private corporations to own the transit system, then it is only the business of these corporations to say how they should operate the roads. Ownership concedes operation. The rights of private property are superior to the rights of society, because the people themselves have said so. Suffering patrons of the roads will have to grin and bear it—which is what the transit companies expect them to do. The directors of the roads do not have to ride in open or crowded cars.

The United Traction Company of Troy and Albany has already begun discharging the men who were active in the late strike and against whom it promised not to discriminate. "The moral of this is: Never believe that a capitalist intends to keep any promise that he makes to workmen. The trade unions are proposing to retaliate by boycotting the street cars. We have our doubts whether that will have much effect on the U. T. Co. It will do much more good if they boycott the capitalist class next November by voting for the Social Democratic Party.

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THE JOY OF THE BATTLE.

BY GEORGE D. HERRON.

I feel the joy of the battle in my soul. It is the battle of the sons of slaves for the land where all are free and equal—the land of comrade-labor and ransomed love. It is the battle of the common workers and poets of the commonwealth—the commonwealth that is to be the romance of the universe, yet the solid floor of fact beneath each worker's feet.

It is the battle so good that its call to death is like the bearing music of mystic silver bells, and its tragedies are as the cup of love. It is the battle so pure that it gathers its courage from the defeats of its bravest, and from the disgraces of its best spring the revolution-ecstasies that cleanse and lift the world.

From the four winds, from the forewarned and armed nations, recruits are gathering for another stand in the great battle. The gladness of revolt lifts high the arm and heart of labor. It enters the doors where over their desks bend young men, and their faces become beautiful, like the faces of strong angels. It comes into the hearts of gentle maidens, and they change into goddess-avengers of the world's disinherited.

It starts the expectancy of children in the streets, and they grow solemn with brave wonder. It blends with the songs of the birds and the blue of violets, and fills the world with the signs of the coming, spring-time of the son of man. If the universe is worth while, this battle is worth while, and by its revolution-ecstasy I am inspired to drink the sweetness of its slain.

capitalists have acquired great interests in Mexican railroads, copper and silver mines, coffee plantations, and other industries. Diaz does whatever the American profit-takers want. But in the event of his death the cry of "Mexico for the Mexicans" might be heard. Then "we" should feel called upon to fulfill our "manifest destiny" of introducing true liberty—McHanna brand-into that benighted land. As we have before remarked, the flag follows capital.

Our own Senator Beveridge of Indiana is touring Europe "investigating" industrial and political conditions. As, for instance, at Berlin one of those in the transit system, then it is only the business of these corporations to say how they should operate the roads. Ownership concedes operation. The rights of private property are superior to the rights of society, because the people themselves have said so. Suffering patrons of the roads will have to grin and bear it—which is what the transit companies expect them to do. The directors of the roads do not have to ride in open or crowded cars.

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Our Esteemed Contemporaries

(and OTHERS)

Farmer's Social Economist. I have no patient with that class of Socialists who, like sleuth hounds, are continually bounding those who have some economic idea. I am willing to let men advance. I know there are those who are class-conscious Socialists to-day, who have not always thoroughly understood the philosophy of Socialism. If these men have reached the stage in education that they have laid aside economic fads and middle class theories, I am content to let them alone and not try to create prejudice against them by hounding them about past mistakes. There was a time when the people who are continually rifting at others for their past mistakes were not Socialists and even voted for capitalist candidates, but their own past errors are never mirrored in their own minds, and they never see themselves as they see others. Such a course is not just to the men who have grown into a perfect knowledge of Socialism nor is it for the upbuilding of the true Socialist movement.

Jersey City Advertiser and Eagle. The strongest plea made by the Social Democrats is for each person to think for himself. The Socialist may be right or he may be wrong in his doctrine and plans for the reformation of existing evils, but if he can prevail on people to be men and women, to think and act after the dictates of their own common sense and conscience, rather than be governed by the example of their predecessors or associates, they will have achieved a wonderful work in the betterment of humanity.

Typographical Journal. Low wages and want are two potent causes of vice and degradation. The force of this appeals to the most superficial thinker or student of economic conditions, yet it is disputed by some men of wealth and professed religion and disregarded by many who should recognize that the solution of the working class lies in better wages and conditions. A man who is continually struggling to hold body and soul together is likely to fall in easy victim to the temptations that cross his path. Given a fair wage, sanitary surroundings, and reasonable working hours, he is not much of a man who fails to lead a respectable life and lift himself up to better things.

