

# The Worker

NEW YORK, JANUARY 19, 1902.

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## THE SLAUGHTER OF WORKINGMEN. Steel Workers' Lives Worth Less Than Mules.

Funnel Horror but an Incident in the System of Wholesale Murder for Profit. Which Capitalist Class Maintains—Cheaper to Rush Work and Sacrifice Lives Than to Stop for Repairs or to Use Safety Appliances.

While the people are experiencing a thrill of horror over the fatal collision in the New York Central tunnel, it would be well for them to consider the slaughters of workingmen which goes regularly, systematically, all over the country, every day in the year, year after year, in the various industries of the country.

In the year ending June 30, 1898, there were 1,508 railway employees killed at their work and 31,761 injured.

In the year ending June 30, 1899, there were 2,210 killed and 34,923 injured.

In the year ending June 30, 1901 the latest for which we have statistics, there were 2,550 killed and 39,643 injured.

As we pointed out in analyzing these figures in our issue of Sept. 1, 1901, not only is the absolute number of railway employees killed or injured at their work increasing year by year, but it is increasing faster than the number of men employed; that is, the proportion of those killed or injured to the whole employed is increasing. The risk of death or injury is growing greater every year.

In 1898, one out of every 28 employees was injured; in 1899, one out of every 27; in 1901, one out of every 26.

In 1898, one out of every 447 employees was killed; in 1899, one out of every 420; in 1901, one out of every 339.

What makes the figures more striking is that the risk to passengers, as shown by the statistics, was considerably reduced.

## THE REASON OF IT.

As we then remarked: "The reason for this surprising contrast is easily seen. It is a comparatively costly business for a railway company to kill passengers: but employees may be slaughtered with practical impunity. THE LAW HOLDS THE COMPANY, AS A COMMON CARRIER, STRICTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF PASSENGERS AND EVEN OF FREIGHT. BUT IT RENDERS THE COMPANY, AS AN EMPLOYER, ALMOST ENTIRELY FREE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LIVES OF EMPLOYEES. The law declares that the employee, by the 'free contract' of employment, assumes the risk of employment, while it makes no such presumption in the case of the passenger or shipper. It holds the employer responsible, not only for any 'contributory negligence' of his own, but also for any 'negligence' of a fellow servant. It makes no such rule in the case of a passenger or shipper. The practice of the courts makes these as against the employee, by the ease with which 'contributory negligence' and 'negligence of a fellow servant' are proven. Add to this, that the employee is generally a poor man, who can ill afford to sue a powerful corporation, and it will be seen why the railway companies go on killing and maiming their employees, while taking all possible precautions to protect the lives of passengers and the goods of shippers."

## PROFITS ABOVE LIFE.

"The Herald" thus explains the alarming increase of fatal accidents of this sort in the steel mills and furnaces within recent years:

"This is due to the TERRIBLE PRESSURE UNDER WHICH EVERY LABORING MAN IS WORKING. MILL and furnace owners WILL NOT CLOSE DOWN THEIR PLANTS FOR PROPER REPAIRS, because of the enormous demands for products. Engineers who have wished to apply the latest inventions to machinery to lessen risk are told there are too many orders to do the work. Down for repairs, and the plants will be run until they rattle to pieces."

"The explosion of two boilers of plants of the Crucible Steel Company within a week of the furnace disaster helps to prove conditions in the mills here. In the Black Diamond Steel Works a boiler exploded on Dec. 20, killing three men and injuring a dozen others, some of whom have since died. A man was scalded to death in the New Island plant of the American Steel and Wire Company that night, and the following day a boiler exploded in the Singer-Ninick mill, from which six deaths have occurred. These are only the larger accidents. The minor ones are rarely reported."

The experts, subpoenaed by the companies, always testify that the accidents were unavoidable, and the coroners and judges are so completely under the influence of the steel and iron parties that they make no further inquiry.

"The Herald," however, shows that the accidents are at least very often easily avoidable, if proper repairs are made and proper safety appliances used."

Connell Nuber has engaged experts to prove to the Allegheny county courts that MONEYMAKING IS THE BASIS OF THE EVIL. Owing to the rush of business there have been few intervals when the steel mills could be properly overhauled since 1898. The furnaces have been running continually since 1898 and 1899. During ordinary periods blast furnaces are closed down for a year for retining and

## ACCIDENTS EASILY PREVENTABLE.

"Modern machinery eliminates the danger, and by its installation accidents of the character described are almost impossible. Thus a 'top filler' is in use on modern furnaces, so that no man is needed at the top to empty the barrows of coke, ore and limestone. If a 'hang' slips and causes an explosion no one is on the top to be hurt, and no one is injured unless the metal slope over and spills to the ground. As it takes nine seconds for the metal to fall eight feet, those on the surface have an opportunity to run far enough away to escape the danger. The furnaces, too, are usually surrounded by sheds over the casting houses, etc., and the steel roofs protect the men underneath. There have been no instances where such fearful sacrifices have been made at modern plants."

"Two hundred violent deaths occurred in December. In three mill accidents nineteen men met death. Similar reports come from Lawrence County, where the Shenango Valley furnaces and cast steel mills are located. Coroner Porter, of this county, shows in his report that the greatest number of deaths resulted from mill and railroad accidents."

"Allegheny county has a population of about six hundred thousand, and the death rate is considered out of all proportion to other communities, while deaths by violence are increasing at an alarming rate."

"Grief reigned during the Christmas week in MORRIS HILL ONE HUNDRED HUNDRED IN Pittsburgh and vicinity. Either the heads of the houses had been burned, suffocated or crushed to death in the shops and furnaces or were lying on cots, bruised and burned, awaiting death. No heed would have been paid to this for the occurrences are too common to attract notice—had the subject not attracted the attention of foreign consuls."

"It is declared that human life is considered of less value about an iron works than the life of mules, FOR THE LATTER COST MONEY."

"A ranch engineer who is here studying our manufacturing methods, said: 'There are cases on record here where men have fallen into the furnaces, their bodies being consumed, and no inquiry ever made for them, nor was the loss reported.'"

"The laws of every country in Europe would have had the engineers, foremen, superintendents and probably the owners imprisoned ere this if such an accident occurred here. I find that in Pennsylvania a foreigner has scarcely any standing in the courts."

## THE RAILROAD TRAGEDY.

### AN INDIGNATION MEETING

to protest against  
**MURDER FOR PROFIT.**

THURSDAY, JAN. 16, 1902, 8 P. M.

## COOPER UNION

JOB HARRIMAN, BENJ. ANFORD, MORRIS HILLQUIT, JOHN SPARGO, DR. C. L. FURMAN and other prominent Speakers will address the meeting.

## AND STILL IT WILL NOT DOWN.

The "Peace Conference" Continues to Rouse Discussion in the Union.

Cigar Makers' Union No. 90 Regards It with Suspicion and Calls for a Conference of New York Trade Unionists to Consider It.

"The industrial peace conference," by which Messrs. Hanna, Schwab & Co. hoped to settle the labor question in their own way, continues to rouse discussion in the trade unions. Probably nothing in recent years has done so much to stimulate the workmen of their city to earnest thought about the relations of their own class to the capitalist class as this apparently so innocent conference. This is that, whenever they think an especially cute scheme, they always stir up a hornet's nest and have cause to regret their exceeding shrewdness.

Cigar makers' Union No. 90, always a progressive and militant union, has taken an important step in connection with this matter which is now commanding so much attention. The members of No. 90 regard the "peace conference" with great suspicion, and through their Executive Board they have issued the following call to other trade unions of New York and vicinity:

**CALL FOR CONFERENCE.**

"Dear Sirs and Brothers:

"Clear Makers' International Union No. 90 invites your organization to elect three delegates to a conference to be held on Friday, Jan. 24, at 8 o'clock p. m. in the Labor Bazaar, 64 East Fourth street, New York City, (second hall) to consider a plan of holding a great mass meeting of trade unionists of New York and vicinity to discuss the 'peace conference'.

