

The Worker.

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CAPITALIST GIFTS AND WORKINGMEN'S PRIVILEGES.

The papers have been full of accounts of "Christmas gifts" from employers to their "hands"—some of them in the form of advances of wages or of infinitesimally small shares of the profits their labor had created. Two or three of these cases are worth nothing, more particularly.

M. C. D. Borden, cotton-mill owner of Fall River, Mass., restored to his employees the amount that they had lost since Nov. 16 through his cutting wages 10 per cent. on that day. In his notice Mr. Borden said:

"This is in no sense an increase of pay, but a Christmas offering to which the help, under the circumstances, are reasonably entitled."

He admits that the employees are ENTITLED to this money. Yet, after withholding it from them so long, he adds insult to injury by calling it a "Christmas offering."

From Cleveland, Ohio, it is announced that:

"The managers of the Pittsburg Steamship Company, as part of the Steel Trust is collecting names of employees to whom it is proposed to give business ranging between \$150 and \$250 on this year's work. It was at first proposed to make these bonuses applicable only on next year's business, but it seems that Mr. Wolvin has decided to reward the engineers who have held with him firmly through this year by paying such bonuses now. Such action on the part of the steel corporation it is believed will lessen the probability of labor disputes next year."

In plain words, the Steel Trust thinks, by the judicious distribution of presents, to secure scabs for the next strike that may arise.

Best of all is the phrase of the owners of the Bourne cotton mills in Fall River, in announcing a sharing of profits, say to their employees:

"You are to be congratulated that honest employment has been your PRIVILEGE during the past year."

The use of the word "privilege" is highly appropriate. A "privilege" is something that cannot be claimed as a right, but that is granted as a favor by the good will of some person having the right to withhold it. Under the capitalist system employment—that is, the opportunity to work and to live—is a privilege in the strictest sense. No man who does not own capital can claim the right to work and earn his living. He can enjoy the opportunity to do this only by the favor of the capitalist. But the workingman has no reason to be thankful to his employer for this privilege. It is a privilege granted only when it is well paid for. The laborer or mechanic or factory operative is permitted, as a privilege, to work hard all day, using tools and machinery that other workmen (not the employer) have created, and pays for the privilege of thus earning his own scanty living by leaving in the hands of his employer one-half, two-thirds, or even three-quarters of the value of his product.

And yet, the capitalists have the insolence to claim the gratitude of the workers for allowing them to toil and live, even on these hard terms.

Socialists proclaim the right to work, instead of the privilege of employment, but they demand more than that. They declare the right of the workers to the whole value of their product. The time is coming when men will read in history of the so-called "privilege of employment" and wonder, as we wonder now when we read that chattel slaves used to be thankful when their owners condescended to give them, some little present or allow them an occasional holiday.

Gratitude is a virtue—when it is the gratitude of a freeman to his equal for a kindness freely and disinterestedly done. But the workingman who is grateful for the "privilege of employment" neither shows respect for himself nor commands the respect of others.

FARMING BY MACHINE.

The following dispatch, published in the New York "Evening Post," will be interesting reading to those who think that the methods of large capitalism can never be applied to agriculture in America:

"LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 18.—Farming is conducted upon a large and economic scale in many portions of southern California. In no locality has modern steam farming machinery been applied with such effectiveness as upon the grain ranches in southern California. On one ranch the engine used to draw the machinery is of fifty-horse-power, and has drive wheels which are eight feet high, consuming twelve barrels of oil every day, and its operation requires the services of seven men. In ploughing, fifty-five furrows are turned over at one time, covering a breadth of forty feet. Eight horses are needed to keep the machine supplied with water and fuel. The best record made so far in ploughing is seventy-five acres in four hours and forty-five minutes. The field was five miles around, giving the great engine a straightaway course, with few turns, in making the record. In operating this plough to the best advantage a water station is maintained at one corner of the field, from which the engine is supplied as needed. The average capacity of the machine is the ploughing of 110 acres per day.

"The use of this machine is not an exception. Last year 8,000 acres were harvested by it. On a ranch of 1,000 acres it is an economic investment, but a smaller acreage would not warrant the outlay. Last season a combined harvester was drawn by the engine, and averaged over 1,000 acres of wheat in a day, cutting, thrashing, and sacking the crop. One of these great field engines is at work this season near Covina, displacing seventy mules."