"WORK FOR ALL." It is felt by a man who knows, and who never lies unless he can make something by it, that one day not long ago ten men paid \$2 each to an employment agent in this city for getting a job on the streets. At night each of the ten men were paid \$2 and discharged. The employment agent and the contractor went halves on the \$20 paid by the ten men in the morning. This was rather odd. The agent made \$10 each, the contractor got \$10 each and \$20 worth of work, and the men got a job! Who says there isn't any work if you really want to work? Aunt Sally, in Seattle Socialist.

MAY TAKE VOTING. One great packing firm in the stock yards has prohibited voting among its employees. It has posted to that effect having been noticed in "Conspicuous places on the premises of the company. This, if we mistake not, is a "step" in the right direction. There's little doubt but that profanity has to some extent acted as a safety valve for capitalism, the discontented wage slave often seeks satisfaction in cursing the conditions of his toil and all connected with it. If the example of this corporation is widely adopted it may have some effect perhaps in inducing the laborers to substitute voting for swearing, in which case the possessing class might be expected to promptly withdraw their prohibition. A Socialist workman who votes for the interests of his class is a far more disagreeable individual in the eyes of the capitalist than the fool who wastes his breath in a string of useless oaths. The Worker's Call.

THE BALLOT THE REMEDY. The working class of the United States holds the government in the hollow of its hand, and with the government, civilization itself. It has it in its power to overthrow the rule of the capitalist class and trust, to put an end to exploitation, to extinguish the classes, and establish popular freedom. So long as it abstains from fulfilling its duty it has no one to blame but itself for the wrongs it suffers and the contradictions under which it is made to grow. Let shyders quibble over law and precedents, but let the working class, especially the polishers, platers, and brass workers, act. Let it make haste and snow under an avalanche of votes the criminal class that oppresses the people; let it take the law-making power in its own hands; the rest will follow. Let all its efforts, its energy, its funds be expended to that direction. Time passes, it may soon be too late. A. Fretzlin, in Metal Polisher's Journal.

Current Literature

All books and pamphlets mentioned in this column may be obtained through the Socialist Literature Company, 184 William Street, New York.

THE CRIME OF CREDULITY. By Herbert N. Casson. New York, Peter Eckler, 1901. Paper, 254 pages. Paper, 25 cents. The title of this book may startle some readers. "What," they will say, "credulity may be a weakness, but surely it is not a crime." Weakness and wickedness, however, are not very far apart, and on the question of the positive immorality of credulity we may refer the reader to William King, Com. Clifford's admirable essay, "The Ethics of Belief," where it is lucidly shown that the very same considerations which make it wrong to speak an untruth make it wrong also to believe an untruth. "The credulous man," says Clifford, "is father to the liar and the cheat; he lives in the bosom of this family, and it is no marvel if he should become even as they are."

Mr. Casson's book handles "without gloves" some of the more notable among the myriad ecclesiastical and "social" impostures that have, in recent years, afflicted the civilized world and more especially the United States. We are pleased to see that Mr. Casson is capable of such healthy "intolerance." It is to be hoped that he will have a hearing.

The following paragraph does not at all overstate the case: "There is a certain sort of hopelessly incurable sentimentalism, who are ready to believe anything that has a romantic or mystical flavor. Their minds have been led astray by the sentimentalism of the historical fiction; they lack of contact with the world has prevented them from having any knowledge of the real order of things. They have no more power of reflection than a child, and have an abnormally developed imagination."

Shortly before the return of Dewey from the Philippines, a certain number of this sort at the Twentieth Century Club in Boston. At the close of my remarks a lady in the audience said: "Oh, tell me, don't you think Admiral Dewey may be the Herald of the Morning?"

There is no doubt that if a Dewey religion had been started and if he had been proclaimed as the Heaven-sent Messiah of His nation, hundreds of these sentimentalists would have thrown themselves at his feet. Hero-worshippers must have heroes, whether political or military, or even of the "feminine" variety. As long as we have a large class of women in doll houses, we shall have such foolish creeds as the Deweyism.

It is a fact—and a fact full of ill omen—that the last few years have brought, especially in this country, a great recrudescence of superstition. Every childish delusion of antiquity, every morbid fantasy of the Dark Ages, every grotesque figment of savage ignorance has been revived under some new name in this land of free schools and newspapers. No belief is too terrible or too ridiculous to find devotees if only it is clothed in words borrowed from the language of science and accompanied with vague phrases about "ineffable beauty" and "divine impulses" and "eternal verities." Those mystic cults are an insufferable nuisance to all men of real education or of sound common sense in the present age; but they will doubtless present a very interesting subject for the scientific historian who, in a later day, shall study the transition period from paganism to Socialism.

