

The Worker

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SHAMEFUL BETRAYAL.

An Example of "Organized Scabbery" as Practised by the S. T. & L. A.

Double Treason of Deleone Organization in Strike at the Sprague Electrical Works at East Orange, N. J.

The electrical workers who struck in sympathy with the S. T. & L. A. at the Sprague Electrical Works in East Orange, N. J., are very bitter against that organization now. While they do not dare to talk much, on account of an order from the firm forbidding any discussion of the strike, they feel that they have been sold out or betrayed.

There were 34 Alliance men in the shop when the strike began, and about 150 electrical workers, belonging to the Electrical Workers' Union. The former body comprised the true workers and it was they who struck. Their demands were: Reduction of time from 55 to 54 hours a week, with 60 hours pay. The electrical workers, who are paid by the piece, had to be asked to go on strike, they promptly complied. They did not even wait to ask the consent of their national body, feeling that in order to make the strike effective they must act promptly. As a result of their striking without the consent of the national union, they received no strike benefit—that being a provision of their constitution.

Some of the men got temporary employment elsewhere, but most of them were forced to remain idle and it was not long till serious hardships began to be felt. And here comes in the first grievance against the S. T. & L. A.

Public sympathy was with the strikers and considerable amounts of money and provisions were given for their assistance. These funds and stores were handed by the S. T. & L. A. committee in charge of the strike, and the men charge that absolutely no share of the money was given to the men who had struck in sympathy, but all was divided among the Alliance men. One electrical worker, who applied to the committee was laughed at, and told that he had no claim for benefits, but that he might have "all the charity he wanted."

This, however, is not the worst of the story. The climax came in the fifth week of the strike, or about that week ago. A rumor went around that delegates were to be brought to break the strike, and the question was submitted to both organizations whether it would be well to continue the strike under such circumstances.

The electrical workers, after some discussion, voted unanimously to stand out to the end. How the Alliance actually voted only its own members know, for all its sessions were secret, and the delegates of the union that was striking in sympathy being allowed admission.

STRIKE SOLD OUT.

The S. T. & L. A. committee, however, of which the notorious Hickey and one "Jack" Gordon were leading members—announced that the Alliance men had also voted to stay out. THIS VERY NEXT DAY THESE MEN SECRETLY VISITED THE FIRM AND, ON RETURNING, ANNOUNCED THE STRIKE WAS OFF—EVERYTHING SETTLED. The electrical workers were dumfounded and enraged. But there was nothing for them to do but submit. Their reserves were exhausted, they had nothing to fall back upon, and the very men for whom they had endured all these hardships had now suddenly deserted them within twenty-four hours after announcing a solemn resolution to fight the battle out.

The men went back to work on Monday, July 1. Nominally the time workers belonging to the Alliance had made a slight gain. The reduction of one hour a week was granted, with an increase of 3 per cent. in the wages per hour. The piece workers, however, whatever, and they found that their call was a fraud, because the machines were speeded up so that they had to do more work for their pay than they had ever done before.

The only ones who may be supposed to have profited by the affair are some of the members of the Alliance committee that thus betrayed the strike. The victims surmise that these men "made a good thing of it."

THE TRAITORS PROTECTED.

An order was given out when the men returned to work forbidding them to discuss the late strike or to criticize the settlement, either in the shop or outside, under penalty of discharge. This tyrannical order, obviously designed to protect the traitors, exempted the men more than anything else; but many of them have families to support and they have to obey.

The whole story is of a piece with the conduct of the S. T. & L. A. in the New York cigar strikes and on other similar occasions. If there are any men qualified to talk with authority about "organized scabbery," they are the men at the head of this S. T. & L. A. and its twin organization, the S. L. P.

TRYING TO ESCAPE RESPONSIBILITY.

These leaders are now trying to avoid responsibility for the crime committed by their organization at the Sprague Works. At its last meeting, the General Executive Board of the S. T. & L. A. has voted that the strike at Sprague was "purely and simply a shop affair" and thinks thus to wash its hands of all connection with the matter. It explains, however, that the matter published about this strike in the

LESS TIME; MORE WORK.

How the Capitalist Gets Around the Shorter Work-day Movement.

Both in America and in England, as Hours of Labor Are Reduced, Machinery is Speeded Up and Intensity of Labor Increased—A Problem That Only Socialism Can Solve.

A Connecticut dispatch says: "One noticeable effect of the strike which has just been declared off in Waterbury is that henceforth a smaller number of machinists will be employed in the big brass manufacturing establishments of that city than formerly. Economies have rendered the employment of the former full complement of machinists unnecessary. Moreover, some of the work which was previously done by machinists in the brass factories will hereafter be done in regular machine shops. The result is that a considerable number of Waterbury machinists have been compelled to look for work elsewhere."

This is a common experience. A similar complaint is made in some of the works in New Jersey, where a slight advance in wages was won by the strike, but the machinery was speeded up so as, more than to make up the difference. One of the New York dailies gives also the following story from England:

TO INSTRUCT THE DELEGATES.

General Meeting of Members of Local New York for That Purpose.

A general meeting of all members of Local New York, S. D. P., will be held in the large hall of the Labor Lyceum, 64 E. Fourth Street, Sunday, July 21, beginning at 2 P. M. The purpose of the meeting is to give instructions to the delegates to the Indianapolis Convention. Members should come promptly at the appointed hour. Membership cards must be shown at the door.

"LET THE NATION OWN THE TRUSTS."

H. Gaylord Wilshire Speaks in Hamilton Fish Park Friday Evening.

On Friday evening, July 19, H. Gaylord Wilshire, of Los Angeles, Cal., and Benjamin Hanford, Social Democratic candidate for mayor, will speak at an open-air meeting to be held in Hamilton Fish Park between Stanton and Houston and Pitt and Willett streets.

