

# The Worker

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VOL. XII.—NO. 48.

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## MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

### Socialists Fight to Protect Workingmen's Lives.

Democrats Join Republicans Against Carey's Automatic-Coupler Bill and Even Refuse to Call—MacCartney's Public Ownership Bill Debated—Socialist Agitation in the State.

BOSTON, Feb. 22.—Representative Carey's bill for automatic couplers and power-brakes was debated in the House on Monday. This bill was introduced at the request of the different organizations of railway trainmen and was supported by their representatives, as well as by Comrade Carey, in the hearing before the Committee on Railroads, as reported in The Worker two weeks ago. There are four Democratic members on this committee. I mention this because the claim is constantly made by them that their hearts are ever bleeding in the interests of the working class. Yet these four Democrats joined with the Republican members in a unanimous report against the passage of the bill.

Representative Carey moved that the bill be substituted for the adverse report and spoke at length in favor of his motion, quoting the statistics of reports showing the number of deaths of railway employees from accident in the ten years from 1893 to 1903 to range from one in every one hundred and thirty-six employed to one in every one hundred and fifty-six and the number injured to be one in every twelve of the employees. He drew a striking word-picture of the instances of heroism upon the part of this class of workers, and his presentation of the technical work of the railway employees was masterly. He also showed how greater safety would come to the travelling public were the roads operated as this bill provided.

### Democratic Treachery.

The capitalist representatives were led by Quinn, Democrat. They opposed the bill on the ground that Congress alone could regulate this matter. In reply, Carey read from the Interstate Commerce Commission's report where they advised the passage of just such laws by the states. Quinn said: "This work does not belong here; it is someone else's duty." Carey replied: "Yes, the same old cry, whenever we have endeavored to carry something for the working class. Take it some other place. When we went to the state government, they told us to go to the state. We went to the state and they told us to go to Congress. It is a peculiar habit of Speaker Myers to watch the galleries when the Socialist members are speaking, always ready to drop the gavel."

The gavel was in the air and Carey turned to the Speaker and smiled, that smile that has confounded his enemies so often.

It looked certain that no consideration would be given the measure, that the House could hide behind the national law on such matters, and that the scope of the bill, being so broad, would preclude any possibility of its passage.

The Socialist members had a speedy conference with the railway men's representatives who were present, with the result that Representative MacCartney asked that the bill be substituted and he be added until the next day, when they could offer amendment, to make the law apply to all vehicles owned by railroads within the state. When the vote was taken, 35 voted in favor, 92 against. Comrade Carey asked for a roll-call, 30 being necessary, but only 27 voted in favor. How many more examples of treachery will the workingmen who support the Democratic party in this state need, when that party, with over eighty members in the House, would not vote for a roll-call on such a measure as this, and even defends the railroads and attacks measures in the interest of the working class? But if one can estimate the sentiment from expressions, our men are looked upon as the true representatives of the working class in the Massachusetts Legislature, every act of treachery upon the part of the Democrats brings blame to the workers, that the truth of our teaching, and it is all grist coming into the Socialist mill.

On Thursday a hearing was had before the Judiciary Committee on Carey's bill to raise the age-limit for the employment of children to sixteen years. The bill was supported by the Socialist members, Carey, MacCartney, and Ransden, and also by the Legislative Committee of the A. F. of L., Frank K. Foester and Henry Sterling.

### MacCartney's Public Ownership Bill.

In the afternoon, MacCartney's bill for public ownership of street railways came before the House. The committee reporting adversely, MacCartney moved to substitute the bill for the committee's report. He spoke at length in support of his motion, stating in the outset that this was not Socialism, but that the street railway interests in this state were to-day in the control of two companies, that the Socialists stood for the overthrow of the entire capitalist system and acts of this kind were strictly incidental and prepared the people for its end. He showed that under public ownership in Glasgow wages had risen and hours of labor had decreased, and the public got better and cheaper service than when their utilities are conducted for private profit. He scored the railroad interests for debauching legislatures and said that the West End street railway paid \$42,000 for securing legislation in 1890. Representative Callender, our old friend who has such an unfortunate habit of coming to the

## rescue of private interests, replied to MacCartney, who again nailed him to the cross of capitalism. To show that he was free from railroad influence, Callender said he had never as a lawyer been hired to defend the railroad companies, and added, "Perhaps it is quick as a flash, MacCartney asked him if he was trying to demonstrate his ability now. The House roared and Callender, again set down discomfited. Frothingham of Boston defended the committee's report and quoted from the London "Times" to show the failure of municipal ownership. He contended that Socialism was "chimerical." Carey replied and said that the House would surely be influenced by the London "Times," the representative of monarchy and the natural opponent of Socialism and public ownership. He continued: "Your Lieutenant-Governor said forty thousand men voted for naked Socialism, voted for the chimera of which he speaks and next election there will be fifty thousand, and the long will elect a Governor of this state. This statement being persistently made by our Representative alarmed the Democrats who can read the handwriting on the wall, and they pleaded with their partners to support the measure so that the ground would not be taken from under them. This bill was introduced in the last Legislature by Comrade MacCartney and received 65 votes, this year it got 77.