The sources of this flood of sublime nonsense may be found in the lowering of the old bonds of authority, the general superficiality of education, the ill-health and emptiness of the lives of a certain portion of the people and, finally, the shifting and insecure position of the middle class.

It is significant that these cults draw their devotees chiefly from the middle class. It is significant, too, that the French Revolution was preceded by just such a period of fads. Paganism seems to be one of the incidental symptoms—but by a transition age, the essential feature of a transition age, is very true that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." We need not take the maxim on a poet's authority; Thomas H. Huxley, one of the most enthusiastic advocates of popular education and one of the wisest of men, has said: "In these times a man may as well be published as unable to read; he is as unable to write. But I protest that, if I thought the alternative were a necessary one, I would rather that the children of the poor should grow up ignorant of both these mighty arts than that they should receive the amount of that knowledge to which these arts are means."

We in America boast of our universal education. We have little reason to boast, for our education is as crude and superficial as it is wide-spread. Property is not education, but merely an adequate instruction. And this is true not only of the poor, but in quite a great degree, of the middle class.

The first effect of partial instruction is to give the learner an unbounded confidence in the powers of his individual mind. The half-instructed man always thinks himself profoundly wise. Add to this, that a general, but very indefinite knowledge of the wonders—the apparent intricacies—disclosed by science has, in the absence of scientific training, an almost inevitable tendency to stimulate credulity. People who have read newspaper accounts of the Roentgen rays readily believe a street fakir who shows them (for five cents a peep) how to see through a brick, or a medium who materializes the dead and buried ancestors at so much per head.

This is a general tendency. But among the working people it is largely contracted because their daily experience keeps them face-to-face with facts, because their lives are comparatively free from sham, and because they have better business than mooning around waiting for "occult manifestations" or cultivating hysteria and hallucinations.

With the middle class, it is different. Many of these—especially, as Mr. Casson remarks, of their women—have little of "practical" concern to occupy their minds; and they have no training in serious study or accurate thought. They fall an easy prey to pompously phrased mysticism, nebulous sentimentalism, and a sort of fastidiously estheticism.

But there is a further stimulus to this unhealthy tendency in the middle class. The scientific character of the age is giving the middle class a certain social consciousness, and the consequent social changes perplex and trouble them. They feel

the ground shifting under their feet. They are no longer sure of any of the old faiths or customs or habits which once served their purposes. The forces that are so shaking their little world are above them and beneath them—sediment within their chest-ribs. They are like Alice after she engaged the White Rabbit's burrow; "everything comes out different" and they cannot understand. So they gape wildly about for some set-out to find the path of gold under the rainbow, in a world where nothing is any more intelligible to them than they naturally find, the absurdities of things quite credible.

In a word, just as Christianity came as a "religion of consolation" to the oppressed classes of Imperial Rome, so the various forms of "occultism"—theosophy, spiritualism, "Christian Science," and the like—serve as a religion of consolation to the perturbed little bourgeois of to-day. Christianity had lived because the oppressed classes have perished and have always been oppressed. "Occultism" will die when the middle class shall disappear. So far as they are concerned, it would be futile to discuss remedies.

But insofar as the working people are, by contagion, afflicted with this strange delirium, there is occasion for serious concern. For them it can serve no good and does untold harm. Among them it should be fought by preventive and curative measures.

Someone has well said that "the cure for the evils of liberty is more liberty." It is equally true that the cure for the evils of superficial education is thorough education. There are many—see the middle class shall disappear. So far as they are concerned, it would be futile to discuss remedies.

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NEW TOBACCO TRUST.

American and Continental Companies Amalgamated, with a Capital of \$50,000,000—American Cigar Company Also Controlled—A Problem for Cigarette and Tobacco Workers.

The new combination in the tobacco industry has resulted in the organization of the Consolidated Tobacco Company. Incorporation papers were filed at Trenton last week.

The capital of the new company is \$50,000,000, all of which will be paid in cash.

Through the control of these companies the Consolidated will also control the American Cigar Company, as 70 per cent. of the capital of that company is held in equal amount by the American and Continental companies.

The American Cigar Company, which was organized only a short time ago as an auxiliary of the great tobacco combines, is establishing immense factories and bids fair soon to centralize the whole industry, except for some special grades of cigars.

An officer of the new concern says that the Consolidated Company under its charter can buy, sell, and manufacture tobacco in all its forms, and that its scope is international, so that its operations may not be confined to the United States.

The two companies, as well as the American Cigar Company, have been bitterly hostile to the Tobacco Workers' Union and the Cigarette Workers' Union, and those no doubt that the same policy will be followed out by the Consolidated.