LABOR LAW NULLIFIED.

Pennsylvania Court Knocks Out Important Measure.

Law Against the "Pluck-me-Store" System is Made Invalid—Infamous Practice by Which Mining Companies Keep Men in Dependence May Be Continued with Impunity.

The Dauphin County Court at Harrisburg, Pa., has found loopholes by which the mine owners and other capitalists may safely violate the "store order law" passed in the last legislative session.

The act imposed a tax, intended to be prohibitory, upon orders, checks, coupons, and pass-books representing wages in order to put an end to the "pluck-me" system so largely in vogue in the mining regions and so highly profitable to the companies. The court holds that the act does not apply, in one case, to orders given by employees upon employers, which the employers paid in cash when presented, and in others to the practice of paying employees with envelopes containing the cash balance after deducting certain items from the gross earnings for a given time. This amounts to a decision that the whole law is not worth the paper it was written on, and that the companies may go on with the store-order system without any fear of prosecution.

THE STORE-ORDER SYSTEM.

Many are the petty tricks devised by employers to fleece their employees to the skin and make it absolutely impossible for them to save anything out of their scanty wages, and thus to keep them in abject and perpetual bondage. Of all these petty schemes, probably the most infamous is the "company store" system, which is practised most generally by the coal-mining corporations.

Under this system the workingman, as an individual, is helpless, bound hand and foot. The coal company is the only employer in the neighborhood. He can work and live only by that company's consent. The same company is the universal landlord, so that he can be evicted from the slum that he calls his home. Finally, to rivet his chains past hope of breaking, the company has its stores, at which every employee is expected, and virtually compelled, to trade. Here he gets food and clothing for himself and his family, at the most exorbitant prices. His store account is regularly balanced against his wages, and he is bound to the company's cashier, and the cashier to the company's office. And the officials of the company carefully see to it that his cash balance on pay day is never enough to carry him through to the next pay day, so that he shall be kept forever in debt to the corporation which his labor has enriched.

MOTIVE OF THE SCHEME.

The motive for this scheme is more than the greed for a few additional pennies. It is a deliberate plan to keep the miner in such a state of dependence that he cannot resist the tyranny of his bosses. If he has no money he cannot even leave the mine and go elsewhere to seek work—as a last resort—except by tramping, and leaving his family behind to suffer, perhaps, from hunger and cold.

The same scheme is being enacted in the legislature here, and the same end is being put an end to this abuse. Generally, the company pays no attention to the law; but when an attempt is made, under pressure from the labor organizations, to enforce the law, the courts always come to the rescue of the capitalists, either by deciding the law unconstitutional or, as in this case, by interpreting it in such a way that it has no effect.

This decision adds one more proof to the contention of the Socialists that workingmen cannot expect to get labor laws honestly passed and enforced unless they will nominate and elect members of their own class, distinctly representing their own class and no one else, as legislators, judges, and executive officers.

CAPITALIST OR WORKINGMAN.

The Choice in the Seventh Congressional District.

Christopher Ward is the Workingman's Candidate—Underhand Attempt to Keep His Name Off the Ballot.

Whether Millionaire Belmont or Croker's man O'Grady gets on the ballot in the Seventh Congressional District, will not make much difference to the workingmen who form the majority of the population there. Nor can the Republican Lawyer, Lesler nor the "Independent" Brewer Lindner come any nearer to representing their interests at Washington. But one man will be on the ticket—the Social Democrats will be much mistaken—who stands fairly and squarely for the working class in Richmond, in Washington, or wherever he may be. His name is Christopher Ward and the underhand attempt to keep his name off the ballot, under the name of "THROW MANY MEN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT," is a disgrace.

The American Tin Plate Company will install processes for making black plate, which will be largely automatic. MILLS WHERE THE ASSOCIATION MAY OBJECT WILL LIKELY BE CLOSED OR ABANDONED. The new machinery will do from two-thirds to three-fourths of the work now done by hand in the hot mill, and the output will be materially increased.

There is only one thing for the steel workers to do. It was never wise to resist the introduction of improved machinery; the only wise action on the part of the workers was to force a reduction of hours in proportion as machinery was put in. But things have now gone too far for the steel workers to expect to do this effectively by trade union methods alone. We repeat, there is only one thing for them to do now. That is to vote, solidly for Socialism—to make the iron and steel mills public property, with a working-class government to administer them, to cut off the profits of the useless plutocrats and devote the savings thus made to reducing the hours of labor and increasing the remuneration of the producers.