This is the only meeting Comrade Wilshire will address during this visit to New York. He expects to return next month. Readers of The Worker should attend this meeting and make it a success.

POISONED FOR PROFIT.

Analysis of milk purchased for the patients in the county hospital at Chicago showed that it contained formalin in proportions sufficient to cause or hasten the death of sick persons and to be injurious to those in good health.

Formalin is one of the various antiseptics used to preserve milk. Undoubtedly a large part of the milk sold in the large cities contains such preservatives, some of which are highly injurious to health.

It is the desire of profits, of course, which prompts the use of poisonous preservatives in milk, as well as other food adulterations. So long as the supply of food for people in a private industry runs on profit, there will be the temptation to such criminal practices. Even severe penal laws can only somewhat reduce the extent of the abuse; they cannot stop it altogether. Socialism would remedy the evil by removing the motive. In the interest of public health—especially the health of the poor, who are obliged to live on "cheap and nasty" food—there is growing urgency for the Socialist proposition to take the industry out of the hands of profit-making and conduct it at cost for the public service.

THEY WOULD REJECT CARNEGIE'S GIFT.

The San Francisco Labor Council has passed, by a nearly unanimous vote, a resolution advocating in strong terms the rejection of Andrew Carnegie's offer to give the city \$750,000 for a public library.

We are not informed whether this action was directly due to the work of Socialists in the Labor Council; but, however that be, it is pleasing to Socialists as showing the growth in the ranks of organized labor of the feeling of class-consciousness which we strive to cultivate.

SUMMER NIGHTS' FESTIVAL.

The Workmen's Educational League will hold a package party and summer night's fête at its club house, 312 E. Fifty-second street, on Saturday evening, July 20. The following is an incomplete program:

Phonograph selection, piano recital, Miss Ade Stern; solo, Miss Ade Stern; recitation, Margaret Hess; phonograph selection; solo, Miss Marjorie Jaldimowski; recitation, E. Loewen; piano recital, Miss Wase; recitation, Wm. Matly; phonograph selection; recitation, Isabelle Reichenthal.

In addition to the above, many others have volunteered their services, but who prefer to have their names withheld for the present. The summer garden will be artistically decorated for the occasion, and here refreshments will be served. The beautiful album for which tickets have been circulated for some time, will also be raffled on this occasion.

Those who have attended the past affairs of the club need no assurance that a good time is awaiting those who attend. No admission fee is charged, and we urge upon all to be present with their friends and to help make the affair a smashing success.

PENNSYLVANIA HAS ITS TURN.

Outrageous Declaration of a Judge in a Contempt Case.

Court Assumes to Read the Minds of Strikers and Punish Them on the Presumption of Their Intention to Use Violence—All Guarantees of Justice Swept Aside.

And still they come, thick and fast, the "interferences of courts to protect capitalists, against the attempts of workmen, by peaceful organization, to better their condition." And daily their rulings become more outrageous. The court in the contempt case involving the Iron Molders' Union of North America, Judge Stewart of the county court has issued an injunction forbidding the Iron Molders' Union or its officers or members to picket the shop or in any way "interfere" with the business of the York Manufacturing Company. George W. Test, corresponding representative of the Iron Molders' Union of North America; John P. Frey of Worcester, Mass., fourth vice-president of the union, and Howard Wilmer of the local union, have been adjudged guilty of contempt of court in violating that injunction. "Test and Frey were sentenced each to a fine of \$250 and costs, with thirty days' imprisonment, and Wilmer was fined \$25.

In other cases, not involving the issue between capital and labor, it is necessary, before a man can be convicted of a crime, to prove "beyond all reasonable doubt" that he actually committed it. But here it was not necessary to prove that the men committed any unlawful act or even that they intended to do so. The judge took occasion to say that "any person who undertakes by force, violence, threats, or intimidation, to obstruct or hinder the business of another, is liable to a fine of \$500 and costs, with thirty days' imprisonment, and to be imprisoned in the county jail."

Attention is called by one of the English trade papers to a new and peculiar trouble among the cotton operatives in Lancashire, a result of the shorter working day which the labor unions of the district have succeeded in establishing. A system of overdriving is said to be growing up, and according to the reports of the labor leaders is fast becoming intolerable.

The foremen, or "overlookers," receive a percentage on the earnings of the weavers under their control, and it is asserted that these overlookers go around the mills with a scale to note what each weaver has earned, and put in a conspicuous place on pay day the amount each operative has earned on the looms. Opposite the names of those earning under the average, it is stated, is a cross in red ink or a ring around the amount is placed, this being a warning that unless the average is kept up the weaver will lose his or her place. It is affirmed that this driving system has involved such a strain as to make the lives of many factory workers miserable, and various meetings have been held, at which the practice has been condemned, and a strike at the mills where it prevails is talked of. The employers assert that the complaints are exaggerated. They say that the "speeding" of machinery has been the inevitable outcome of the reduction of the hours of labor, and that competition compels them to secure weight of production in a given time. Some similar complaints can be heard in this country by those who will question our skilled mechanics. A carpenter, for instance, said the other day, that the supervision of the men in his trade is vastly more rigorous than it used to be, and any relaxation of activity in working hours is instantly noticed and reprimanded by the boss, who makes every effort to prevent the shortening of the day from increasing the expenses of production. As a consequence the added hours of leisure are gained at the cost of a weariness equal to, if not greater than that which followed the longer day's work of other times. These, of course, are effects to be expected in a period of transition, and may pass away in time, but they have made some mechanics doubt if the change for which they have fought so hard and long is yet a real advantage to them.