The unions have been able in the past to take advantage of the fact that a large part of the manufacture both of cigars and of tobacco was carried on in small or medium sized establishments, which were in competition with each other.

These are now rapidly disappearing and the employment of women and children and the use of machinery are already seriously threatening the workmen in both trades.

The unions have undoubtedly a serious problem confronting them, and it is hard to see how they can solve it by the methods of pipe and simple unionism. Undoubtedly one effect of the trustification of these industries will be to stultify the growth of Socialism among the cigarmakers and tobacco workers.

ANOTHER STEEL DEAL.

It was announced on Tuesday that the Pennsylvania Railroad had obtained control of the Pennsylvania Steel Company. This step has been taken because the railroad company wished to control itself against a threatened "take-over" through monopoly.

The Pennsylvania Steel Company owns plants at Steelton, Pa., and Sparrows Point, Md., each with enormous capacities. In addition the company has a half interest in the Juragua (Cuba) Iron Company, Limited, owning one mine in the Province of Santiago, Cuba.

STREET RAILWAY CONCENTRATION.

The Elkins-Widener street railway system is rapidly extending its field of operations. Its latest acquisition is the New Haven system, which is the largest deal in the history of Connecticut. The purchase of the New Haven system gives to the company the ownership of a complete line from Stamford to Branford, a distance of fifty-five miles.

MORE COAL LAND CONSOLIDATION.

A big consolidation of coal mines in Indiana is in progress of formation. The new organization is to be called the Consolidated Coal Company of Indiana, and will purchase outright 129 of the principal mines in the state, and will probably gradually absorb others. Nine companies are included in the new deal.

NOTES OF COMBINATION.

The "war" between the Atchafalaya and the Washburn Spew Company has been settled and the two great concerns will henceforth act in harmony.

The Widener-Elkins syndicate, which controls the street railways of Cincinnati, as well as of many other cities, is planning to get control of the Cincinnati, Newport, and Covington Railway in Kentucky, to be operated in connection with the Cincinnati lines.

It is readily reported that the Toledo Traction Company has been sold for \$1,000,000 to the Electric-Moore syndicate of Cleveland, which has also got control of the Miami and Erie Canal, extending from Toledo to Cincinnati. This syndicate now controls electric traffic from Pontiac, Mich., to Cincinnati, a distance of 350 miles.

The Chattanooga, Rome and Southern Railway has finally passed into the hands of the Central Railway of Georgia.

ators into the Tri-State Coal and Coke Company. The consolidation was effected at a meeting held in Pittsburgh, and the general offices will be in that city. The purpose of the combination is said to be to fight the large combine known as the Coal Trust. Like most "wars" of the sort, this contest will undoubtedly end in the absorption of the smaller combine.

The American Locomotive Company has acquired the Dickson Locomotive Works of Scranton, Pa.

Monongahela River Consolidated Coal and Coke Company is understood to have closed the deal taking over three important properties in Alabama, for about \$1,000,000.

Atchafalaya, Topoka and Santa Fe railroad may pass into the hands of the Union Pacific at a hundred-year lease.

Coal and coke companies along the Kanawha and Michigan Railroad, in West Virginia, are going to combine. J. P. Morgan is putting the work.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company has increased its capital stock from \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000—result of the recent wet spell, we suppose.

Eastern capitalists are said to be behind the scheme for forming a combination of the railroad interests of the Pacific Coast with capital of between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000.

Dispatches from Omaha, Neb., state that plans for consolidating the street railways of that city and Council Bluffs, the electric power plants of the two cities, and the Platte River Canal are assuming definite shape.

The Chatham and Lebanon Valley Railroad, extending from Chatham, N. Y., to Bennington, Vt., has been purchased by the Rutland Railroad.

A big lumber combination that will include all the lumber firms in the eastern part of Long Island is being formed. The trust will be capitalized at \$12,500,000.

The election of Charles Stevelo of J. P. Morgan & Co. into the board of directors and the executive committee of the Atchafalaya, Topoka & Santa Fe Railroad is taken as an indication that Mr. Morgan has obtained control.

A report from Europe says J. Pierpont Morgan contemplates the formation of an American watch combine to kill off the importation of Swiss watches and materials. It is said that the combination will include the Philadelphia Watch Case Company of Riverside, N. J., and the Standard Watch Company of Lafayette, N. J., as well as other concerns. The Swiss manufacturers intend to fight the contemplated trust.

A CALL.

The workmanship of the Twelfth Assembly District: The Social Democratic Party has won official recognition in this state, and everywhere one turns he faces the plain fact that this movement is steadily growing and is here to stay.