LABOR'S TRIBUTE TO CAPITALIST CLASS.

According to the New York "World," the amounts to be paid out in dividends on stock and interest on bonds by large corporations in the four leading cities of the country during the month of January, may be conservatively estimated as follows:

New York	\$120,000,000
Boston	25,000,000
Philadelphia	20,000,000
Chicago	10,000,000
Total	\$205,000,000

This, of course, represents but a small part of the tribute which labor pays to the monopolizers of the means of production, but it is large enough to be very impressive. In the face of such figures, the petty "Christmas gifts" which some employers have thrown to their workmen as one throws a bone to a dog, sink into insignificance.

RIOTOUS DEFENDERS OF LAW AND ORDER.

"SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—During a fracas in a saloon near the Presidio, William Ross of the Coast Artillery, was stabbed by an unknown soldier. A riot followed, stones and bricks were thrown, and two shots were fired. About 1,000 soldiers, it is estimated, were in the crowd. The provost guard and police had to be called out to restore order. Fifty-nine soldiers were put in the guard-house and fifteen officers taken to police station."—Dispatch in daily press.

That's all. If a thousand strikers, on the verge of destruction, had engaged in such a riot, what a hullabaloo the capitalist press would have raised. We should at once have had a circumstantial account of how a union man had made a "murderous assault" upon one of those "free-workingmen" commonly known as "scabs," and there would have been long editorials pointing out that the unions are dangerous and criminal organizations.

But follow the story of the Federal soldiers, defenders of law and order, upholders of "Old Glory," and so the incident is passed over lightly. Soldiers are necessary to fight the battles of capitalism abroad and at home—abroad to win new markets or new supplies of cheap labor, at home to keep down the wicked Yellows who go on strike.

The worst of it is that this is not isolated cases. Many such riots, much worse than this, have occurred among the soldiers within the last three years. It is a natural outcome of militarism, which, in its turn, is a natural outcome of the capitalist system. A Socialist state could get along without professional killers and destroyers, because it would have no incentive to foreign war and it would have no subject class to be kept under control within its own borders.

THE SPY SYSTEM.

The manufacturers of Ohio are now organizing an anti-Union Trust, one that dare not employ leaders or agitators. Spies and detectives have been employed to search out the meetings for evidence. Of course, it is the workers' enemies who do things unjustly. The bosses no doubt claim they have a right to do so, but if the Union men made such an attempt they surely would be enjoined and still the sun shines on—The Tobacco Worker.

—The greatest of all calamities is the contentment that sits down at ease with a repudiated evil.—William Smith.

CHRISTMAS GIFT TO WORKINGMEN.

Steel Trust Will Put in Machinery Which Will Displace Many Men, While Increasing the Output.

Among the much heralded "Christmas presents" from capitalists to workingmen, indicating the "brotherhood of Capital and Labor," there is one quietly announced in the daily press which must not be overlooked. Here is the dispatch:

"The United States Steel Corporation will at once take steps to reap the fruits of its victory over the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin-plate workers during the great strike of the past summer. After the 'strike,' all the important mills became non-union. In all of these, now that the opposition to labor-saving machinery has been overcome, new devices will be introduced, which are expected to result in a great saving, but which at the same time will 'THROW MANY MEN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.'"

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THE SKELETON IN SOCIETY'S CLOSET.

Thousands Born and Buried by Grace of Capitalistic Charity.

Appalling Destitution Revealed by Charity Statistics—Families Living on Seventy Cents a Day—One-Tenth of New York's People Come Into the World and Go Out as Paupers.

The annual report of the Society of the Lying-In Hospital for the year ending Sept. 30 has just been issued. The number of the society's patients shows a large increase over the services of last year, the number of applicants being 3,757, an increase of 739. Of these the society visited and relieved 2,723. The whole number of births in the Borough of Manhattan during the year was 50,288, being 214 LESS than a year ago. The extent of the society's work, according to the report, during the year, amounted to MORE THAN 5 PER CENT. OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS and an increase of 1 per cent. over the services of last year.