A PROBLEM THAT MUST BE MET.

This condition presents a problem that must be met. The assurance that the overdriving is "an effect to be expected in a period of transition and may pass away in time," is, as Hagan says, "interesting but not conclusive." No one has yet discovered a valid where a capitalist's preference having contrived to increase the intensity of his employees' labor, has willing reduced it—no matter how the overwork might injure their health and shorten their lives. So long as the wage system lasts, so long as labor power is a mere commodity to be bought in the market, so long it will be cheaper to work the "hands" up to the highest limit of endurance than to treat them like human beings with human rights and feelings.

It is a matter that workmen and especially trade unionists may well keep in mind in their fight for shorter hours. If the working week is reduced by an hour or two but the men are compelled to do more work than they did before, it is evident that the added leisure is of little value to the overworked workers, while the capitalist is getting a larger share of the product of his employees' labor than before.

The capitalist has more ways than one of meeting the demands of the workers. If it pays him to revolt, he has the resources with which to fight and he has the power of the government behind him. But often he finds it wise to yield in form and then, by some ingenious trick, to take back all that he has given.

Socialism alone will settle the question and settle it right. For Socialism makes the working class the owners of their means of production and the masters of their own lives.

WORKING GIRLS FINED.

Paterson Judge Imposes Fines Equal to Two Months' Wages and Says He Has "Dealt Very Leniently."

The New Jersey courts have taken active measures to assist the capitalists in crushing the strike of the Frank & Dugan silk mill in Paterson. These girls have been on strike for many weeks and the universal sympathy of other wage workers is with them—as should be that of all decent men and women who know the hard work, wretched wages, and tyrannical regulations which prevail in the silk mills. Human sentiment, however, counts for nothing in the eyes of the capitalists who make their profits by such oppression of the workers and public officials who owe their election to capitalist influence.

The unions have used the usual method of persuasion to dissuade other workers from taking the places of those on strike and where simple persuasion has not sufficed the strikers and their sympathizers have not hesitated to express their well-founded contempt for the scabs by derisive cries and songs.

The courts issued an injunction against such "serenading" to protect the tender feelings of the scabs and the pocketbooks of the bosses and a number of arrests were made. Vice-chancellor Pitney added to the contemptibility of his court last Friday by inflicting sentences of fine or imprisonment upon eight of the workers. Clara Herold was fined \$50 and sentenced to sixty days in jail. Emanuel Bassard was fined \$25 and sentenced to thirty days. A fine of \$50 was imposed on Clara Tillewein and The Watson, Lizzie Englett, and Martha Wardlow were sentenced to pay each a fine of \$25. The prisoners were ordered to be committed to jail pending the payment of the fines. The cases will be appealed, but there seems little hope of getting any different sort of "justice" from the higher courts, because all the judges are creatures of the capitalist parties.

An interesting feature of the case is that the accused persons all deny having taken part in the "serenading" and that, though there was certainly a question of fact as well as of law to be decided, the case was decided in an off-hand manner by the judge above without jury trial. This is the great advantage of the injunction method, in the first place, it makes penalties of acts that are not such under the law, and further, that it leaves the workmen accused no opportunity of trial by jury. The judge becomes legislature, court, and jury all in one.

The fines imposed upon these poor girls were outrageously heavy (even had they been guilty of real misdeeds) considering the smallness of their earnings. It would take them from one to two months steady work, saving the whole of their wages, to pay their fines. Nevertheless, Judge Pitney said, with a smug hypocrisy characteristic of his species, that he "had dealt very leniently with those ladies," but that, if any more were convicted he would send them to jail.

It might do Judge Pitney no harm to be given a coat of tar and feathers by the workmen of this county. But if they want to "deal very leniently" with him, the least they can do is to vote him and his party out of office at the next election.

A LESSON FOR SOME "INTELLECTUAL SCABS."

Some young men out in Ohio, who aspired to fame as "intellectual scabs," have been taught a lesson. On July 12 the whole editorial and reporter staff of the Columbus "Press-Post" were discharged and their places filled by students of an institution known as the "Ohio State School of Journalism."

The discharged writers were members of the News Writers' Union and the printers, stereotypers, and pressmen all walked out as soon as the scabs began to furnish "copy."

The object of the discharge was undoubtedly to "rat" the office, but the plan failed. For three days the paper did not come out. As a result, it was placed in the hands of a receiver, who promptly took back all the old men.

The young men, who were willing to steal the jobs of fellow workers will now have occasion to consider what "class-consciousness" means, and may be very thankful for being taught so soon that it is no more profitable than it is honorable to be a scab.

TWIN CITY EXCURSION.

The Social Democrats of Minneapolis and St. Paul held their fourth annual excursion on Sunday, July 21. The provisions for the occasion have been successful affairs from every point of view, and this one is expected to keep up the record.

The excursion steamer Columbia will leave Minneapolis Falls at 8:30 A. M. and the Jackson street landing in St. Paul at 10 o'clock. It will go down the Mississippi to Hastings and up the St. Croix, making one of the most delightful trips imaginable, and returning to St. Paul at nine in the evening.

A good time is assured to all who take part. Tickets, including dinner, are 50 cents and children under ten go free.

THE STEEL STRIKE ON.

If Fought Out, a Struggle of Supreme Importance.

Right to Organize is Really the Point at Issue—Pretenses of the Trust Exposed—A Question of Far-Reaching Significance.

Unless a settlement should come quickly, the strike of steel workers started last Monday promises to be a most important episode in the history of organized labor.

There have been strikes where many workers were directly involved, and covering a wider area than the steel strike, but we venture to say none will have greater bearing upon the future of the trade union movement than this one.