## SOCIALIST VICTORIES.

### Pennsylvania Local Elections Bring Good Results.

Workingmen Taking Control of Borough Governments—Socialists Carry Mining Town of Lansford—Reading and Austin Send Good News.

LANSFORD, Pa., Feb. 19.—The Socialist Party won a striking victory here in Tuesday's local election, winning complete control of the borough administration. This result shows that the great increase in our vote last November was not merely a momentary protest, but that Socialism has taken a firm foothold here. Last summer's coal strike—Lansford is in Carbon County, in the heart of the anthracite region—did more than stir the workers to temporary indignation; it caused them to think for themselves and to see that in Socialism is their only hope of escape from the conditions that produce such class conflicts.

### Gain in Reading.

READING, Pa., Feb. 18.—In the election held in our city yesterday the contests were bitter between the two old parties. Personalities figured so largely that we feared a loss for the head of our ticket. In municipal contests of the past we generally lost as compared with the state elections. It is evident now that we need not expect reverses any more in our city.

### Work in the State.

The comrades throughout the state show a healthy activity. Most of the clubs show increased membership and from every locality demands for speakers are being made. We are arranging dates for Father McGrady for week commencing April 6, and if any of the locals desire they should notify the State Secretary at once. Two locals have already got dates.

### Work in the State.

Our Speakers' Club under MacCartney's leadership is making good progress and great interest is being manifested by the members. As a pedagogic he is a success, and ere long he will be able to turn loose a band of new speakers, much needed in the state.

### Comrades Carey and MacCartney have dates for every night this month. The state tied the Organizer up this week. One new charter granted to a local at Northboro. Randolph, Winthrop, and West Bridgewater will be organized this week. The stenographic report of the Carey-Stinson debate has been received and will be immediately put into the hands of the printer and soon ready for distribution. We anticipate a large sale.

### D. A. WHITE, Secretary, 907 Winthrop Building.

### MUST FACE NEW ISSUES.

Let us not deceive ourselves. Let us meet the issue fairly and squarely. As trade-unionists we cannot ignore the economic changes which are now on all around and about us. The industrial development and concentration of the means of production into ever fewer hands, makes it imperative that we change our tactics in treating with the employing capitalist class. The strike and boycott, the only weapons thus far recognized by trade unions, are becoming ever less potent as weapons of immediate offense and defense. These are necessary, however, ever under the present capitalist system, and so long as that system remains we are of necessity compelled to use them. But to make absolute industrial liberty possible, to free our class from the thraldom of wage slavery, we must unite at the polls; gain possession of the powers of government, and having achieved that power, use it in the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of exploitation and establish in its stead the Workers' Republic.—Annual Report of E. T. Behrens, President of Missouri State Federation of Labor.

### COAL ROAD'S INCREASING PROFITS.

It is announced that in the months of December and January alone the increase of net earnings of the Erie over the net earnings of the same months a year earlier was nearly sufficient to pay the full dividend on the first and second preferred stock for a whole year. The increase for the two months was about \$2,000,000—\$1,200,000 from the railroad and \$800,000 from the coal mines. Evidently the strike did not fatally injure the Erie. It will take a strike at the ballot-box to conquer such adversaries.

### REBUKED.

When a brutish, insatiable fellow remarked that it cost more to live now than it had cost eight years ago, the trust president lost his temper. "Isn't it worth more to live in a time of prosperity than in a time of depression?" he roared. The poor made no reply, but slunk away like a whipped cur.—Life.

## ATTACK ON UNIONS.

### Capitalist Program of Hostile Legislation Initiated in Connecticut.

Representative Edwin Hallock of Derby has introduced in the Connecticut Legislature a bill requiring that labor unions in that state become incorporated. This is the first step, we are told by the capitalist press, in a plan to make them responsible bodies, and is the result of the Waterbury strike. If the resolution is favorably reported bills will be introduced making unions responsible for riot damages instigated by their members. Unions will also be held liable to damages for conspiracy to injure private business. A bill drawn by State Attorney William H. Williams of Derby, which has been introduced in the Legislature, makes all towns, cities, and boroughs in Connecticut liable for damages to private property or injury caused by rioting, resulting from mob violence within their limits. Both the damages thus obtained and the cost of militia services, if rendered, are to be defrayed by the special per capita tax on all males between the ages of twenty-one and seventy residing in the town at the time of such mob violence. The intent of the bill is to make the participants in mob violence financially responsible for the damage they cause and all other male residents likewise responsible for aiding the police to suppress the rioters.