The report states that of the women visited, the average wages received by the husbands amounted to \$28.25 per month, the average rent being \$8.54 LESS THAN SEVENTY CENTS A DAY TO PROVIDE FOR EACH FAMILY. These figures are published, the report says, to prove the destitute condition of the class cared for by the society and the absolute impossibility of their saving anything for medical attendance.

It must be remembered that this lying-in hospital is only one of a number of such institutions, that relief of other charitable organizations; that thousands of people received aid from fraternal societies, trade unions, sick and death benefit organizations, and churches; and that the amount privately given by individuals to those in distress probably far exceeds all the work of organized charities.

Yet more than 5 per cent. of the total number of women in child-birth are cared for by this society alone. And, as Jacob Riis has proved, 10 PER CENT. OF THOSE WHO DIE IN NEW YORK ARE BURIED IN POTTER'S FIELD, to say nothing of those buried by the charity of various societies and trade unions.

The Society of the Lying-In Hospital is to have a new hospital, the gift of J. Pierpont Morgan, who accumulated millions of dollars every year while thousands live and die in misery and destitution.

THE CHARITY OF CAPITALISM.

Capitalism, the system of individual greed by which one class in society fattens upon the labor of another, has reached a stage of development under which the disinherited classes are brought into life by charity, sustained by charity, and buried by charity—the charity of those who rob humanity.

THE VOTE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Official Report Gives S. D. P. 957 for Mayor of Boston—S. L. P. Lost Half Its Vote—Additional Figures for State Election.

The Social Democratic (Socialist Party) vote for John Weaver Sherman for Mayor of Boston, in the late city election, as given out by the Election Commissioners, is 957. In 1900 he received 967 votes, the same office. The S. L. P. candidate, Raasch, has 426, as against 978 cast for Stevens, their candidate in 1900.

For Street Commissioner, Stephen O'Shaughnessy, S. D. P., had 1,888; John W. Johnson, S. L. P., 2,150.

For School Committee, the three-year term, eight to be elected, the following voted: Martha Moore, 11,530; Patrick Mahoney, 9,785; Stephen O'Leary, 9,461; Jacob Epstein, 7,574; David Taylor, 7,004; Moses Koulikov, 4,044; Samantha Merrifield, 4,852; average vote, 7,879.

The S. L. P. nominated six candidates, whose votes ranged from 1,708 to 4,364, with an average of 2,948.

Figures may now be given for the votes cast for the various district offices in the state election.

For Executive Council we had candidates in all of the eight districts and cast 17,085 votes; in 1900 we nominated in but two and cast but 4,316 votes. The S. L. P. in 1900 had candidates in six districts, who received 9,156 votes; this time they had none.

We had candidates for District Attorney in five of the eight districts and polled for them 23,513 votes. The S. L. P. made no nomination.

For Sheriff we had candidates in six of the fourteen districts and cast 33,735 votes. The S. L. P. had no candidates.

For Clerk of Court we had candidates in five of the sixteen districts and cast 37,022 votes. The S. L. P. had no candidates.

For Senators we had candidates in twenty-six of the forty districts and their aggregate vote was 13,467. In the previous year we nominated in fifteen districts and cast 9,017 votes. The S. L. P. had but three candidates, instead of sixteen as in 1900, and cast but 907 votes, instead of 3,029.

Squire E. Putney, State Secretary for Massachusetts, writes:

"The results of the last election indicate the great need of educational work for Socialism in Massachusetts. Whereas we expected a large gain in our vote, we lost votes. It is certain

THE ATTACK FAILS.

Attempt to Unseat Socialist Delegates in Hudson County Trades Council Ends in Defeat.

Lively sessions are becoming the regular thing in the Essex County, N. J., Trades Council. At the Friday session the session was the report of a committee elected the week before to "investigate" Comrade E. T. Neben, President of the Street Railway Employees' Union.

Delegate Henry Hillers, who represented the Council in the Scranton convention, charged that Neben, Billings, and Rubinow, the delegates of the union in question had no right to a vote in the Council. He said: "These men are the whole thing in that union. I have talked to several of the street railway employees, and they didn't know anything about it. I tell you, Mr. President, these delegates are here to represent something else besides the Street Railway Union."

"What are they here for?" asked Neben, followed by others.

"I'll tell you, gentlemen," continued Hillers. "I'm not afraid to speak. They are here to represent the Socialist Party and nothing else. There's a nigger in the woodpile—but here he is!"