It has been left to the steel workers to inaugurate the first great struggle against the exactions of the group of capitalists whose interests are concentrated under the head of the "Billion Dollar Steel Trust." The interests of these gentlemen extend throughout almost every industry in the country, their ramifications reaching around the world. These men dominate the industrial life of America, and wherever men and women toil tribute of wealth and life and energy is paid to them. Their power, through their possession of the industrial machinery, is the most stupendous ever exercised by any similar number of individuals in the world's history.

A MOMENTOUS STRUGGLE.

For this reason, the full significance of the present struggle cannot be fully appreciated from every workingman in the United States. In this contest the right of workmen to combine into class organizations for the immediate betterment of their condition is at stake. Should the steel workers fail in their attempt to exercise that right—the trade union movement will receive a blow from which it can never recover.

We say "never," because the economic conditions in North America have reached the stage where the class division is more strongly marked than anywhere else in the world. Nowhere has the ownership of industry concentrated so rapidly and inexorably into fewer hands, and consequently nowhere else has there developed a wage working class so completely dependent upon the owners of industry for the opportunity to labor and live. As in this class division has become clearer, so have the interests of the opposing classes of workers and capitalists come into sharper conflict. To-day these interests are represented by the Steel Trust on one hand and the Amalgamated Association on the other.

Victory or defeat for the steel workers will therefore affect not them alone, but every wage worker in the United States. This battle will be the determining factor in the future struggle of organized labor with organized capital upon the economic field for a larger share of the workers' product. For the economic struggle of labor against capital cannot assume any other form than that of a struggle for a share, and labor comes into rightful possession of the industrial machinery which is labor's own creation, and can then enjoy the full value of its product.

It is not our purpose here to recite the incidents of the strike, which can be found in the daily press, and from which workmen, taking the well-known attitude of the press toward labor into account, can form their own opinion. But it is well to point out for a correct understanding by all, what's the real point at issue.

THE POINT AT ISSUE.

The Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel, and Tin Workers demands that the scale of wages, and hours be signed for all mills operated by the American Sheet Steel, Tin Plate, and Steel Hoop companies, these being all parts of the Steel Trust. Heretofore the scale has been signed only for those mills known as union plants. At the others, the unorganized employees have been forced to accept whatever conditions the companies thrust upon them. As a consequence, the companies have been able to "play off" the non-union mills against the union ones, making the maintenance of the union scale in the latter mills very difficult and sometimes nearly impossible.

This state of affairs could not result in anything but disaster to the Amalgamated Association if continued. Efforts to organize the non-union plants have always been vigorously opposed by the companies, and have proved mostly fruitless. At last the Amalgamated Association has decided that the right of all workers to organize shall not be interfered with and the main scale must extend to all mills. This decision was hastened by the action of the American Sheet Steel Company in discharging twelve men at its Wellville non-union plant who had become members of the Association.

On the other hand, the Steel Trust refused to sign the union scale for all mills on the ground that the companies have the right to operate their mills without interference from any union; also that the employees in the non-union mills did not wish to join the union, and the companies were opposed to "coercion" of the men.

WHERE IS THE COERCION?

The first reason is an old one, has long ago lost its plausibility, and need not be treated here. The second reason was disproved by the action of the non-union mill employees themselves, when they almost unanimously struck with the union men last Monday and Tuesday.

THE RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH.

ers under the Stars and Stripes? One man can dictate to these hundreds of fellow citizens of his, what they shall or shall not discuss, not only during the working hours for which they have sold themselves into his service, but when their work is done, in the privacy of their homes or on the public streets. And he has this power SIMPLY BECAUSE HE OWNS THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION THAT THEY AND OTHER WORKINGMEN HAVE CREATED, THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION WHICH THEY OPERATE, WITHOUT THE USE OF WHICH THEY CANNOT WORK OR LIVE.

Some of the younger men, with only themselves to care for, may and will resent and resist such "tyranny and defy the power of the boss." The men with wives and children feel that for them discretion is the better part of valor. But there is one thing which they can all do, one crushing reply which they can unite in giving to the insolence of the capitalist who assumes to own them body and soul.

They can vote for their rights. The vote of the poorest laborer counts for just as much as that of the richest capitalist.

They can vote for the only political party which has stood by them in their struggles and through its speakers and papers defended their cause.

THEY CAN VOTE FOR THE PARTY WHICH PROPOSES THAT THE WORKING PEOPLE THEMSELVES SHALL OWN THE FACTORIES AND OTHER MEANS OF PRODUCTION AND THUS BE THEIR OWN MASTERS.

THEY CAN VOTE FOR THE PARTY OF THE WORKING CLASS—THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

And a lot of them will do it at their next opportunity.

VICTORY IN AUSTRIA.

Dr. Victor Adler Elected in Vienna—First Socialist in Austrian Landtag.

For the first time a Socialist takes his seat in the parliament of Lower Austria. In the election held on July 2, Dr. Victor Adler, candidate of the Social Democratic Party, was elected in the Tenth district of Vienna. He received 4,298 votes. The victory is the more striking because the Austrian electoral system is a very complicated one, devised for the purpose of giving greater weight to the votes of the landowners, and other men of wealth. Dr. Adler is the best known and perhaps the ablest member of the Austrian Social Democracy.

COUNTY TICKET

Nominated by Social Democrats of Toledo—New Headquarters Opened.

The Social Democrats of Toledo held a county convention on July 9, and the following candidates were placed in nomination:

For state senator, Henry Rotter; representatives, Thos. Haley, E. W. Owen, J. M. Keck, J. Cauley; county treasurer, A. R. Replige; county recorder, Wm. Creighton; sheriff, A. Neiber; county commissioner, Frank Kostack; surveyor, J. C. Martin; infirmary director, A. A. Pareski. The nomination of coroner was deferred.