"Our reasons for taking this action are as follows:

"Our experience in the trade union movement has taught us that the interests of the working class are always opposed to those of the capitalists, and that the capitalists will use all means in their power to crush our organizations or to mislead and divide our forces.

"The so-called 'peace conference' was participated in by some of the worst enemies of the working class, capitalists and politicians who have been instrumental in issuing injunctions against unions, sending troops to shoot strikers, and committing other crimes against our class.

"The Committee of Thirty-six chosen by this conference includes but twelve trade union officials, while all the other twenty-four members belong to the capitalist class; this fact causes us to look with suspicion upon the whole scheme.

"The trade union officials who took part in the 'peace conference' did not represent their organization beforehand and did not represent the trade unions of the country; they acted only as individuals. But the capitalist press has constantly spoken of them as representing the trade unions.

"If we allow this false impression to go unchallenged, we may find ourselves committed, without our consent, to a policy of compromise which the majority of our membership would not approve, and which may prove very dangerous to our organization.

"It is necessary that the rank and file of the trade unions should carefully consider the matter and give public expression to their opinions; and it is for this purpose that the Clear Makers' International Union No. 90 has decided to issue this call.

"We would further suggest that the President, Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, be invited to appear at the proposed mass meeting and explain his unauthorized participation in the 'Peace Conference'.

"With fraternal greetings,

"JOHN NOWACK,  
"Fin-Seely Union No. 90."

Any unions which do not meet before the date named—Jan. 24—are requested to elect their delegates at the earliest opportunity, so that they may at least attend the following sessions of the conference.

If the call issued by C. M. I. U. No. 90 meets with the hearty response that should be given it, much good may be expected. A chance will be given for a calm consideration of the question at issue, by a large and truly representative body of trade unionists in direct touch with the whole rank-and-file, and their final expression of opinion will be entitled to great respect.

## THIS IS PROSPERITY.

We are in an era of prosperity—and this fearful increase of fatal accidents is one of the blessings it brings to the working class. Capitalism means a regular alternation between prosperity and hard times. In hard times workingmen starve or are driven by suicide to despair. Under prosperity they work at a killing rate and take greater risks of death than they would on the field of battle.

Under Socialism the enormous surplus which the capitalists have appropriated would be applied—or so much of it as was necessary—to making the industrial plants safe for the workers; the rest would be devoted to reducing the hours of labor and increasing the workers' remuneration.

The way to get Socialism is to vote for it.

## NEW CASTLE NOMINATES.

Pennsylvania's Socialist Stronghold.

J. W. Slayton, Meads the Ticket for City Election in February—Large Increase Expected in Already Large Vote.

The Socialists of New Castle, Pa., who polled a very large vote last fall, propose to increase it by the city election in February 18. Everything looks favorable for a rapid growth of Socialism in this lively industrial center; for the trade unionists are taking an active interest in the movement and great enthusiasm prevails.

J. W. Slayton, of the Carpenters' Union, is the candidate of the Socialist Party for Mayor, as decided at the city convention held on Jan. 4. Comrade Slayton already has a national as well as a local reputation, both as a Socialist and as a unionist.

For Treasurer the choice fell to J. S. Kaufman, and for Controller to T. H. Waddington. The nominees for Assessors are Wm. Owens, Edward Heydon, and J. M. Schaffer. Candidates for the City Council will be chosen in the several wards.

The following resolutions adopted by the convention show the position the party takes on municipal issues:

"This convention of Socialists in session assembled declare that the same principles of justice must obtain in this city as in the nation, if decent government is expected or equity between man and man is ever to be realized.

"We are fully conscious of the limitations affecting nearly every city of our country, especially of Pennsylvania, in the matter of self-government, largely so by reason of the fact that for years past, city councils have been granting corporate powers to favored individuals and corporations, thus practically giving to them the most valuable franchises within the corporate limits of said cities.

"In order to perpetuate the holdings by themselves of these valuable things, those so favored have seen to it that the people's representatives (ironically called representatives) have so legislated that nearly every attempt at any important local undertaking is either declared unconstitutional or is hedged about with such legal burdens as to make the effort abortive.

"If we wish a publicly owned conduit system we are told there is a perpetual franchise for overhead wires on poles. In the possession of a company whose sole object of existence is to benefit the people (7).

"If we wish a municipal lighting plant, we are told that cities cannot enter that field of competition against a private company already leasing money in the people's interest (7), and the injunction is brought to bear.

"If we ask for a municipal water

## THE JAPANESE ARE LEARNING TO STRIKE.

A dispatch from San Francisco, dated Jan. 11, indicates that the Japanese workmen in this country are learning something of working-class solidarity.

Twenty-six Japanese mechanics who have been working at the Union Iron Works, filling the places of some of the American iron workers, who are on strike, for a shorter working day, have been called out and have stopped work. The Japanese were ordered out by the officers of the Japanese Association of America, an organization with which all the Japanese in this country are affiliated. This action was brought about through the efforts of the Iron Trades Council.

## MIDDLE CLASS FAILURES.

"Broadstreet" reports 340 failures in the United States during the week, against 270 for the previous week, and 322, 293, 304, and 323 for the corresponding weeks of 1901 to 1898, about 88 per cent. of the total number of concerns failing had capital of \$5,000 or less, and 8 per cent. had from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

BUT UNION LABEL GOODS.

## MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

### Carey Renews Fight for Eight-Hour Day.

MacCartney Introduces a Bill for Public Works to Give Employment in Hard Times—Old Parties Agree on Composition of Committees.

James F. Carey of Haverhill, one of the two Social Democratic representatives in the Massachusetts legislature, has not given up the fight for the eight-hour day. He will introduce in this session a bill with that object in view. The bill is brief and clear in its provisions. The draft as prepared reads thus:

"Section 1. There shall be appointed annually by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, in the same manner in which other committees are appointed, a committee, consisting of one member of the Senate and two members of the House, to be known as the Eight-Hour Law Committee.

"Section 2. It shall be the duty of this committee to invite the Legislatures of other states to appoint like committees, and if any such are appointed, to arrange for conference with them; and to take all other proper steps to procure the passage by the states of a uniform law making a legal day's labor to consist of eight hours."

It is not to be expected that the bill will pass. The Republican and Democratic majorities will see to that. But the voices of Governor Carey and his colleague, W. O. MacCartney of Rockland, will be heard in its support in the state-house at Boston, and perhaps next year the workmen of Massachusetts will be wise enough to send their Socialist legislators to aid them in the fight.

MacCartney introduced two bills, both directly in the interest of the working class. The first provides for the establishment of a "state highway emergency fund" of \$100,000, the whole or any part of which shall be available for the purpose of undertaking work on state highways in times when large numbers of men are unemployed. The bill provides that on all such work eight hours shall constitute a day's work and \$2 a minimum day's pay.

The other bill is intended to secure mechanics and factory operatives a "chance to vote." It provides that at the next state election there shall be submitted to general vote the question:

"Shall a law be passed that on election days work in factories and machine shops shall not begin before 8 o'clock a. m. and shall not continue for more than eight hours on such days."

A penalty for establishing different hours or requiring employees to work more hours on that day is fixed at \$100.

Speaker Myers has been re-elected and both he and the President of the Senate, also a Republican, have given great satisfaction to both old parties by the appointments they have made on the various committees. The Democrats have been given increased representation on the most important committees—namely the Ways and Means, Public Service, Metropolitan Affairs, Railroads, Cities, Harbors and Public Lands, and Taxation.

The two Social Democratic members, notwithstanding Carey is now serving his fourth term and MacCartney his third, have been given only their old places on comparatively unimportant committees—Carey on the Committee on Counties, MacCartney on those on Parishes and Religious Societies and on Towns. The idea is to put them where they can do the least harm to capitalist interests, while the liberal distribution of important places to Democrats shows the perfect harmony of the two old parties on fundamental questions.