Neben charged Hillers with having violated his instructions at Scranton and with having deliberately stirred up trouble for the local organization of ear men. "You stand here," he said, "trying to get me and my co-delegates out of this Council and trying to smash the union that it took seven months of hard work to organize. I charged Hillers with having carried false reports to International President Mahon in order to be able to throw out trade union delegates who are also Socialists."

The report of the committee appointed at the previous session showed that all the charges against President Neben were unfounded and recommended that International President Mahon be requested to come to Newark and explain what passed between himself and Hillers at Scranton and why he sanctioned the attack upon Neben. They further reported that the delegates withdrew till the matter was settled.

The committee evidently did not know whether to accept this report or to oppose it. Comrade Neben challenged the fullest investigation and demanded that Mahon come to Newark and that all communications between Mahon and himself be laid before the Council. He did not believe Mahon would dare to come to Newark.

The controversy ended with a motion, that the matter rest as it is until President Mahon comes. Thus the attack on the Socialist delegates was quite unavailing.

MIDDLE CLASS FAILURES.

Bradstreet's reports on failures in the United States during the week ended 262 for the previous week and 214, 220, 218, and 207 for the corresponding weeks of 1901 to 1907. About 92 per cent. of the total number of failures falling had capital of \$5,000 or less, and 4 per cent. had from \$5,000 to \$20,000 capital.

Many have lived on a pedestal, who will never have a statue when dead.—Borah.

A BUNCO GAME BY "FRIENDS OF LABOR."

Chicago's Democratic Administration, to Save Money for Taxpayers, Adopts Worst Schemes of Private Corporations in Dealing with Injured Laborers.

The present city administration in Chicago has somehow got a reputation of being "progressive" and "friendly to labor." How little this reputation is deserved will be seen from a careful reading of the following press report of the newly adopted system of providing for laborers injured on public works:

"Chicago has tried an interesting experiment in assuring its own accident risks. In the Department of Public Works. In constructing the Thirtieth street sewer, the city has declared its independence of the insurance companies, effecting thereby a large saving. Commissioner Block reports that money spent on injuries has amounted to but 2 per cent. of the payroll. This is 4 per cent. less than insurance companies would have charged.

"Under the new arrangement, when a laborer is injured he is taken to the hospital, where he is treated. The city pays him his wages while he is there, and takes care of him. WHEN HE IS ABLE TO GO BACK TO WORK HE RECEIVES A RELEASE, BELIEVING THE CITY FROM FURTHER RESPONSIBILITY. THIS DOCUMENT IS IN THE HANDS OF THE CITY OFFICIALS BEFORE HE GETS HIS WAGES FOR THE TIME HE HAS NOT WORKED. HE IS CONSTANTLY WATCHED BY THE CITY PHYSICIAN SO THAT HE CANNOT 'PLAY SICK ON THEIR HANDS.' Opportunity for this is not offered in the hospital, but it is when the laborer is taken ill at work and is sent home. In case a man is killed the city assumes the risk which heretofore has been shared by the insurance companies having the contract."

The words which we have put in large type show the purpose of the whole plan, which is not at all to give better protection to the laborers who do the city's hard and dangerous work, but purely and simply to save expenses to the taxpayers.

The scheme of compelling the injured workmen to sign a paper relieving the city from all further responsibility, before his wages are paid for the time he is in the hospital, is on a par with the worst practices of railway and mining corporations.

A Socialist administration would institute quite a different plan. Representing the working class instead of the taxpayers, his first concern would be to take the most effective measures to prevent accidents, whether on public or private work, and then to assure the victims of unavoidable accidents the amplest possible compensation for their loss and suffering. But from Mayor Harrison and "friends of labor" like him the workingmen had no right to expect anything but a bunco game such as is now being practised on them.

—I rejoice at every effort workingmen make to organize. I call the labor movement. It is my only hope for democracy. Organize and stand together. Let the nation hear a united sound from the laboring voice.—Wendell Phillips.

LUMBER TRANSIT TRUST.

The Lumber Transit Company, a vessel-owning trust of the great lakes, is in process of formation. Its capital is \$2,500,000, and application for a charter has been made in Maine. The boats to be purchased will be paid for partly in stock and partly in bonds.