We now hope that all the readers of this call residing within the boundary lines of the 12th A. D.—all who see the new light, all lovers of freedom, all who are opposed to the continuance of the competitive system, with its terrible struggle for existence—will fall into line as speedily as possible with the Social Democratic Party. There is no time to be lost. We have a mission to fill, a battle to win for those who toil. We need you to aid in spreading our ideas, to work for the success of our party, which means the emancipation of the workers, to help us to arouse the people's intelligence, to enlist them as recruits to work in their turn for the progress of Socialism.

The S. D. P. unlike any other political party, depends for its success upon the intelligence of the workers. Only by educating them to class-consciousness can the Socialist commonwealth be made a fact. Propaganda is our thought is the work that is going to do it. There is already a general dissatisfaction with things as they are and the two old parties have nothing to offer as a remedy. This makes it less difficult to-day to make people think than it was a few years ago. There is an unusual demand for high-quality workmen in the necessary work of propaganda.

Workers are therefore invited, each and all, to attend a meeting on Friday, June 14, at 8 p. m., at 414 Grand street. The meeting is under the auspices of the 12th A. D. Social Democratic Party. Admission is free. The speakers of the evening are Courtenay Lemon and Dr. Ingemann.

Yours for Socialism.

HERMAN REICH.

A reformed burglar informs me that the decrease in burglaries is not evidence of decrease of crime, as some authorities have been claiming. He says the quality of goods now handled by merchants is so fraudulent and shoddy that even the most industrious burglar cannot make half a decent living for himself and family. There is just as much robbery now as ever, he claims, even now, only it does not come to the attention of the police, being done at first hand, without the somewhat costly labor of the burglar specialist—Uncle Sam.

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The Economic Struggle.

The O. R. C. convention in St. Paul debated at some length the question of the federation of the railway brotherhoods. E. E. Clark, who has been grand chief for ten years, was re-elected. The convention adopted the home proposition, and a relief fund scheme. The home proposition contemplates the construction and maintenance of a home for aged and incapacitated members; \$25,000 was appropriated for a building, and an annual levy of 25 cents per member for maintenance. To have an immediately available relief fund an assessment of \$1 per capita was ordered. This will provide a sum of over \$25,000.

The boycott against the New York "Sun" is being carried on vigorously by union men and their friends all over the country.

All the large breweries in Newark, N. J., have been unionized, the last week in being P. Ballantine & Sons last week.

Eight miners were killed the other day in the Chapin mine, Iron Mountain, Mich., by the fumes following an explosion of dynamite. Reports say nearly thirty children were rendered fatigued by the explosion. No capitalism does not break up the home.

Custom Shoemakers' Union of New York will probably start a co-operative shoe shop in order to help the strike against employers.

Comrade Quantz of Virginia writes us: "A tobacco stemming machine is now perfected that will dispense with 50 per cent. of the labor of the tobacco grower, which, in the state, ultimately means the employment of at least 10,000 people, mostly colored." So it goes under capitalism. Under Socialism that invention would mean easier work and more leisure for the workers.

Members of Passaic, N. J., are on strike for eight hours, and an increase in wages of \$3 a week.

International Typographical Union issued fourteen charters during the month of May.

The one hundred and third yearly report of the British Geographical Association, published outside of London, for the six months ending December 31, 1900, shows the membership of the society on that date to be 16,173, and that its treasury contained 440,650 lbs. 6d.

The Typographical Journal of June 1 includes a supplement containing the wage scales of the local unions within the jurisdiction of the International Union. The wage scales have been compiled from the reports of local secretaries and a very good showing is made. The table of morning newspaper rates contains 363 reports and that of evening papers 365. The unions reporting a weekly newspaper scale numbered 315, while schedules for book and job work are provided by 379 subordinate bodies. The hours of labor in newspaper offices range from 30 to 54 per week, the average being 48 hours for machine operators and all composing room employees. The nine-hour day is in vogue in the exceptions book and job rooms, the exceptions being towns where existing contracts prevent the enforcement of the law or where the unions are not recently organized. These exceptions are rapidly lessening. The shorter working day is coming. The prevailing scales in the various sections of the country vary in proportion to the local economies. Advances in wages vary from 3 to 20 per cent., the instances where the wages of hand compositors have been increased being 115; machine operators, 54. (There has been a downward tendency in the hours of labor. Full details are given and the report is altogether a very creditable one.

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The trade union lobbying committee before the Illinois legislative reports that all but one little labor bill were killed by the politicians who were elected by workmen's votes.