One of the other members asked Carey why he did not go to the Speaker and ask to be placed on the Committee on Labor. Carey replied: "There is only one thing I ask of the Speaker; that is to give me the floor when I want to express my views. If the Speaker in his wisdom thinks, because of my studies and previous training, I am especially adapted for service on the Committee on Counties, it is his duty to appoint me on that committee. On the other hand, if he thinks my knowledge of labor conditions and the remedies is so limited that I am unfit to be on the Committee on Labor, it is his right to exclude me from that committee. We have no favors to ask from the Speaker, and intend to ask none."

MacCartney's position on the Committee on Towns was expected more important than was expected. The first contest in the House occurred on the Governor's recommendation that the location of street railways be placed in the hands of the State Railroad Commission. The question came on the reference of this recommendation to the Street Railway Committee, which was understood to be favorable to the street railway corporations. MacCartney fought to have the recommendation referred to the Committee on Towns, of which he is a member, claiming that it came properly within its jurisdiction. The contest aroused considerable interest, and on roll call he won. This is not at all satisfactory to the friends of the corporations, and a fight will be made in the Senate to kill the House amendment, and have the matter go to the Street Railway Committee. There is also talk of having a special committee appointed, and all efforts will be made to prevent it going before the committee of which MacCartney is a member.

Carey will probably soon introduce a bill restricting the working hours of waiters and express drivers to ten

## WHO IS TO BLAME? WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Last week's tunnel collision, which has resulted, so far, in seventeen deaths, has caused such universal horror, and that horror has been so widely and so emphatically voiced, that we shall not try to add anything to the outcry. Instead, we shall ask you to reason about the matter.

There are two questions: Who is to blame? What will you do—YOU, individually and collectively?

WHO IS TO BLAME? Can any reasonable being suppose that Engineer Wisker is to blame?

Where was Wisker at the time of the accident? Not in his mansion on Fifth Avenue. Being a useful worker, Wisker has no mansion on Fifth Avenue. Not enjoying his honeymoon over at Nice, Being a useful worker, Wisker can't go to Nice.

He was at the post of duty, WHICH WAS THE POST OF DANGER. That answers the question whether Wisker was to blame.

The public, indeed, has made up its mind on that point. Any jury which should find Wisker guilty would deserve to be lynched—or to be sent to Bloomingdale.

Who was to blame? Why the steam and smoke were to blame. The tunnel was to blame. The tunnel is a death-trap.

William H. Newman and Chamberlain M. Depew and William K. Vanderbilt and the other officers, directors, and great stockholders of the New York Central KNEW that the tunnel was a death-trap all the time. THEY HAD POWER to change it. Therefore they are seventeen fold murderers.

Why did they maintain this death-trap? Because they were running the New York Central AS A PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, FOR PROFITS. To substitute a safe and pleasant entrance to the city for that death-trap tunnel would have cost money. That would have reduced dividends. That is why they maintained the death-trap.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? It will be something if you keep up such a persistent and such a clamorous agitation that the Coroner and the District Attorney and the court and the jury will be compelled to send Depew and Vanderbilt to Sing Sing. That might make other capitalists a little more careful, in some things, for a little while.

That will be something; but it will not be much.

It will be something if you compel the New York Central to abolish that death-trap, completely, at once, and entirely at its own expense.

That will be something; but it will not be much.

For consider, this tunnel is only one out of thousands of death-traps, all maintained willfully and knowingly by the same capitalist class, and for the same motive—DESIRE FOR PROFITS.

The New York Central murdered seventeen persons, mostly business men, last week. Well, the railroads of this country murdered 2,550 workingmen last year—SEVEN EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR—and maimed 40,000 more.

All for the same reason, remember—because the roads are held as private property and run for profit—because it does not pay private owners to run railroads safely.

Then there are the street railway companies and the iron and steel companies and the mining companies and all the others—all slaying their thousands every year—regularly, calmly, in the most businesslike manner—and all for the same reason.

What are you going to do about it? Are you going to rest content with removing one death-trap, while a thousand others remain—WHILE THE CAUSE OF ALL THE DEATH-TRAPS REMAINS?

Our advice to you is: Think. Think hard. Think together. Keep on thinking till next November—and afterward.

Think for YOURSELVES—not for Vanderbilt. Vanderbilt will think for himself, trust him for that.

If you think and think together and think for yourselves and your own interests, you know what you will do in November.

You will vote for Socialism. You will vote to have the railroads and other things of the sort managed by responsible persons with no motive to industrial murder. You will vote TO HAVE THEM RUN FOR PUBLIC SERVICE, NOT FOR PRIVATE PROFIT.

That is what the Social Democratic Party stands for in this city and state; that is what the Socialist Party stands for all over this country.

Think about it for the next nine months—and then vote.

THE LECTURES AT HAPPY DAYS HALL.

The Sunday afternoon meetings at Happy Days Hall, 12 St. Marks Place, are well attended and will undoubtedly prove very beneficial to hear them. Especially are able to party members who a thorough understanding of the doctrines of the movement that they may make use of past experience in future work.

On the two coming Sundays, Jan. 19 and 20, Comrade Hillquit will take up the history of the movement in this country, under the two heads of "Communist Experiments in the United States," and "Proletarian Socialism in the United States." No one should miss these two lectures. Be in the hall promptly at 2:30 p. m.

LECTURES IN THE 16TH A. D.

A series of lectures on Socialism will be held in the 16th Assembly District, New York City, at 218-220 East Second street, on every Friday evening.

On Friday evening, Jan. 17, John Spargo will lecture on "Our Position, Economic, Ethical and Political." Strangers are cordially invited to attend.

LECTURES IN BROOKLYN.

The following lectures and debates for January have been arranged by the Socialist Propaganda Club, 102 Court street, near City Hall, Brooklyn, N. Y. The public is cordially invited to attend these meetings, which are held every Sunday evening at 8 p. m. Music and open discussion.

Jan. 19—Debate: Capitalist Employers, Mr. Lincoln King vs. Socialist, Mr. F. Schueter.

Jan. 20—John Spargo—"The Industrial Peace Conference."

Feb. 2—Dr. C. L. Furman, "The Force Behind Progress."

Feb. 9—Jas. K. Wood, "Socialism and the Working Class."

WILSHIRE TO SPEAK IN PHILADELPHIA.

If Gaylord Wilshire will speak at St. George's Hall, Thirteenth and Arch streets, Philadelphia, Wednesday evening, Jan. 22, His subject will be: "Let the Nation Own the Trusts."

MUCH RELATED RETURNS.

The Social Democratic vote in Haverhill County, N. Y., last November, when the comrades neglected to report until now, was 18. In 1900 we had but 6.

ORGANIZATION WORKS ALWAYS FOR INTELLIGENT AND PEACEFUL ACTION AND DISORGANIZATION ALWAYS FOR VIOLENCE AND DISASTER.

The basis of our political system is the right of the people to make and alter their constitutions of government.—George Washington.

BUT UNION LABEL GOODS.

The Worker.

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As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist vote in the United States from 1888 to 1900. 1888 (Presidential) 2,005. 1890 13,331. 1892 (Presidential) 21,187. 1894 33,183. 1896 (Presidential) 36,504. 1898: S. L. P. 82,204. S. D. P. 9,549. 1900 (Presidential): S. D. P. 96,918. S. L. P. 33,450.

These readers of The Worker who are receiving it in fulfillment of "Clarion" subscriptions are requested, in renewing or making change of address, to mention the fact that they were on the "Clarion" list. By so doing they will save work in this office and avoid probable delay.



The Vanderbilts EARN their millions, we are told, by the strenuous exercise of their superlative ability in managing railroads. Seventeen graves—that is the product of one day's work—such work as they do. Do you think they refer to their millions?

The Vanderbilts EARN their millions, we are told, by the strenuous exercise of their superlative ability in managing railroads. Seventeen graves—that is the product of one day's work—such work as they do. Do you think they refer to their millions?