All vessel owners interested in the carrying of lumber on the great lakes will meet in Detroit in about a week, immediately after the meeting of the Lake Carriers' Association. Every owner of tonnage carrying lumber will be invited to this conference, when plans for the trust will be laid before them, and they will be asked to come into the organization.

If the promoters succeed in getting from fifty to sixty vessels enrolled on the trust's books, they will consider themselves masters of the situation. The movement for the consolidation of lumber carriers began a year ago.

PLASTER-MAKERS COMBINE.

The plaster manufacturing plants of the country are to combine, with a capital stock of \$10,000,000, says an officer of one of the Omaha concerns. All the details of the consolidation have been practically settled, and the papers are now going the rounds to receive the signatures of the managers of the different plants. With the exception of three, every one of the plants in the country has entered the pool. It is expected that the three remaining concerns will be secured within a few days.

OTHER TRUST NOTES.

The Merchant's Association of Berlin, Germany, has sent a memorial to the Federal Council of the Empire advocating a law to permit and regulate trade combinations.

The American Sewer Pipe Company has been successful in forming a pool that will control the sewer pipe trade east of the Mississippi, including all the twenty-two independents. Uniform prices will be established, and agencies will be established in the principal cities. Arrangements are now pending to reach an agreement with the concerns west of the Mississippi.

A \$10,000,000 hardware combination has been formed by San Francisco capitalists and incorporated in New Jersey under the name of the Pacific Hardware and Steel Company.

The Market Street Railway system of San Francisco has passed into the hands of the "Baltimore syndicate," which controls street railway systems in many other cities.

Two more national banks in Boston will merge; also two in Newark, N. J.

The Everett-Moore syndicate which has, within the last few months, acquired great numbers of trolley lines in Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio, has just added the Toledo and Maumee Valley and the Toledo, Waterville and Southern to its inter-state system.

Dividends of the Panhandle railway system, now owned by the Pennsylvania, are increased from 2 per cent. to 3. No news of a corresponding advance of wages.

The Lake Shore Railroad has acquired the Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, a short but very profitable line.

The Chicago, Iowa and Dakota Railroad has been absorbed by the Chicago and Northwestern.

The three national banks of Lowell, Mass., have combined.

Five of the largest importing and jobbing houses in Boston, handling toys, fancy goods, and druggists' sundries, have consolidated.

CORRUPT DEAL IS COMPLETED.

Stolen Franchises Which Agitated Philadelphia Last Summer Pass Into Hands of Railway Trust.

It is asserted upon the highest financial authority that the Widener-Elkins syndicate, which controls the Union Traction Company and operates the street car lines in Philadelphia (as well as in many other cities, has secured possession of all the franchises and rights granted by the Pennsylvania legislature and Philadelphia city council last June to a group of capitalists headed by Congressman Robert H. Forrester, Jr., for surface, elevated, and underground railways in that city. Thus all possible chance of competition for years to come has been killed.

The absolutely free gift of these franchises by the Republican administration, caused a great sensation last summer. Forrester, to quiet the agitation, made a public statement that under no circumstances would the franchises be sold to the Union Traction Company. But the faith of capitalists is as bad as that of princes.

The people of Philadelphia have but one means of redress. The majority of them are working people. Let them vote the Socialist ticket and thus put workingmen in office on a labor ticket, who will annul the franchises, make the street railways public property, and run them for public service, not for private profit.

"FORERUNNERS OF SOCIALISM."

On Sunday, Jan. 5, at 2 p. m., Morris Hillquit, one of the best lecturers to Socialists in Happy Days Hall, 12 St. Marks Place (Eighth street). The subject will be "The Forerunners of Socialism," this being the first of four lectures on the history of the movement. The following lectures by Comrade Hillquit will be:

Jan. 12—"Modern Socialism."

Jan. 19—"Communist Experiments in the United States."

Jan. 26—"Proletarian Socialism in the United States."

The historical side having been covered in these four lectures, other speakers will treat other aspects of the movement in later lectures.

This course has been arranged by the City Executive for the special benefit of party members, many of whom will doubtless be glad of the opportunity to hear a systematic treatment of the whole subject by our most competent speakers. Although the lectures are primarily intended for party members, others will, of course, be welcome.

STRIKE STILL ON IN SAN FRANCISCO.