The convention was most enthusiastic. It was held in the new party headquarters in Harmonia Hall, on Summit street, near the monument. It is up only one flight of stairs, and is a very bright, attractive place, and is a very agreeable change from where the local formerly met. The change shows as well as the attendance of the meetings, which will be held on alternate Tuesday evenings.

Comrade Silvio Origo has been with us, and delivered an address on Madison street to an interested audience. He was to have been here on Monday night, but the date was changed. This prevented the members from hearing his address, as they could not leave the work of the convention. Comrade Origo's audience was not large, but it was in evident sympathy with his clear expositions of Socialism, and his answers to questions were very satisfactory.

Comrade H. Gaylord Wilshire, the Bryan chaser, dropped down on us from Detroit on July 4, and intended to give us a street talk that evening, but rain prevented.

Toledo will have a delegate at Indianapolis in the person of a member of the Glass Workers' Union, who goes to insist on organic union, which we all want to see.

READING ALSO NOMINATES.

The Socialists of Reading, Pa., have nominated the following ticket for the respective county offices: Controller, Charles Lavay; clerk of Quarter Sessions Court, John B. Hartman; sheriff, Phillip F. R. Esch; district attorney, Daniel K. Zerby; inspector of poor, R. B. Ringler; prison directors, William Yeager and Benjamin Roth.

All of the nominees are ardent unionists, with the exception of Comrade Hartman and Roth.

It is reported that the European wheat crop will be very poor. This causes rejoicing among American exporters. Thus, under capitalism, the good fortune of one set of men is always paid for by the suffering of others.

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In the name of the Socialist Party... At 104 William Street, New York...

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist vote in the United States from 1858 to 1900. Includes columns for year, vote count, and percentage.

NEW YORK CITY TICKET.

For Mayor—BENJAMIN HANFORD. For Controller—MORRIS BROWN. For President of the Board of Aldermen—HENRY STAHL.



THE PARTY'S EMBLEM.

NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE.

This paper will come into the hands of many machinists, electrical workers, and others who are or have been engaged in the great machinists' strike...

We ask these men to observe that the Socialist Democratic Party is entirely separate from the Socialist Labor Party...

In its first national campaign the Socialist Democratic Party cast nearly 100,000 votes, while the S. L. P., as a result of its Union sundering policy...

Every child on the street or in the factory, every baby pining away in the foul air of the tenements, every crippled workman begging on the street corner...

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS. It is not often that we are able to cite an exception to the general rule of misrepresentation and slander engaged in by the capitalist press against Socialists and Socialists in general...

The paper in question is the St. Paul Globe, one of the most conservative organs of capitalism in the Northwest...

Extravagance is an evil confined solely to those who are expected to work hard and live cheaply.

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be a profit in forcing men and women to degrade themselves. For the rest, Mr. Capitalist might have to take his turn at it.

The only man who is quite guiltless of the infamies of capitalism is the man who is doing his best to abolish them.

After a while, trade unionists may learn that the ballot box is the most effective place to declare a boycott against capitalism.

Talking of injunctions, one can readily understand why the capitalist press is advocating increased salaries for the overworked judges.

It is only the children of the poor that are compelled to play where they can become the victims of privately-owned and operated trolley cars.

The capitalist press is objecting vociferously to the proposition that the militia be composed only of the class in whose interests the militia is used.

The record-breaking exports of American oil to Europe will not be conducive to calming the troubled waters of international competition.

The capitalists are keeping cool at the country resorts, but we can make it hot for them later on by circulating The Worker as much as possible now.

Are you—YOU, individual reader—doing your full share in the work of Labor's emancipation? If not, how can you clear your conscience of all the atrocities of the system you passively endure?

Inasmuch as the capitalist politicians always assume the credit for good crops, the people can easily place the blame for the existing disastrous crop situation in the West where it properly belongs.

The recent advance of ten cents a ton in the price of anthracite coal will mean an increase of \$5,000,000 in the July profits of the coal trust. There is no talk of having the coal miners participate in the profit-sharing.

Considering the amount of drunken rioting indulged in by United States soldiers around New York, at San Francisco, and elsewhere, it would seem timely to call out the militia to maintain order.

Telegraphers taking the place of the telegraph system of the Laskawanna railroad, and 200 operators will lose their jobs. Notice that the capitalists forget that the interests of capital and labor are identical when there's a chance to increase profits.

The frequent punishment of workmen for contempt of court by Republican and Democratic judges proves that these judges know how stately contemptible they are. It is in order for the workmen to express their justified contempt at the ballot-box, by voting against both old parties, and for the S. D. P.

The "United Mine Workers' Journal" says: "The swainship is the institution that makes men animals and women prostitutes." True, and it is the capitalist system that makes the swainship possible. A vote for Socialism is a vote against capitalism: with its swainships, animalism, and prostitution.

Every child on the street or in the factory, every baby pining away in the foul air of the tenements, every crippled workman begging on the street corner, every grave in the Peter's Field, is a count in our indictment against capitalism and against the Republican and Democratic parties. Pass sentence upon these parties in November, workmen of New York.

Mr. Mix spoke upon "The Slaves of Jersey City," a title that might justify a suspicion that the reverend gentleman was trying to steal Socialists' thunder. The particular slaves in question are the employees of the retail stores, which are working under conditions which are shown to be almost intolerable. The minister had received a letter from one of the clerks, in which it was stated that, although the writer had a sister suffering from an illness which was expected to prove fatal, he could never get around to see her until after 10 o'clock at night.