As shown in our article entitled "The Slaughter of Workmen" in this week's issue, the workmen of this country occupy a position less secure and honorable than that of slaves. And most of these vote to continue the competitive system which assigns them to this low position, by supporting the Republican and Democratic parties. The workmen of this country are not slaves—but a good many of them act as if they were.

TRYING TO REPRESS THE IRREPRESSIBLE.

The Haverhill "Gazette" takes the Socialist press to task for the attitude it has assumed toward the "Industrial peace conference." Referring to "The Worker," it says: "The New York Worker expresses the belief that this conference will not settle the labor question and will not put an end to the war between labor and capital any more than the Hague conference put an end to the war between nations, in which it is undoubtedly right, and it is also right, undoubtedly, in its further declaration that the pledges made by Hanna and Schwab on the one side and by Gompers and Mitchell on the other will not be kept."

We know now that this was very absurd. The editor of the "Gazette" knows that these men were not to blame for the slaughter at Nashville and Mareton Moor, at Trenton and Valley Forge, at Gettysburg and Antietam. He knows that these men did not create the conflict; that they only called attention to the facts that made the conflict inevitable; and that, by so doing, they helped to bring the conflict to a right and happy ending.

We remind our Haverhill contemporary of William Henry Seward's phrase, "the irrefragable conflict." It is useless to try to repress the irrefragable "peace conference."

enough of the Socialist movement elsewhere to know what he says of the mission of the Socialist is false. But we shall not complain of his wilful misrepresentation. We cease to be surprised at any exhibition of intellectual dishonesty on the part of papers which support the capitalist system. We must accept it as a matter of course and conclude that the editors of these papers are not free agents in the matter.

We have only to say to the readers of the "Gazette"—plenty of whom read "The Worker, too—that the editor of the "Gazette" has entirely missed the point of our remark. In admitting that "human nature is at present in such an imperfect state that men will disagree and quarrel," he assumes that the necessary conflicts between workers and capitalists are of the nature of individual quarrels arising out of the personal imperfections of men in the two classes. If this were true, then his criticism would have some weight. But it is not at all true. We pointed out that the cause of these conflicts is in the radically conflicting class interests of the wage-workers and the capital-owners. It was not because they were bad men that the steel workers and the machinists struck last summer; it was not because of their "imperfect human nature." And it was not because M. C. Borden was a bad man that he reduced wages 10 per cent. last November. It was not because his human nature was imperfect.

If all the capitalists and all the working people were angelically good, there would still be wage-reductions and demands for shorter hours, strikes and lockouts and boycotts. If the capitalist is to be a successful capitalist, if he is to play his part well, he must make profits and more profits and yet more profits. If the worker is to improve his condition he must get more wages and yet more wages for the labor-power he supplies. A given amount of labor produces a given amount of wealth; that product is divided between wages and profits; wages cannot increase the one share without reducing the other; and there you have your conflict of class interests. In order to increase either share you must reduce the other. And unless angels can make 2 plus 2 equal 5 or 3, even angels, put in the position of wage-workers and capitalists, could not avoid that antagonism.

The question is not one of human nature; it is a question of social organization. The conflict will continue, not until human nature is perfected, but until society is reorganized on the basis of collective ownership of the collective products of labor which society needs for its collective life. The "Gazette" talks about possible "conditions where the employer and the employed can meet together and work for common interest." We now call on the "Gazette" to inform us definitely, by plain and concrete illustration of one fundamental point; however small, in which the employer, as employer, and the employees, as employees, have a common interest. When the "Gazette" does that, we shall have a basis for discussing the possibility of the conditions it suggests.

The "Gazette" declares that "the national conciliation and arbitration scheme has generally been received with glad greeting." This would be important, if true; but it is not true. It has been so received by the people who got it up and by the capitalist press. It has not been well received by the rank and file of the trade unions. And the union officials who participated in it must have known that it would not be well received by their constituency, else they would have announced their intention of attending and asked for authority and instruction in the Seaton Convention of the American Federation of Labor, which met the week before the "peace conference." When The Worker and other Socialist papers criticized the scheme as they have they voice what is certainly the opinion of a very large portion of the rank and file of the trade-unions, and what is probably the opinion of the majority.

John Milton and John Hampden, Samuel Adams and John Hancock, Wendell Phillips and John Greenleaf Whittier were all called dangerous in their own times. They were accused of desiring to "widen the gap" between king and commons, between England and America, between North and South, respectively. They were told that "so long as human nature remains imperfect" the king must continue to levy ship-money, England must continue to rule America, negroes must continue to be chattel slaves.

We know now that this was very absurd. The editor of the "Gazette" knows that these men were not to blame for the slaughter at Nashville and Mareton Moor, at Trenton and Valley Forge, at Gettysburg and Antietam. He knows that these men did not create the conflict; that they only called attention to the facts that made the conflict inevitable; and that, by so doing, they helped to bring the conflict to a right and happy ending.

We remind our Haverhill contemporary of William Henry Seward's phrase, "the irrefragable conflict." It is useless to try to repress the irrefragable "peace conference."

but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" What a mischievous agitator he was! What a dangerous demagogue! Is it not a pity we have his speech in the Fourth Reader, to corrupt the minds of the youth? What a pity there was no Hanna in those days, to conciliate him and silence him!

Archbishop Corrigan says the only solution of social problems is for us all to practise the Golden Rule. In the same breath he says men WILL NOT work except for their own individual advantage, therefore Socialism is impossible. Maybe the Archbishop can reconcile these contradictory utterances by the exercise of his spiritual authority. Our poor human reason is not equal to the task. To us it seems that he is in a dilemma. If his objection to Socialism is well founded, if individuals will not work for the common good (which includes their own), then he is surely wasting his time when he preaches the Golden Rule; but if it is possible to teach men to love their neighbors as themselves, then it should be far easier to teach them to work together in a state of society where the interest of all would be identical with the interest of each.

The capitalists say they are entitled to their profits on account of the "risks" they assume. Read the article in this paper on "The Slaughter of Workmen" and consider who really takes the risk—Morgan and Carnegie and Schwab and Rockefeller, or the wage-workers who create the profits. Socialists say those who perform all the labor and bear all the risk should have all the product.

ARE STRIKES BENEFICIAL TO THE WORKERS?

We have been asked to answer the question: Have "strikes been more beneficial or detrimental to the wage-workers? We shall answer the question somewhat indirectly. In what we have to say on the subject may be of some interest, not only to the correspondent who asks the question, but to some of our critics, such as the editor of the Haverhill "Gazette," who accuses us of a desire to widen the gap between Labor and Capital.

We shall not speak particularly of the strikes that are successful or of the advances in wages and the reductions of working hours which they have won. To give the utmost advantage in the argument to those who are detrimental to the interests of the workers and should be discouraged, we shall speak chiefly of defensive strikes and of those which are lost.

Instead of answering the question directly, we will ask our correspondent to reflect that workmen are not free to choose whether or not they shall strike. The capitalist is always on the lookout for a chance to squeeze a little more surplus-value out of his employees—sometimes directly by reducing wages or increasing hours, and such as substituting women for men and children for women, or speeding up the machines; as well as by a thousand petty tricks, stealing a few minutes out of the lunch hour, inventing unreasonable rules to get a pretext for levying fines for unavoidable offenses, withholding payment of wages as long as possible for the sake of the interest he gets on it, paying in store-orders, false measuring of piece-work, and a thousand other dirty schemes that only a capitalist could devise. In addition to these direct and material injuries which the capitalist, for the sake of larger profits, is always trying to inflict upon his employees, we must remember the thousand insults and outrages, sometimes deliberate and intentional, sometimes due only to his ignorance of their feelings, which he, directly or through his foremen and lackeys, heaps upon them.

Now if the workers allow one such aggression to go unresisted, they are so much the weaker and their boss so much the stronger when another occasion arises. If they are not to be reduced to absolute slavery they must organize and must be prepared to strike.

Undoubtedly strikes involve great losses and hardships to the workers. Undoubtedly many strikes fail, so far as their immediate object is concerned. Undoubtedly, too, the trade unions often win victories without striking.