We have received from the Iron Trades Council of San Francisco a communication stating that the strike of the pattern makers, boiler makers, iron ship builders and helpers, steam fitters and helpers, very makers, molders, ship joiners, machinists and helpers, and apprentices of San Francisco, and the Pacific Coast for a nine-hour day is still on, newspaper reports to the contrary notwithstanding, and requesting all workmen in these trades to refuse to accept positions in that region in any capacity.

ICE CONSPIRATORS PROSPER GREATLY.

The American Ice Company or Ice Trust, which last year so nearly succeeded in its conspiracy with the government of New York City, has organized another company, with the same directors and the same plan, to carry on a retail coal business throughout the city during the half of the year when ice is not freely in demand.

Neither the officers of this company nor the city officials who accepted their bribes have been punished, although the crime was brought to light some eighteen months ago. Workingmen accused of unlawfully conspiring to raise their wages can be "railroaded" to jail in less than that many days; but the guilty capitalists are allowed to prosper and grow under the protection of the law. "The way of the transgressor is hard"—unless the transgressor is a capitalist; in that case it is broad and easy, and so, it will be with the working class taking the political power into its own hands.

It is doubtful whether the use of machinery has yet lightened the day's toil of a single human being. Says John Stuart Mill, Reason: Private ownership. The efforts of the trade unions have slightly modified the truth of Mill's statement.

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EXTENT OF RAILWAY COMBINES.

The extent of recent railway combinations is limited by the following published statement in regard to the Baltimore and Ohio:

"A notable result of the organization of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company under the direction of the former system's manager. The consolidation of recently acquired properties with the main system has increased the total mileage from 2,000 to 4,237. The great growth is the result of uniting the Baltimore and Ohio proper with the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern, Ohio River, Pittsburgh and Western, Cleveland, Lorain and Wheeling, and other acquired lines."

The B. & O. thus absorbs independent lines aggregating 65 per cent. of its own former mileage, and is itself, with all these acquisitions, made a dependency upon the Pennsylvania.

A QUESTION OF TACTICS.

A question recently arose in Local St. Louis which, as it concerned the withdrawal of half a dozen members...

PARTY NOTES.

JOHN SPARGO WILL SPEAK ON "Our Position, Ethical, Economic, and Political," at the Socialist Club, Ralph Avenue and Fulton Street, Brooklyn, Sunday evening, Jan. 5.

THE LADIES OF THE SOCIALIST CLUB of Brooklyn will hold an entertainment for the benefit of the Club at its headquarters, Fulton Street and Ralph Avenue, on Wednesday, Jan. 15.

N. I. STONE WILL LECTURE AT Colonial Hall, One Hundred and First Street and Columbus Avenue, on "The Trusts in the Light of Latest Developments," Sunday, Jan. 5.

THE COMRADES OF THE 6TH and 10th A. D. are planning to give an entertainment with Kraft's play, "Now and Then," as the main feature, at the 14th and 16th Street co-ops.

HUGO PICK IS VIGOROUSLY pushing the circulation of The Worker on the West Side.

DR. C. L. FURMAN WILL SPEAK Sunday afternoon at the W. E. A. Club-house, 206 E. Eighty-sixth Street.

THE COMRADES OF THE 16TH A. D. have decided to give up their subscription to The Worker.

THE 18TH AND 20TH A. D. ARE now organized together and will probably be declared as one.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CLUB OF Yorkville, which is already taking two copies of The Worker, took five copies of the "Comrade," and if the experiment is successful will order it monthly.

THE 24TH A. D. BRANCH 2 meets regularly every Thursday evening at the club rooms of the Socialist Educational League, 215 E. Fifty-ninth Street.

JAS. N. WOOD SPEAKS SUNDAY evening, Jan. 5, at 102 Court Street, Brooklyn.

LOCAL NEWARK has arranged a series of Sunday evening lectures, beginning Jan. 5, at the headquarters, 124 Market Street.

LOCAL PASSAIC COUNTY WILL hold its semi-annual meeting Wednesday evening, Jan. 8, at Helvetian Hall, 54 Van Houten Street.

CHARLES H. YAIL WILL GIVE a course of four lectures in Haverhill on Feb. 3, 4, 5, and 6.

IN WASHINGTON. The State Committee of the Socialist Party in Washington has passed the following resolution:

THE CALIFORNIA STATE CONVENTION, which was to have been held Dec. 15, was postponed to Jan. 1.