Mr. Mix further said: "I have understood that the conditions in Jersey City are worse than in any other city of its size in the country. The people working in the retail stores have to work a good part of every Sunday in many places, although they do not leave off Saturday night until midnight or later. They also have to work every holiday until 1 or 2 o'clock. They have only one night off a week, and even then they do not get away until 8:30."

"This is truly a condition of affairs strongly partaking of the character of slavery, for these people cannot help themselves. They do not belong to a union. They are simply clerks, boys and men, girls and women. Let a similar condition formerly existing in Europe be remembered. I hope to see an agitation in the community which

halts by the wayside. The same spirit that condemned the great Jewish reformer without a trial, and because of his opinions asked him to die the cross, flourishes today within the condition of the church that looks back to Calvary for inspiration. This disposition to persecute passes over the human race in waves. It seems to be epidemic. Following the great temperance crusade which ended in the establishment of the army and navy, and the deeds of violence attending the outbreak of Garibaldi, it seems to come a wave of religious intolerance assuming the garb of morality.

This same assumed prominence is the increasing domination of Prof. Herron. In his case, social deeds which are condoned in others—acts which may be in strict accord with the highest principles and the purest life—are made the object of savage and acrimonious denunciation. Guilt attended by the worst motives is assumed without so much as a suggestion of proof. Great dailies publish fairy tales by so-called "staff correspondents" of this man's fall; tales that bear on their face the stamp of hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness; great preachers who have known him and loved him as a brother, all at once discover that he is a "monster," because he accused a divorcee from his wife. The domestic trouble that led to the divorce is not investigated—there is no judicial determination of human rights, because forsooth the man is a heretic—because he is off color on his confession of faith.

Prof. Herron may be blameable, he may have placed himself in a position to merit the rebukes of his brother ministers, but so far there has been no evidence that he is better or worse than the average. The acts of the great Henry Ward Beecher were indiscreet to say the least, but they were condoned, as they should have been. The unchristian spirit behind this persecution of Prof. Herron is what strikes the observer. It looks as if the inquisition was attempting to punish him for an alleged social crime when his real crime is heresy.

Not a day passes but reports are forthcoming of terrible accidents upon the railroads of the country, all attended by great fatalities. The people who are not killed outright are injured so severely that they are maimed for life. The causes for these accidents are invariably attributed first of all to negligence on the part of employees, and if this cannot be shown, then to some mysterious power called the "decrees of Providence," a most convenient phrase for railroad managers to hide their guilt behind. In the great majority of cases the so-called negligence of employees is due primarily to overwork and the driving policy of foremen and superintendents, methods resorted to in order to save expenses and break records. When employees are entirely blameless, the disaster can only be traced to poor equipment and bad service, arising from the same desire to satisfy shareholders at the cost of human life and limb. It is nothing short of rank blasphemy for professed believers in the existence of a just God to lay the blame of their own misdeeds upon Him. The fault is in the system of private ownership which admits the operation of the railroads for the gain of a few instead of for the public use and welfare. And what is true of transportation is also true of every other privately-owned industry wherever found.

It is a pretty shabby social system that is afraid to have its tools called by their right name, that has to make a criminal offense out of the utterance of a word. When words become dangerous to established institutions, established institutions are in a bad way. If ordinary burglars and pickpockets ruined the nation it would be made a crime to cry "Stop thief." Since capitalists rule it, it is a crime to say "soak." Let the workers who hate and despise scabbardery vote to put themselves in power instead of the class that profits by scabbardery and we shall have a social system that will not be afraid of mere words, because it will be founded on justice.

In spite of the efforts of the wicked Socialists to destroy the home, the morals of the country are evidently safe. Under the headline, "Increase of Marriage among Fashionable Folk," the papers announce that the "Sumner Social Register" shows 50 per cent. more marriages this year than last among the people who are respectable enough to spend their summers at the seaside or in the mountains. Who says we are not prosperous? Who says we are not a moral people? We are all right, we are. Working people may find it hard to maintain their families decently. But what do they amount to? We are the people—we who go to the mountains and the seaside. And we are all right.

THE SLAVES OF THE RETAIL STORES. Socialists are frequently criticized for using the term "wage slaves" when speaking of the working people and the conditions under which they are forced to work and live, but from time to time evidence is forthcoming from unexpected quarters showing that the use of the term is entirely justified.

Last Sunday the Rev. W. W. Mix, a Jersey City clergyman, preaching in this city, made some statements that were in themselves pretty strong evidence of the existence of wage slavery.

Mr. Mix spoke upon "The Slaves of Jersey City," a title that might justify a suspicion that the reverend gentleman was trying to steal Socialists' thunder. The particular slaves in question are the employees of the retail stores, which are working under conditions which are shown to be almost intolerable. The minister had received a letter from one of the clerks, in which it was stated that, although the writer had a sister suffering from an illness which was expected to prove fatal, he could never get around to see her until after 10 o'clock at night.

Mr. Mix further said: "I have understood that the conditions in Jersey City are worse than in any other city of its size in the country. The people working in the retail stores have to work a good part of every Sunday in many places, although they do not leave off Saturday night until midnight or later. They also have to work every holiday until 1 or 2 o'clock. They have only one night off a week, and even then they do not get away until 8:30."

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will effect a cure for the evils still existing in Jersey City."

There is an agitation going on in that community which will affect a cure for such conditions—the only real cure, Socialism. Mr. Mix may not know this, but it is there nevertheless, and the results springing from it are very gratifying.

Socialism will free the retail store employees from the slavery denounced by Mr. Mix because there will be an opportunity to manufacture and sell goods at a profit. The workers are slaves because they are forced to sell their labor to employers who adapt conditions in their stores and workshops to the desire for profits and the exigencies of competition. When industry is carried on by society and for society's use and welfare, short hours will be the rule and not the exception as at present, and none will be overworked and underfed.