But, touching this last point, the unions which win victories without striking are the ones which are not afraid to strike—if need be, which are able to strike vigorously when they have to, and which are inspired with such a feeling that they would rather strike and fall than fall without a struggle. As for the losses and hardships which strikes involve, we must balance against them the losses and hardships which the workers would suffer through submitting without resistance to the will of their bosses. We may trust the mass of the workers to judge for themselves between the two evils. It is a significant fact, known to all who are familiar with the labor movement, that the rank and file are almost always more ready to strike than the union officials, that a large part of the strikes are declared by the rank and file against the protest of their leaders. We trust the judgment of the mass; and it is our business, not to presume to tell them whether or not they shall

strike, but when they do so to support them by all means in our power. Finally, while it is true that many strikes fail to effect their immediate purpose, we hold to the position that no strike is ever really lost. There is a fine verse (we quote from memory, and perhaps not quite accurately), to the effect that: "Freedom's battle, once begun, 'Requ coasted from bleeding sire to son, 'Though baffled oft, is ever won.' At Thermopylae the Spartans fall, to the last man; but Sparta counted Thermopylae a victory. The British planted their colors on Bunker Hill; but historians do not question whether it was wise for the Americans to fight that battle.

Every strike, every boycott, every fight that labor carries on, whether immediately successful or not, helps to instill revolutionary determination into the workers and to inspire the capitalists with respect for them. Moreover, every temporary failure teaches the workers new lessons, and by experience they learn to turn their defeats into stepping-stones to victory.

Are strikes more beneficial or detrimental to the wage-workers? As well ask whether the battles from Lexington to Yorktown were beneficial to the American revolutionists. After King George's redcoats fired that volley in the Boston streets, it was inevitable that battles would be fought so long as King George claimed any authority over the American people. It is too late now to ask whether we ought to have strikes or not. The labor movement having once begun, we shall continue to have strikes so long as we have private ownership of the means of production, so long as we have a capitalist class and a wage-working class—and neither Hanna and Schwab nor Ireland and Potter nor Gompers and Sargent and Keefe and White can prevent them. We repeat: Our business is not to presume to tell our fellow workmen whether or not they shall strike, but when they do so to support them by all means in our power.

We have another duty—or, rather, it is a part of this one duty of supporting the working class in all its battles: Our great duty as Socialists is to educate our fellow workmen to fuller and broader class consciousness, so that they will strike in the voting booth as well as in the shop, boycott scab candidates as well as scab cigars and newspapers, strike at the root of the evil as well as at its special manifestations—so that they will vote in larger and larger numbers every year, for collective ownership of the means of production which their collective labor has created, for the duty of every man to do useful work and the right of every man to the full product of his labor, for the Co-operative Commonwealth of real Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

That is the work of the Socialist Party; and that it is doing its work is proven, not only by the growth of the Socialist vote all over the country, but by the growing aggressiveness of the trade unions and by the growth of socialist thought and sentiment not yet crystallized into votes—all tending toward the one end, the Emancipation of Labor in the Socialist Republic.

It is really a pity that Cleveland was not appointed as one of the envoys to convey "our" greetings to King Edward at his coronation. However, the choice of J. Pierpont Morgan, Jr., as secretary to the special embassy, may make up for the absence of the Stuffed Prophet.

THE ISSUE DEFINED. President Gompers' latest communication to the New York Central Federated Union is interesting, to say the least. In the resolution which he submits as stating his position, and in opposition, therefore, to the resolutions of the Painters' Union No. 400, either he falls utterly to understand the ground of the objections raised, or else he is very cleverly able to shift the ground of the discussion without seeming to do so.

To read President Gompers' resolution, one would suppose that this was the first instance in which any attempt had been made to settle labor disputes by "peaceful means"—that is, by conference. This, of course, is not the fact. Every union, before declaring a strike or a boycott, tries, at least, to hold a conference and come to a peaceful settlement. This has been done for years. It is a well established rule. Neither Painters' Union No. 400 nor Cigar Makers' Union No. 99 nor The Worker nor anyone else thinks of objecting to this practice.

The use of peaceful means, when such means are possible, is not the issue at all. Is it possible that President Gompers does not know what the issue is?

The issue, then, is just this: First, the right of trade-union officials to vote the Socialist ticket; they can be coerced to vote other tickets; and any political organization of the working class on this basis will not, nor cannot be, revolutionary; but can and will be emotional. Such organization does not contain the seeds of self-annihilation necessary for the emancipation of the working class from its rulers, and will go to pieces as soon as its effervescent enthusiasm meets the disappointment of the ruling class.—Wage Worker.

with him. And we do not think that the majority of the rank and file will allow their attention to be drawn from these important issues by any nicely worded generalities upon a principle long since settled and established.

If they do allow President Gompers' position to go unchallenged, they thereby announce to the public that he has a right to act without consulting them at all. And if, in later days, they find it necessary to repudiate some decisions of the Committee of Thirty-six or even to refuse to accept its offers of arbitration, they may expect the public to believe all that the capitalist press will then say about "breach of faith" upon the part of the trade unions.

It is well to have things well understood. If the resolutions of Painters' No. 400 and Cigar Makers' No. 99 are defeated, it will mean that the unions authorize their "leaders" to act without consulting them and admit that the Committee of Thirty-six is a fairly representative body. If those resolutions are supported, it will mean that the unions insist on their right to instruct their officers and that they give notice that they are not bound by the terms of the "peace conference" and that the labor leaders who participated in it represented only themselves.

There is the issue. Let it be considered carefully and decided wisely. Parson Hillis says the poor worry less than the rich. That shows how much Hillis and his like know about the condition of the working people. Let him try to support a family, educate his children and fit them for the duties and opportunities of life, on an income of nine or ten dollars a week, earned by hard and unremitting labor, and without even the certainty, from week to week, how long his job will hold out. Let him try it for a few years and then he will be more competent to speak on the labor question.

Chauncey M. Depew, United States Senator and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the New York Central, said a year ago that his election to the Senate was only an incident in his career as a railway man. Taking him at his word, we must hold, vice versa, that the tunnel horror is an incident in his career as a Republican politician. It is a damning incident, and the Republican party should be made to suffer for it.

Pieces of iron and steel are being advanced, but the wages of iron and steel workers, it is announced, will not be raised this year. A good reason why these workmen should vote the Socialist ticket next fall—vote to have the iron and steel mills owned by the people and run for public service instead of private profit.

The Attorney-General of Texas keeps on prosecuting trusts and excluding them from the state, as he has been doing for we don't know how many years past. The trusts keep on taking new names and doing business in the state under his very nose, as they have done since the fight began. And so the merry farce goes on. It all goes to show the folly of the Democratic anti-trust position. The only way to put an end to the evils of the trust is to change it into a public trust. And in order to serve its benefits to the working people who create the wealth it controls, the nationalization must be accomplished through the action of a working class party. That is what the Socialist Party is in the field for.

Among the first bills introduced in the New York Legislature was one by Mr. Wagner of Brooklyn, providing that such buildings as have been erected under the supervision of the Department of Buildings and in pursuance of duty authorized permits from that department prior to the passage of the Tenement House Act shall be exempt from all the provisions of the act, except the provisions relating to fire escapes. This bill, if passed, will simply legalize all the innumerable violations of the former law and make it impossible for the city administration to compel the demolition or remodeling of old and dangerous buildings erected in violation of the law—even if the present administration were desirous of taking such action on behalf of the tenants, while his not likely.

POLITICIAN AND STATESMAN.

"He's quite a prominent politician, isn't he not?" inquired the visiting Briton. "Oh, no; he's a statesman," replied the native. "Well, what's the difference?" "A statesman, my dear sir, is one who is in politics because he has money. A politician is one, who has money because he is in politics."—Philadelphia Press.

NO CAPITULATION.