JAMES S. ROCHE OF LOS ANGELES has been chosen to represent California at the National Committee.

LOCAL WILKES BARRE, Pa., changed its headquarters to the second floor of the new Simon Long Building.

OKLAHOMA CONVENTION. The Oklahoma Territorial Convention was held at Kingfisher, Dec. 27.

The professors at Rockefeller's Conservatory are necessarily mental prostitutes. To mental philosophy according to the wishes of John Rockefeller, and make it the instrument of their plans; so as to obtain money and appointments, seems to me as if a person should receive the sacrament to satisfy his hunger and thirst.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Algernon Lee and L. D. Mayes presided at last Saturday's session of the General Committee of Local New York.

Charles Fernak was seated as delegate from the 15th and 17th A. D., and nine new members were admitted to the local.

It was decided not to engage either Father McGrady or Ben Tillet to speak in New York.

The resignation of I. Phillips from the Grievance Committee was accepted, and the election of a successor laid over to the next meeting.

The bill called showed the following subdivisions not represented: Seventh, 11th, 19th, 23d, 24th, Branch 1, 20th, 26th, Bohemian, 32d and 33d, 34th, and 36th Branch 2, Annexed Districts.

Several districts reported that it had been decided to hold regular lectures or do other agitation work, while some reported that they were waiting for Executive reports.

There are many grumblings going up from the New York Central (Boston and Albany division) about their treatment under the new regime.

The proposed meeting in the Iglesias case was postponed pending the decision of his appeal.

The Yorkville Agitation Committee have initiated a plan for a May Festival for the benefit of the local and the English daily press fund.

The subdivisions were called upon to make special efforts to extend the circulation of The Worker.

The Entertainment Committee reported that tickets were still outstanding from the 4th, 10th, 24th, 28th, and 31st A. D., and that they would report as soon as these tickets were accounted for.

It was decided to submit the following names to the general vote as delegates to the International Bureau.

The new constitution and by-laws of Local Kings County have been adopted by a practically unanimous vote.

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with those who are to it that those dividends are as large as possible. When stock is sold, a small dividend, my pleasure is to have it distributed in the form of cash.

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We Wish You A Happy New Year AND ASK Have You Seen THE WORKER CALENDAR? A Work of Art.

The Rising Sun, Reproduction From Famous Painting by Perot, Famous French Artist.

Every Comrade should get one. - Send Now. 5 Cents at office. 7 Cents postpaid.

"THE WORKER", 184 William St. but don't you think it queer that people who do not hesitate to ridicule and abuse all who are outside their own section...

OFFICIAL NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Secretary, Leon Greenbaum, Room 427, 427 E. 12th St., New York, N. Y.

CALIFORNIA STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

CONNECTICUT STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, A. R. Corning, 478 Chapel Street, New Haven, Conn.

ILLINOIS STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, H. A. Morris, 36 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Ill.

KANSAS STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

MAINE STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, W. G. C. Giddens, 1145 W. Third Street, Woodford, Va.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, S. J. Putney, 418 North Street, Boston, Mass.

MICHIGAN STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

MINNESOTA STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, G. B. Leonard, Room 533, 4th Street, Minneapolis, Minn.

MISSOURI STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

NEBRASKA STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

NEW JERSEY STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

NEW YORK STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

OHIO STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

VERMONT STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

WISCONSIN STATE COMMITTEE. Secretary, J. H. O'Connell, 124 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

NEW YORK LOCAL NEW YORK. The subdivisions are hereby called upon to elect new delegates to the General Committee of the Local Party.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY. The party which this paper represents is known nationally as the Socialist Party, and such is its designation in most of the states.

EMILE ZOLA'S POWERFUL REALISTIC NOVELS. Paper covered, neatly printed, 25 cents each; postage, 5 cents extra each volume.

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SLEEPING? PLEASANT DREAMS? DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE ALARM? The Trusts are in possession of the country! Capitalists are smothering labor unions! Capitalist Judges are fastening injunctions against workingmen!

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! We are not in this world to slumber. We Socialists have a mission. We must EMANCIPATE HUMANITY.

THE WORKER, 184 William St., New York. FIVE YEARLY POSTALS, \$2.00.

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