The native employees on the only railroad in the Philippines indulged in a strike some weeks ago. Captain Cunningham of Newcastle, Pa., who is in charge of the road during the strike, writes that the natives were receiving \$25 per month and struck for higher wages. The strikers' places were filled by discharged American soldiers.

Members of trade unions in Richmond, Va., are reported to be leaving the militia, and the defenders of "law and order" are perturbed at this evidence of class-consciousness.

The fifth annual report of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers has been issued. During the year 1900 the membership increased from 84,627 to 87,762, while the income increased by \$1,000 to a total of \$323,555. The total expenditure was \$254,194, and the balance in hand at the end of December last was \$408,529, of which \$127,143 stood to the credit of the superannuation fund. The society has now quite recovered from the effects of the Warlock and 10-day strikes as one of the best equipped trade unions in the world, both in funds and membership. Much is due to the able secretaryship of George Barnes, the well-known English Socialist.

Fuba's reform experience is like that of our own cities—simply an exchange of bosses. Saturday Evening Post.

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PARTY NOTES.

There is more work now being done for Socialism in St. Louis than ever before, and the only people who do not know it are the ones who are not doing their share—Missouri Socialist.

"Industrial Freedom," Equality, Wash., has a new editor in E. B. Ault. Comrade James Roche and John Murray, Jr., have started on a wagon crusade through southern California.

State Organizer Scott Anderson established a new local at Watsonville, Cal.

Secretary John S. Halligan reports that Richmond section of the Social Democratic Party held its regular meeting on Sunday, June 2, the principal business of which being the bi-annual election of officers. The following were elected: John E. Quamr, president; John T. Chappell, treasurer; John S. Halligan, secretary. Edward C. Schlegel was reappointed organ for The Worker. The section is carrying on a steady propaganda and is getting fit shape for better work.

The motion in support of universal suffrage brought forward in the Irish Parliament by Trevelyan, the Socialist, was, after some discussion, rejected by 65 votes to 20, the minority consisting exclusively of Radicals and Socialists.

Perhaps it is not generally known that no Socialist literature is permitted to be sold at the railway bookstalls throughout Germany. This includes the "Vorwärts," of course; nevertheless the profits on the printing and publishing the same during the first quarter of this year was £1,000, which was turned into the general fund.

The Socialist Party is making extraordinary progress in Italy. At Stradella recently the Socialist candidate gained the seat by 500 votes, showing an increase in the Socialist vote of 300. The movement is growing continually in the South. Since September, 1900, the number of Socialist groups has increased in Italy from 548 to 783, and the number of financial members of the party has risen from 19,194 to 28,497.

The party has a daily paper, "L'Avanti," two reviews, the "Critica Sociale" and "Giornale," and six or seven weekly publications.

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The result of the second ballot in Massachusetts has been to confirm the election of the candidates returned in the first ballot. The Socialist and Republican have been for the most part very unfortunate. The Opposition numbers 163 members, only one of whom is a Socialist, while there are 228 Ministers in all. It was announced that in Barcelona the government played only Monarchists at the head of the poll, while Republicans and Radicals were really elected. Great indignation was thus excited, and the leaders of the Republicans decided to protest by leaving their voting cards at the French Consulate. The Scrutiny Committee, however, was appointed formerly.

Comrade Martin writes from Toledo, O., "Comrade Geiger, addressing an interested audience in front of the post-office, Thursday evening, the N. E. C. gave an instructive and glowing but somewhat clear-headed view of the workers' cause. Comrade Geiger's answers to questions left no doubt as to his understanding of Socialism."

Comrade Knight of Fall River, Mass., writes that Comrade Ortiz spoke "before to a very fair audience and held their close attention. The Fall River boys hope to have a speaker at least once a month and to build up a strong movement."

Employees of the Glasgow Cleonard Department opposed the wearing of a uniform and wear, though several of the men were discharged in consequence. The employees are now pressing for an increase of six pence a day in wages. There doesn't seem to be much difference between the Glasgow method of treating workmen and the methods used by other capitalist municipalities everywhere.

The "Salvation of Labor." Labor can accomplish nothing by making faces at its enemies or railing against adverse conditions or vilifying individuals or by setting or adopting resolutions, nor can it accomplish anything of a permanent and lasting substantial character unless it unites along class lines in trade unions and through them, organically, takes what naturally belongs to them. Labor without organization is just as impotent in the line of self-protection and advancement as a ship without a rudder would be in a violent storm. Let us look to labor for labor's advancement. Let us work among the real workers and urge them to organize. Let us be honest among ourselves. Let us look the question squarely in the face and then solve to organize the wage workers—definitely—organically.