If we must coax the working class to vote the Socialist ticket, they can be coerced to vote other tickets; and any political organization of the working class on this basis will not, nor cannot be, revolutionary; but can and will be emotional. Such organization does not contain the seeds of self-annihilation necessary for the emancipation of the working class from its rulers, and will go to pieces as soon as its effervescent enthusiasm meets the disappointment of the ruling class.—Wage Worker.

Current Literature.

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

Perhaps the best thing in the January "Comrade" is "A Song of Hate" by E. Relfe, of which we may quote the opening and closing lines: Great love, great hate, of each an equal part— These are the riches of the human heart. A fool can give the struggle from the skies, and smile and forgive; man shall not conquer! There rests a curse upon the present state, Against this curse I raise the song of hate.

I sing of hate while human rights are sold And all commodities sacrificed for gold. I sing of hate—a hate that shall forever Uphold the road for justice and for truth. Socialists are much given to protesting that hate forms no part of their motive. It may indeed be possible for some "to love the sinner and to hate the sin"—to glow with brotherly love for the capitalists, while burning with righteous indignation against capitalism. But we are not all capable of that angelic fineness of discrimination, and there is a certain danger that if we spend too much effort in disclaiming hatred for the oppressors we may even unconsciously grow all too tolerant of the oppression. For us, at least, our calm philosophy so far defeats our sentiment as that we heartily welcome the "Song of Hate."

Leonard D. Abbott writes with characteristic enthusiasm of Edwin Markham and recounts an interview with him, whom he describes, in Joseph R. Buchanan's phrase, as "the Laureate of Labor." "Why He Did It" is a sketch by M. Winchewski (or should it be Winchewski as here for the first time we see it printed?) which will give deep offense to the "propaganda of deed" Anarchists, who are, commonly, very sensitive to the suggestion that "there is such a thing as an agent provocateur." Portraits and brief sketches of two soldiers of the revolution have recently gone to their rest. Bruno Schoenlank, and Karl Buerkli, add to the permanent value of the magazine, as also a short article on "Behel's Fight against 'Hunger Dutes,'" written by William Edlin, illustrated with a portrait, drawing by Jan Verh.

Considering the literary excellence of the "Comrade," it is to be wished that the proofreading and other mechanical details were attended to with a little more care. An error of spelling or punctuation which may be overlooked in a newspaper jars unpleasantly when found in a literary magazine.

The "International Socialist Review" for January opens with a short article by Prof. Oscar L. Triggs on "The Socialization of Art." Peter E. Burrows contributes a "Philosophic conversation between Quid Ego and John Santy." Helen Archibald Clarke writes on "The Vote an Implement of Progress." Marcus Hilch on "Economic and Political Determination." A. M. Simmons on "Chicago Arts and Crafts Exhibition," and "Marxism," Maxim Gorki, the Portrayer of "Honest." Interesting articles on the European movement are by Alessandro Schiavini and by Louis Bertrand on "The Co-operative Movement in Belgium. Further notice will be given next week.

THE WILLING WAGE-SLAVE.

The only "leveling process" contemplated by Socialists is one that will raise the working class to a higher plane of civilization by removing the fear of want and placing each in possession of the entire product of his skill and industry. There are no "leveling" changes of distribution upon which capitalism rests, the capitalist class in its collective capacity as a political power does not dare to take the necessary steps to stop these crooked methods by which each individual capitalist tries to skin the others.

A Socialist administration would not be afraid of overturning "vested rights." It would have no motive for respecting the hoary traditions that safeguard the workings of competitive greed. A Socialist Board of Taxes and Assessment, would first means to level taxes on capitalist property to the full extent of the city's needs; and if the highly respectable factitious "citizens of Rhode Island" who have offices on Wall Street did not like it, they would be free to go to Newport, Halifax, or elsewhere and leave their capital and their profits behind.

TWO KINDS OF ANARCHISM.

As against the anarchist idea, capitalism is really powerless. When its expression takes on the form of murder, capitalism can do nothing but reply in kind. "Exterminate the capitalists," howls Anarchist Johann Most in the columns of "Die Freiheit." "Exterminate the Anarchists," yells the entire crowd of capitalist politicians in reply. "Withdraw from present society; take no part in it," says the "philosophical" anarchist, in a Tolstoid, "It is not possible to exterminate the anarchists," says the "philosophical capitalist; withdraw them from society—send them to some island." "Let us refuse military service and the payment of taxes," says the passive-anarchist. "You fellows want to destroy society," replies the active capitalist tax-dodger and the exploiter who does his patriotism by proxy. And in this manner charge and countercharge are passed backwards and forwards, neither side suspecting that the individualistic philosophy which is common alike to both renders the entire controversy a stand-off so far as anarchism is concerned.—Workers' Call.

WHAT SOCIALISTS WANT.

Every human being to be well housed, clothed, fed, and educated. The adoption of a social and industrial system that will put an end to profit, interest, rent, and all forms of usury. Land, water, machinery, all the means of production and distribution, and all the available forces of nature, to be owned and operated for the benefit of the whole people. The gradual elimination, and finally the abolition, of all useless and unproductive toil. Every person of suitable age, and physical and mental ability, must work or starve. "He that will not work shall not eat." No child labor, except in the form of healthful, well-directed manual training. Every one to receive the full value of his or her labor.—E.

THE DISHONESTY OF CAPITALISTS.

Illustrated by the Practice of Dodging Taxes—Honor Among Thieves, but None Among Profit-Grinders. The defenders of capitalism are never tired of enjoining on the working people the three virtues of industry, honesty, and sobriety, as the sure means to grow rich and respected. But preaching is quite a different thing from practicing.

Of the industry of the capitalists much might be said, but that is not the subject this time. Of their sobriety and simplicity of life, too, much might be said—including some mention of the costly meals at Newport. But the Newport dispatch we have to note at present strikingly illustrates the greatest of the virtues of the capitalists—their impeccable honesty. Here is a "special" from the New York "Times":

"TO AVOID INHERITANCE TAX." "NEWPORT, R. I., Jan. 8.—Each year there is an increasing number of Summer residents, who become citizens of Newport and share in the advantages of the lower tax rate and prepare to escape inconveniences of the inheritance tax which New York and other states put upon their wealthy citizens. Already this year there is a considerable number who in one way or other have notified the local authorities of their desire to be enrolled as citizens of Newport, and who have already taken the oath before the courts for a declaration judicially affirming their legal residence in Rhode Island.

"Among the latter who have thus applied for 'naturalization' papers at the next term of the Supreme Court are Hamilton Fish Webster, William C. Schermerhorn, and Samuel E. Huntington. Others who have simply placed their names on the registry books and asked the assessors to tax them upon personal property, and thus given notice of their intention to become voters in Newport before the next election, are: Charles M. Oelrichs, Winthrop Chapin, Robert Winthrop Chanler, Richard J. A. Greene, and John R. Livermore."

About 90 per cent. of the work of the legislative, judicial, executive, and administrative officers of this state consists in protecting the property and advancing the business interests of the capitalist class. And yet they have no more sentiment of honor even according to their own narrow conception of that than the abject slaves to whom at every opportunity to escape, paying their respective shares of the expense involved in carrying on the state government. Great is honesty, as the eminent citizen practices it!

Individual Capitalist and Capitalist Class. The beauty of the situation is that in the demand for protection and service by the state the capitalists are united as a class; but in the race to escape the assessor, each one applies the competitive principle of "Devil take the hindmost." Whenever one capitalist dodges his taxes, the burden of his brother taxpayers is proportionately increased. And so all the organs of "respectable society" unite in condemning the schemes that each member of "respectable society" is doing his level best to carry out for his individual benefit. But for fear of violating the "sacred" individual rights of dishonesty upon which capitalism rests, the capitalist class in its collective capacity as a political power does not dare to take the necessary steps to stop these crooked methods by which each individual capitalist tries to skin the others.