Private ownership is the cause of the misery of the slaves of Jersey City and elsewhere. Collective ownership is the cure. Let the workers unite with that end in view, and wage slavery will soon become only a bitter memory of a wretched past.

Mark Hanna came to New York one day last week and conferred with his boss, J. P. Morgan. A few days later he paid a "friendly" visit to President McKinley at Canton. It is significant that at this very time the representatives of the steel workers and the steel trust failed to reach an agreement in Pittsburgh. Perhaps events may show there is a "gentleman's agreement" existing between Mr. Morgan, the head of the steel trust, and Mr. McKinley, the head of the government, with Mr. Hanna as intermediary. This strike may bring many lessons for the workers of the United States.

The break-up of the Liberal party in England is nearly identical with the disintegration of the Democratic party in the United States. Both parties have been representative of the middle class in the past, and their predicament at this time is indicative of the economic forces at work which are creating new industrial and political conditions in both countries. With its disappearance as a factor in commerce and industry, the middle class also disappears as a factor in political affairs. Rapidly approaching is the time when the capitalist class and the working class will face each other for possession of the world's machinery of wealth production. In England, as in America, the situation presents a glorious opportunity to Socialists, if they will but take advantage of it.

There is a notion abroad that Judas Iscariot hanged himself because he betrayed. But I believe he took to the rope because they did not pay him his legal tender gold money. Had they done this Judas would have survived and left a family behind him to provide the new Gold Democratic party with a next candidate for the presidency.

We have had some Cuban school teachers of the future visiting New York lately and getting locked into shape for the work of fooling their young into the profit mongers' ideal of liberty. One of them has already publicly qualified for promotion by declaring that she does not believe in "Cuba Libre." If there had been a hell it would have been filled long ago with those who have committed the crime of making the world's schoolmasters and school mistresses in all ages. But a day of grace is at last coming to them. If they hearken to the glass blowers and unite in a trade union to teach unionism.

The modern nation that has the laboring class by the throat is the nation that is bound to win. Mr. Schuster, an English bank governor (The United), has been announcing his fears concerning the supremacy of the British pound over the American dollar. English securities, he says, are flying steadily to America, and commercial England is becoming a debtor nation. The old cry of the American patriotic silver plated pops that English capital rules America, therefore, no longer goes. But Mr. Schuster gives not the reason why; that would be giving away the secret of the capitalist's weakness altogether. It is given, however, above in the first clause of this paragraph.

The soldiers of Seville, Spain, are ruffing the town with guns because the town's streets are prosaically. Evidently the only difference between martial law and mob law is that between a bullet and a stone, and between promiscuous and deliberate effort. As is now the case all over the world, this exercise of barbaric martial law is directed against a labor strike. When will the captains of such companies be tried for murder? The military officer in command at Albany is now known to have first fired into the crowd. Why is he free?

The grand old Gomez, the only man in America to-day that lives the life and has fought the fight of George Washington, has been among us for quite a time, but comparatively little notice was taken of him (such idealists you know, belong to a dead past), until he was just leaving for the straits of Darien to take him back to Cuba; then he was followed by an enthusiastic crowd of persons with snip cameras who hoped to be able to get a picture of him that might bring a dollar at some of the newspaper offices. Patriots are becoming extinct.

Secretary Root, the Mephistopheles of the present administration, is now after a federal militia. It is interesting to see what a relief to local politicians it would be to be able to suppress voters by means of an armed force called federal. Every governor that ever called out the militia to enforce the immoral side of the debate between life and property in the case of strikes knows that his reputation at the ballot boxes was ever after damaged. By this trick of Root's, the federal regulars will not lose caste by becoming first sides and the local militia will be spared the inconvenience of carrying the money of murdered neighbors on their banners, and that inestimable summary of public virtue, the federal government, will stand it all.

When the capitalist class give even half the charity to the poor that they have given to the federal regulars, will not the local militia will be spared the inconvenience of carrying the money of murdered neighbors on their banners, and that inestimable summary of public virtue, the federal government, will stand it all.

After all it is said and done, every lady wants domestic slavery to be re-

Mosquito Bites

By PETER E. BURROWES

As in a case of serious illness the physician keeps his eye upon a leading symptom, so I think the student of to-day's profit fever should keep his eye upon and refer often to the symptom of diseased government known as the injunction. The property law-makers of the United States are daily going on record as making environmental restraints for others, while always reserving an instrument by which, when they are themselves envied, they can jump over, and there strengthen the walls hemming in those whom they have left behind. The modern injunction is the greatest strain and menace to which civilization has as yet been subjected, and it comes not from the wild-eyed anarchists, but from the mid-eyed, who plead from the bar and sit on the bench.

When it comes to some things, the great buffalo of America's democracy can roar like any mouse, as witness the great democracy of New York City, which has endured the arrogance and hypocrisy of a Republican, and the sleek treason of a Democratic administration for years, but draws a life and really squeaks when it comes to a five-cent differentiation of the classes on park chairs. The amount of democracy available for squeaks like this proves that the spirit of 1776 is not yet departed, but only in the cat's claws, and is going to have another run around the carpet for pussy's amusement.

It is a long way from the next met that you do not know where to get, to being the owner of two or three millions of dollars that you were not even aware of. But these are the two ends of America's civilization under private capitalism. Slain a man whom the late Mr. Blair of Blairtown devalued was for years kept at the first end. But think of what an aggravation to hell it will be when this poor man talks. Dives that he owned several millions he was not aware of. Oh, the agony of not having known how much it was.