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Over the Water.

A great change of feeling is going on in Spain. No country in Europe has, until very recently, been more completely under the control of the reactionary clergy. But the last few months have been marked by a great revolt against clericalism. An instance of this is shown by the following dispatch from Barcelona, June 6:

"The anti-clerical drama 'Electra,' which has been placed under ban by the church, was performed here last night with immense success. The audience continually cheered and interrupted the actors with shouts of 'Long live liberty,' 'Death to reaction,' 'Death to the priests.' Subsequently, a republican demonstration was organized in the street, and those who took part in it paraded the main thoroughfare."

Tom Mann has resigned from the position of organizing secretary of the National Democratic League of England.

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ON ORGANIZATION.

Two Letters on the "New Jersey Plan" for Socialist Unity.

G. H. Strobel, 44 Hill Street, Newark, N. J. Dear Comrade: Some time ago you called me and spoke of your plan to effect Socialist unity. I have been thinking about it ever since. I could not express an opinion at that time. Since then, however, I have had time to think about it. I have written you a circular headed, "Real Socialism," which I have sent to you. It is intended to strengthen the opinion I had previously formed, and in view of your activity in the matter and its importance to the general movement, I take the liberty to write you on this subject as fully as I can. I have to your plan to me to see your plan defined as "The New Jersey Plan for National Unity." I have been in a very exceptional position to note the actions of the various states, and I have no knowledge of the New Jersey plan of organization. I have your plan in my possession, and I have read it with interest. I have to your plan to me to see your plan defined as "The New Jersey Plan for National Unity." I have been in a very exceptional position to note the actions of the various states, and I have no knowledge of the New Jersey plan of organization. I have your plan in my possession, and I have read it with interest.

There were three factions represented at the convention, the "Socialist," the "National," and the "Independent." Each faction wished to retain its separate position. The vote was cast on the question of whether to continue the convention, and it was carried by a majority of 100 to 50. The result of the vote was that the convention was continued, and the plan for national unity was adopted.

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At the first place, a proposition for Socialist unity that admits no possibility of existing independent parties in any state is an absurdity. It is not only unjustifiable but desirable. It is an acknowledgment of the fact that the party is not united, and that the program of Socialism requires a state of effect, energy, and direction. In one word, it is a confession of the party's weakness and a denial of its strength.

Although the Socialist movement demanding an eight-hour day for miners was rejected in the Austrian Reichsrath, the nine-hour day from mine to mine was unanimously agreed upon. This new measure is actually the result of the miners' strike last year when the government promised to bring in a bill for shortening the hours if the men returned to work. The strike, which was largely supported by English miners, continued at the time to end in failure, but the passing of this bill is one of the fruits of the men's determined stand. The Socialist cried when the vote was announced, "The eight hours will come, and must come soon."

The result of the second ballot in Massachusetts has been to confirm the election of the candidates returned in the first ballot. The Socialist and Republican have been for the most part very unfortunate. The Opposition numbers 163 members, only one of whom is a Socialist, while there are 228 Ministers in all. It was announced that in Barcelona the government played only Monarchists at the head of the poll, while Republicans and Radicals were really elected. Great indignation was thus excited, and the leaders of the Republicans decided to protest by leaving their voting cards at the French Consulate. The Scrutiny Committee, however, was appointed formerly.

Comrade Martin writes from Toledo, O., "Comrade Geiger, addressing an interested audience in front of the post-office, Thursday evening, the N. E. C. gave an instructive and glowing but somewhat clear-headed view of the workers' cause. Comrade Geiger's answers to questions left no doubt as to his understanding of Socialism."

Comrade Knight of Fall River, Mass., writes that Comrade Ortiz spoke "before to a very fair audience and held their close attention. The Fall River boys hope to have a speaker at least once a month and to build up a strong movement."

Employees of the Glasgow Cleonard Department opposed the wearing of a uniform and wear, though several of the men were discharged in consequence. The employees are now pressing for an increase of six pence a day in wages. There doesn't seem to be much difference between the Glasgow method of treating workmen and the methods used by other capitalist municipalities everywhere.

The "Salvation of Labor." Labor can accomplish nothing by making faces at its enemies or railing against adverse conditions or vilifying individuals or by setting or adopting resolutions, nor can it accomplish anything of a permanent and lasting substantial character unless it unites along class lines in trade unions and through them, organically, takes what naturally belongs to them. Labor without organization is just as impotent in the line of self-protection and advancement as a ship without a rudder would be in a violent storm. Let us look to labor for labor's advancement. Let us work among the real workers and urge them to organize. Let us be honest among ourselves. Let us look the question squarely in the face and then solve to organize the wage workers—definitely—organically.