A Socialist administration would not be afraid of overturning "vested rights." It would have no motive for respecting the hoary traditions that safeguard the workings of competitive greed. A Socialist Board of Taxes and Assessment, would first means to level taxes on capitalist property to the full extent of the city's needs; and if the highly respectable factitious "citizens of Rhode Island" who have offices on Wall Street did not like it, they would be free to go to Newport, Halifax, or elsewhere and leave their capital and their profits behind.

A Socialist administration could do that, but no "reform" or "good government" administration will dare to.

THE UNSUCCESSFUL. It was not through our dishonesty we failed. For lack of money a rich and bold man, who we are convinced, the one victim, gambled. Just at the critical moment, and no compass was round; and Hope, too long, seemed but a dream, with Affluence and Ease. Wherefore, we pluck a bunch of Mistletoe Or Golden Fruit; we gather for delight A better apple or a faded rose. Or, if worse, those that hurt the flesh. Was it that strange way we have offended That she should ever thus our plans frustrate? We miss the meaning of our misdeeds?—Gottfried Mezzick, in Advance.

THE WHIM.

A little monthly magazine which is illogically-appeal to unconventional people. It is not the organ of any one class, but is published in the interest of men and women who are in search of Light and Truth. It is handsomely printed in two colors on double quality paper, and costs five cents per copy, or 50 cents by the year. It is edited by Ernest Crosby and Henrietta Priest. Send ten cents for a three month's trial subscription. THE WHIM, P. O. Box 288, Newark, N. J. When ordering mention THE WORKER.

Our Esteemed Contemporaries.

Investors' Review, London, Eng. We wonder what is behind the sudden determination of the capitalist class in the United States to inaugurate a conciliation committee at which capital and labor shall be represented. A sudden affection for the working classes appears to have developed amongst the employers of labor, and they are halting their men as brothers whose interests are really one with their own. Do they fear another strike on a still larger scale than that which bothered the steel industry in the early part of the year, or is there really something philanthropic behind the thing? Have they got tired of their meddling? Failing to find channels of investment, or even suitable objects of charity—Mr. John D. Rockefeller, we see, has given \$1,250,000 to the University of Chicago, and Mr. Andrew Carnegie has been thrusting some of his millions on a "thankless" Washington Government, which apparently refuses to accept them—are they going to take their workmen into partnership? Or is the "annual conference" our yearly compact between master and man, an annual effort to keep the worker from thinking of his lot? We have an open mind.

London Spectator. Nations have become suspicious of each other and they snarl with fierce jealousies and fiercer greediness and distrust. Each is as angry when it sees another gain anything as a dog is when he sees a bone in another dog's mouth. Each thinks itself injured, and another is enriched, and what is worst of all, each believes in its heart that every other is plotting against it and carefully to deprive all rivals of that which they possess. The new hunger for new comforts, the new knowledge of the external world and the riches it contains, unite with new freedom and rapidity of intercommunication to produce hatred of rivals at least as strong as the ancient hatred of race or religion. Great nations are ready to fight to the death for transmarine acquisitions, for privileges of trading and, above all, for profitable monopolies. Governments are forced to interfere, usually with piety, to secure concessions for their subjects.

In short, while governments are tranquil, peoples hate each other, to a point at which the maintenance of peace becomes daily a more difficult performance. The spirit infects all countries alike, even Great Britain, which is usually so free in her inner pride from any impulse of envy or apprehension, and if it cannot be allayed there, will in the end be war, and war in Europe or with America, which is now fully included in the circles of jealousy. This would mean a disappointment for half a century of all the hopes of new resources, of new scientific and skillful killing and direction of all powers of thought from conquests of nature to conquests over each other. Everything, in fact, is propitious except the nature of man, which in its new freedom from the pressure of suffering is allowing the freest play to some of his meanest instincts. So far as safety and progress are concerned, the world gained little by the exchange of "honor" and "ambition" for a striving force in politics for popular jealousy and greed.

San Diego Chief. As the "Constitution" follows the flag it is rather tardy in reaching Puerto Rico, as will be seen in a recent dispatch published in this issue. Santiago Iglesias, an American citizen and a member of the American Federation of Labor, went to Puerto Rico to establish a branch organization and was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for over three years on the charge of conspiring to raise the price of labor. Just think of it, all this under the folds of the American flag. That was not all. The Republicans who opposed his plans freed several thousands of the sailing of the Puerto Rican, and the police found it convenient not to find these anarchists. As an apology for such political crime, the "dispatch" states that the Spanish law is still in force on the island. Workmen, can you not see in this a forerunner of what is in store for organized labor in this country at the hands of the dominant party now in power? If government officials at Puerto Rico want such vicious conduct and let it pass without an effort to protect American laborers at Puerto Rico, how long will it be before labor organizations in this country will be regarded as conspiracies. Do you not see that the power of government is in the hands of a capitalist class, who are using that power for exploiting labor? And can you not see that your only hope is in a political organization whose aim is to wrest the powers of government from the capitalist class and place it back once more into the hands of the people? This is the one important aim of the Socialist Party of America. Will you help us or will you blindly continue the power of your economic masters?

THE UNSUCCESSFUL. It was not through our dishonesty we failed. For lack of money a rich and bold man, who we are convinced, the one victim, gambled. Just at the critical moment, and no compass was round; and Hope, too long, seemed but a dream, with Affluence and Ease. Wherefore, we pluck a bunch of Mistletoe Or Golden Fruit; we gather for delight A better apple or a faded rose. Or, if worse, those that hurt the flesh. Was it that strange way we have offended That she should ever thus our plans frustrate? We miss the meaning of our misdeeds?—Gottfried Mezzick, in Advance.

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PARTY NOTES.

THEYONKERS COMRADES KNOW how to work. Their protest against militarism in the schools, reported last week, is an example. When the Board of Education took its outrageous action, the comrades lost no time in making their public protest and calling the trade unions in the fight. Then they arranged a public meeting, to be addressed by the Vails, so that in connection with this particular matter, the principles of Socialism, as a whole might be explained. Finally, they got the matter properly reported in The Worker without loss of time, and ordered 300 copies to be given out at the Vail meeting. Systematic and energetic work like this should be done by every local organization of the party. The capitalists, and their tools are constantly giving us opportunities for exposing the capitalist system, and we should never let these slip by.

MISS JOHANNA DAHME, THE young Socialist speaker, delivered an eloquent address at the Yorkville Club House, 290 East Eighty-third street, last Sunday afternoon, preceding the lecture by Courtenay Lemon. This Sunday, Jan. 10, at 2:30 p. m., Albert Vogel will speak.

MISS DAHME SPOKE VERY effectively last Sunday evening in Stapleton, delivering the first of a series of lectures arranged by the Staten Island comrades, in place of Comrade Lemon, as originally announced. These lectures are given at the Labor Lyceum, Hoff street, near Richmond Road, Stapleton, Staten Island, on alternate Sunday evenings. The next lecture will be given on Sunday evening, January 20.

COMRADE SPELMAN WILL speak at the Socialist Educational League, 215 E. 19th street, Sunday evening, Jan. 19, on "The Republic of Plato." The 22d A. D. meets at the same place Friday evening, for the election of officers.

COMRADE HAYES WILL SPEAK at Columbus Park, 100 Hundred and 73rd street and Columbus avenue, Sunday, Jan. 18, 8 p. m., his subject being "The Coming Crisis."

THE 4TH A. D. WILL HENCEforth meet every Friday at Pacific Hall, E. Broadway near Clinton street. A lecture course will be arranged. On Friday evening, Jan. 21, an entertainment and ten party will be held in the Grand Central Palace Hall, admission, 15 cents. Comrades Berlin, Halpern, and Josephson were elected at the last meeting as delegates to the Voice of Labor Conference.

THE 6TH AND 10TH A. D. HAS secured the co-operation of the 14th and 15th for an entertainment, the principal feature of which will probably be Frederick Krafft's play, "Now and Then." The joint committee on arrangements meets Thursday, Jan. 10, at the Labor Lyceum. At the last meeting of the 6th and 10th one new member was accepted and two others proposed. W. J. F. Hannemann was elected Recording Secretary and M. Tanser as Financial Secretary. Hannemann, R. Korn, and H. Cohen were elected to the Executive Committee. It was decided to take 25 copies of The Worker weekly to be placed on the newsstands, and Com. des Broesch, Hannemann, Cohen, Posenfield, and Miss Fox were chosen to take charge of them.