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Mosquito Bites advertisement by Peter E. Burrowes. Includes decorative border and text about the dangers of capitalism.

turned in some way suitably worded to the requirements of the time. "Call it what you like and work it how you will, but give us back our slaves." It was with a thoroughly intelligent appreciation of this national want, long felt in the best society, that Mrs. Garrison proposed to solve the servant girl problem by founding the Moral Reform Association, a benevolent (2) institution of Virginia, where young women would have been well trained for domestic service, and lady-stockholders of the association could be supplied with servants for life. If Mrs. Hayes has failed, it is only temporarily, for her plan has all the germ of the best in it, and why should not the wives of capitalists who are supplied with laborers for life have a trust of their own for a life-long supply of domestic servants?

An experienced lawyer has been pointing out to the public areas the inequities of the regular court practice. Apart from the iniquity of the laws themselves, he shows that the authorized methods of delay enable rich corporations to scoff at verdicts rendered against them, and to trust to death, insatiation, or witness, or perjury to settle all claims against them.

We are very thankful to any nation that has enforced or signed before us. For that reason we are grateful to Great Britain for repudiating promises and agreements made with the Boxer republics before the war. It will help us greatly in our moral relations with Cuba and the Philippines.

The "you too" is going to be worked against America by China. Outrages against Chinamen that occurred in Montana back in 1886 are being reduced to money, and the bill of damages sent in as a set-off against our indemnity. Who shall stand, if the dead past goes into figures like this!

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SOCIALIST ECONOMICS. Being an Attempt to Present the Main Principles of Scientific Socialism in Popular Language.

IV.—THE VALUE OF LABOR POWER. We shall do well to begin this chapter with the definition of a word that is sure to occur often in our discussion—the word "commodity." When we speak of a commodity we mean a thing that is commonly produced not for the use of the producer, but in order to be sold. In a primitive state of society there are no commodities, because people do not habitually buy and sell things. Each man produces what he wants for himself, and if there is any exchange it is so irregular and unsystematic that it need not be taken into account. Evidently, in that society, the value cannot be said to have any "value" in the economic sense, because they have no purchasing power. But when, in the course of social evolution, regular barter and afterward money exchange arises, things come to have a definite purchasing power or value. Most things are then produced for exchange, and, perhaps, through several hands before reaching the user. Such things are commodities. And in modern society, it will be seen, practically all industry takes the form of commodities.

In the preceding chapter I have explained the value of commodities in general. I shall speak here of the value of one particular commodity—labor-power. The reader may be somewhat startled at first at hearing his ability to work spoken of as a commodity, in the same category with potatoes and pig-iron. Yet if one thinks of the facts as they are he will recognize that it is quite correct. When a workman—whether he is a laborer, a mechanic, or a so-called "intellectual" worker—agrees to work for wages, he actually sells his labor-power, his body, or of mind or both—just as truly as the farmer sells his potatoes or Rockefeller his iron. And the wages he gets is the price of his labor-power, fixed by the "law of supply and demand," exactly as the prices of other commodities are fixed.

In order to see that this is so, let us ask how the wages of labor are fixed. In the first place, every one knows that competition in the labor market is the force which regulates the wages. And everyone knows that under the capitalist system there is a chronic "glut" in the labor market. In other words, there are, in general, more men asking for jobs than jobs waiting for men. In the second place, everyone knows that the cost of living has something to do with the rate of wages. It is the stark argument of the protectionists that high tariffs keep wages up. And this is generally true, in the sense that the workmen generally get a certain amount of money for the same amount of work under the same conditions. But why is this so? Is it that the employer, getting a higher price for his goods and being, therefore, better able to pay high wages, is willing, out of the goodness of his heart, to pay more for his men? No one who knows anything about the matter will answer that this is so. We all know that the average employer does not want to pay higher wages than he is compelled to pay. And even an occasional capitalist is kind and generous enough to wish to do this, the competition of worse employers prevents him from acting upon his generous impulse. No, the capitalists of a "protected" country pay higher wages than those of a free trade country simply because they are forced to do so. And they are forced to do it because the increased price of goods, the increased cost of living, compels the workmen to demand higher wages. The only difference is that the capitalist, says 10 per cent more money for a day's work and pays 10 per cent more money for a day's living. And any other cause which increases the cost of living, acts in raising the wages. Anything that enables the working people, on the other hand, to live more cheaply tends to reduce wages. We all know, for instance, that the Chinese in California work for low wages, and so reduce the pay of white labor, too, simply because they can live for less money. In the same way, whenever girls can be employed in any trade, the wages of that trade fall. Why? Because a girl can live cheaper than a man, having, in general, only herself to support, and in many cases, not having to do even this, but only to "help out" the family a little. So when boys are employed as helpers in a factory, and when men are employed as labor, about what the father alone earned in former days. Again, in places where the average worker has a little land, so that he and his family can earn out their living by gardening and keeping a cow and chickens, wages are lower than in places where the workers are dependent on their wages alone.

From these facts we may formulate a law of wages, which is as follows: Whenever a large part of the producers, wage-workers, wages will always tend to the point at which the average worker can support himself and his family, or, more briefly stated: Wages are fixed by the cost of living.

It is evident, then, that the law of value for the commodity called labor-power is exactly the same as for all other commodities. For the cost of living is the cost of producing or reproducing labor-power. In the next article, on "Labor Power as a Commodity," we shall consider how this "iron law of wages" bears on the question of Socialism.

Attribution at best is an arrant lie in which the opposing forces of labor and capital confer about the terms upon which labor surrenders to capital.—Leon Greenbaum.

Better vote for what you want and not get it than vote for what you don't want and get it. But best of all, vote for what you want and get it, by working to induce your fellow workmen to vote with you.

While the union is raising wages 5 per cent, the capitalist class is raising prices 10 per cent.—Leon Greenbaum.

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