At St. Paul a half dozen of stalwarts of the professor tried to repeat their game of creating a disturbance, but the witty answers of the speaker and his audience in such a state of frenzy that the distributors failed to open their mouths again.

It is readily reported that the Toledo Traction Company has been sold for \$1,000,000 to the Electric-Moore syndicate of Cleveland, which has also got control of the Miami and Erie Canal, extending from Toledo to Cincinnati. This syndicate now controls electric traffic from Pontiac, Mich., to Cincinnati, a distance of 350 miles.

The Chattanooga, Rome and Southern Railway has finally passed into the hands of the Central Railway of Georgia.

The Scientific Basis of Morals and Other Essays, by WILLIAM KINGDORF Clifford, is a very suggestive and thought-provoking book. For sale by the Socialist Literature Company. Price, 35 cents.

A strong company is quietly buying up property along the prospective route of the rapid transit tunnel in New York City, with a certainty of immense gains which the tunnel shall be completed.

The "Labor World" of Syracuse has been enlarged to eight pages and presents a much improved appearance.

The trade union lobbying committee before the Illinois legislative reports that all but one little labor bill were killed by the politicians who were elected by workmen's votes.

The native employees on the only railroad in the Philippines indulged in a strike some weeks ago. Captain Cunningham of Newcastle, Pa., who is in charge of the road during the strike, writes that the natives were receiving \$25 per month and struck for higher wages. The strikers' places were filled by discharged American soldiers.

Members of trade unions in Richmond, Va., are reported to be leaving the militia, and the defenders of "law and order" are perturbed at this evidence of class-consciousness.

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OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Secretary, W

Local Socialist and the Socialist League... Local Cleveland, O., sends resolution that the immediate demands be included on the platform.

Local Springfield, Mass., urges the N. E. C. to have expelled Peter Horvath for conduct unbecoming a Socialist.

Local Detroit, Conn., issued and comrades resolutions was admitted as members at large.

Local New York, N. Y., issued and comrades resolutions was admitted as members at large.

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Parts of St. Louis... Our mission is to show the people that the Socialist Party is not a party of the future.

The Danger of "Reform." Editor of The Worker... An official headed "Reform is limited."

A Reverend Deputy. Editor of The Worker... Please permit me a few lines in your paper to give the people an intimation of the work of the party.

Comrade Mueller of Indianapolis is one of the men who does good steady work in bringing in new subscribers.

Comrade Reeler of West Palm Beach, Fla., in sending in two new yearly subscriptions...

Comrade Thompson of Ridgewood, N. J., writes, while sending in two new subscriptions...

Comrade Jones of Bayonne... About seven months ago a few Socialists of Bayonne...

The Political Situation. The industrial development of capitalism in this country...

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FROM THE WORKERS. Lynn, Mass., Social Democratic Party has determined to produce "Now and Then"...

Comrade McGeech of Portland, Me., says: "We have come to consider The Worker the best paper for propaganda among the trade unions..."

Comrade Higgins of Flint, Mich., sends in his renewal with a new subscriber with the remark: "My subscription ran out lately and I have missed the paper very much."

Four new yearlies last week is Comrade Doyle's Toledo contribution to the cause as represented by The Worker.

Comrade Mueller of Indianapolis is one of the men who does good steady work in bringing in new subscribers.

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THE SAME OLD COLLAR. The capitalist has no rights you need respect. The farther back you go to find the origin of capitalist...

ALL SOCIALISTS SHOULD READ IT. TWO MEN AND SOME WOMEN. BY WALTER MARION RAYMOND.

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Trades' and Societies' Calendar. Standing advertisements of Trade Unions and other Societies will be inserted under this heading at the rate of \$1 per line per week...

BRANCH 2, S. D. P., 34th and 35th A. D. (formerly Socialist Science Club, meets every Wednesday evening of each month at 3300 Third Avenue.

BRANCH 2 (English), 20th A. D. (Brooklyn), S. D. P. - Meets every second and fourth Tuesday evening at 700 Evergreen Avenue...

CALL SALEM CLUB (MUSICIANS' UNION) Meetings every Tuesday at 10 E. 12th Street...

CHICAGO'S PROGRESSIVE INTERNATIONAL UNION No. 90, Office and Headquarters, 90 East 4th Street...

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Workmen's Children Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

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Taking advantage of the capitalist's movement of the country, allow me to say that I perfectly agree with your editorial on the subject of the immediate demands.

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