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COMRADE BUTSCHER, AFTER A month of very successful work for the party and the party press in Westchester County, has started up the state, and is still meeting with encouragement in his work. At Newburg he organized a new local with nine charter members, including, he says, some "housewives." They intend to see to it that a good Socialist Democratic vote is cast in Newburg next fall. Fred Gruber, of 7 Clark street, has been chosen as agent for The Worker and "Vorwarts." A list of more than thirty new subscribers in Newburg speaks well for the prospects of the local.

COMRADE VAIL SPOKE HERE in Labor Hall last Tuesday night, before Henry Koster of Peekskill, to a fairly sized audience. He was in his brightest mood and made a class-conscious argument that kept his listeners closely attentive to the last word. Some literature was sold and a hat which stood upright at the door to receive contributions from such as felt like giving something in support of the cause, was well patronized as the audience passed out. He says, some of the things he proposed to give at least one lecture each month during the remainder of the winter. Good! Keep it up—and push the literature.

HAVERHILL COMRADES SHOULD "buckle" to assure the largest possible attendance at Comrade Vail's four lectures on Feb. 2 to 6. The lectures will be instructive; whether to the oldest Socialist or to the newest recruit, as well as to those who are as yet strangers to the movement.

C. H. MORHILL of HAVERHILL, who worked most energetically and disinterestedly for over two years to keep up the "Clarion" for, as it formerly was, the Haverhill "Social Democrat", will now that The Worker has taken up the "Clarion" list, act as our agent in that city. The boys in Haverhill know Charles Morhill and will doubtless render him any assistance in their power.

H. GAYLORD WILSHIRE SPEAKS in Hartford, Conn., on Sunday, Jan. 19, in Philadelphia on Wednesday, Jan. 22, in Washington, D. C., on Thursday, Jan. 23, in Baltimore on Friday, under arrangements made by National Secretary Greenbaum.

MINNESOTA WILL HOLD STATE convention at Minneapolis on February 22.

LOCAL CHARTERS WERE issued last week to Minneapolis, Minn., and Burlington, Vt. New Hampshire received a state charter.

GEO. D. HERRON, WHO IS NOW in Switzerland, writes that he will return to this country about April 1.

JOHN C. CHASE WILL LECTURE in Ohio from Feb. 10 to 16 inclusive.

MEN TILLETZ WILL SPEAK AT Milwaukee on January 23; Chicago, January 23 and 24; St. Louis, January 25.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE meet at St. Louis at 10 a. m., Friday, Jan. 24, at the Lindell Hotel. It is the intention to hold the meeting in one of the special committee rooms, which has been placed at the disposal of the National Committee by the hotel management. From present indications it appears likely that at least twenty National Committees will be present. An important matter will come up for consideration, which are likely to keep the committee in regular session for a week.

ST. LOUIS WILL HAVE A GREAT workingmen's demonstration in the Music Hall Exposition Building, on Saturday evening, Jan. 25, in conjunction with the meeting of the National Committee. The speakers will be Ben Tilletz, national delegate of the British Trade Union Congress to the American Federation of Labor; Job Harriman, of the New York Labor Secretariat; Max Hayes, editor of the Cleveland "Citizen"; and Walter Thomas Mills, of the International School of Social Economy.

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OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Leon Greenbaum, Room 427, 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

CALIFORNIA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Fred E. Irish, 300 Commercial, San Francisco. Meets on first and third Fridays in the month.

CONNECTICUT STATE COMMITTEE—A. R. Cornell, Secretary, 478 Chapel Street, New Haven. Meets second and fourth Sunday of the month at 8:30 A. M., 125 Union Street, New Haven.

ILLINOIS STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Chas. H. Kerr, 50 Fifth Avenue, New York. Meets first and third Friday evenings of the month at 79 Dearborn Street.

INDIANA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Jas. Ouellet, 831 S. Third Street, Terre Haute.

IOWA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, W. A. Jacobs, 216 E. Ninth Street, Des Moines.

KANSAS STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, W. L. Nixon, Abilene.

KENTUCKY STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, F. L. Robinson, 421 W. Chestnut Street, Louisville.

MAINE STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Fred E. Irish, 222 Riverside Street, Woodford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Robert Adams, 300 Cambridge Street, Boston. Assistant and Financial Secretary, Albert O. Clifford, 150 Auburn Street, Cambridge, Mass.

MICHIGAN STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Clarence Neely, 917 Johnson Street, Saginaw, Mich. Meets at 121 N. House street.

MISSOURI STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Fred E. Irish, 222 Riverside Street, Woodford.

NEBRASKA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, George E. Baird, 1804 N. Sixteenth Street, Omaha.

NEW JERSEY STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, M. H. Gabel, 114 Bridge Street, Newark. Meets second and fourth Sunday of the month at 7:30 p. m., at 124 Market street, Newark, N. J.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Louis Arnsfeldt, 18 Watson Street, Dover.

NEW YORK STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Fred E. Irish, 222 Riverside Street, Woodford. Meets every Monday at 8 p. m., at above place.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Math. Edmonds, Toward.

OHIO STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, W. O. Critchlow, 1146 W. Third Street, Dayton. Meets every Monday evening.

OREGON STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, W. S. Richards, Albany.

OKLAHOMA TERRITORIAL COMMITTEE—Secretary, Treasurer, Dr. H. M. Dean, P. O. Box 1113, Oklahoma City.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Fred E. Irish, 222 Riverside Street, Woodford.

TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, J. Hampton, Bonham.

UTAH STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, M. H. Wilson, 112 W. Seventh South, Salt Lake City.

WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Joseph Gilbert, Box 537, Seattle. Meets first Sunday in the month, 3 p. m., at above place.

WISCONSIN STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, H. E. Thomas, 416 State Street, Milwaukee.

NOTICE—For technical reasons, our Party announcements can go on that are not in this office by Tuesday, 3 p. m.

MASSACHUSETTS. FOR PARTY ORGANIZATION. To the Members of the State Committee and the Party at Large. Each delegate from a territorial district has the honor to report to you on the progress as far as possible, for the organization of local committees in the various districts. It is our hope that you will be able to assist in the organization of local committees in your district. The Secretary of the Commonwealth is the one to whom you should apply for any information in connection with this matter. The State Committee stands ready to use every effort to extend our political organization.

MINNESOTA WILL HOLD STATE convention at Minneapolis on February 22.

Don't write on both sides of paper. CORRESPONDENCE. Don't send anonymous letters.

Afterthoughts on the New Jersey Convention.

The New Jersey Convention showed that the comrades knew what they wanted, and they were not afraid to say so. The question of what individual members thought, but the majority of the comrades were in favor of the party and protected itself from the many by-ways of reform which the Socialist Party is sometimes inclined to elect its committees, putting comrades upon whom they were known to be reliable in the most important positions. It is a good thing that the comrades who are in the majority are not afraid to say what they think, and that they are not afraid to say what they think, and that they are not afraid to say what they think.

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WE MUST HAVE A DAILY WORKER. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE IT. We must first lay the field. Your duty is to get your friends to subscribe to the weekly. Agitate for the daily everywhere, and increase the circulation of the weekly in order to get it. LET US HEAR FROM YOU.

THE CAMPAIGN IS ON. To the Holders of Subscription Lists for the Campaign Fund of the Social Democratic Party of the City of New York.

COMRADES AND friends who still have subscription lists in their possession are requested to send the lists in at once, as the Campaign Committee would like to wind up its business as soon as possible. As there is some deficiency the comrades would confer a favor on the committee by promptly returning lists and money collected, as it may help the committee to meet all its liabilities.

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