### These bills are in line with the capitalist policy which The Worker has forecast as likely to be pursued. Incorporated unions would be at the mercy of the courts. As soon as a serious strike was on suits would be begun against the union on the ground of alleged rioting and conspiracy. Even though there might be no evidence to support these suits, the courts could tie up the funds of the union, pending their decision. The requirement that unions incorporate carries with it, of course, the penalizing of unincorporated associations of workmen for the purposes now served by unions—a virtual return to the old conspiracy laws against unions which England repealed seventy-five years ago.

### AGAINST THIRD-MAN BILL.

The Assembly Committee on Railroads at Albany gave a hearing last week on the bill requiring an assistance to the engineer and fireman in the case of locomotive. Some surprise was caused by the fact that a number of engineers appeared to support the counsel for the New York Central in opposing the bill. They argued that the presence of a third man in the cab would be more likely to distract the engineer's attention at a critical moment than to help him.

### There are two or three possible explanations of this opposition. It is quite possible that the engineers, who spoke against the bill, are mere hired muckpots of the New York corporations, which do not, of course, wish to be compelled to stand the expense of hiring a third man for every engineer. Other explain their opposition by the theory that the engineers do not want a third man in the cab who would have nothing to do but to acquire the knowledge necessary for the running of an engine, and who might then become a dangerous competitor for employment.

### It is not impossible, however, that the engineers' opposition is sincere and well founded. It would seem that there is a much better way of meeting the need so terribly demonstrated by recent disasters—not by putting a third man in the cab, but by making it a penal offense for the officers of a road to keep any engineer, fireman, conductor, or telegrapher on duty more than eight hours at a stretch, or over seven if that be found necessary. The work of railway men has become much heavier and more nerve-straining in recent years. The railway companies are trying to carry greatly increased traffic—heavier trains run at higher speed—without a proportional increase of the working force. The result is that men are often kept on duty for such long periods that their senses of sight and hearing and their power of concentration are promptly to some extent permanently impaired.

### Of course this plan would suit the companies no better than the other; but it would suit the employees better, and what is more important, it would be more effective in preventing accidents.

### THE ANTI-TRUST FAKE.

A writer in the Pekin (Ill.) "Courier" tells the following story to illustrate how President Roosevelt proposes to "lash the trusts": "When I was a boy I was fond of dog fights. My mother punished me whenever she learned of my being present at one, though my father secretly sympathized with me. One evening my mother found proof of my presence at a canine scrap and suggested immediate punishment. Father, shamming his wrath, accepted the suggestion, and taking me into a bedroom proceeded with a great stick to lash the furniture, saying, 'Howl, you rascal, howl.' Of course I howled, and my mother hearing me was sorry and called my father off. When I see that the President is 'lashing the trusts' I imagine that his blows are falling on the furniture and that he is saying, softly, 'Howl, you rascal, howl.' And there is evidence that some of them are 'howling' through the newspapers just now, to make believe that the G. O. P. is really hearing them."

### Comrades who are members of trade unions will find it worth while to circulate Lee's "Labor Politics and Socialist Policies" among their fellow unionists. Price, postpaid, 3 cents a copy; ten copies for 20 cents; fifty for 85 cents; one hundred or more at 15 cents each. Socialist Literature Company, 184 William Street, New York.

## FOR THE DAILY.

### Only Four Weeks Till Opening of Globe Fair.

General Meeting on Thursday, March 5, to Organize Working Committees—Notes and Announcements.

Only four weeks remain before the opening of the great nine-days' fair in Grand Central Palace for the benefit of the Daily-Globe Fund. That this should be as successful on its larger scale as was the "Volkzeitung" Jubilee this week is what every comrade must heartily wish, and the wish should be expressed in hard work during the next month.

On Thursday evening, March 5, there will be held in the Manhattan Lyceum, 60-85 East Fourth Street, a general meeting for the purpose of choosing the working committees and assigning their duties. All delegates to the Daily-Globe Conference, all party members of Greater New York and vicinity, members of the Ladies' Daily-Globe Club and of the Social Democratic Women's Society, sons and daughters of comrades and others who are willing to do actual work during the Fair should be present at 8 o'clock sharp.

Meanwhile, it is necessary to push the sale of tickets and the collection of presents with all possible vigor. Tickets can be had through district organizations or from Secretary Butcher at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East Fourth Street, to whom also all presents collected should be brought as promptly as possible. Early settlement for tickets sold will greatly help the Committee in its work.

Comrade M. Tanner, who has full charge of the arrangements for entertainment at the Fair, is making good progress. He has already secured many attractive features, of which some account will be given next week. But he is eagerly looking for more. Any comrade who can give him information or assistance in procuring talent for the musical, dramatic, and vaudeville programs that are to be presented every night during the Fair is requested to communicate with him at once. He can be seen at the following places next week: Monday evening, West Side Labor Lyceum, 342 West Forty-second Street; Tuesday, Bronx Clubhouse, 3309 Third Avenue; Wednesday, Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, 140 Willoughby Avenue; Thursday, Clubhouse, 206 East Eighty-sixth Street; Friday, Socialist Educational League, 953 Second Avenue; Saturday, Socialist Literary Society, 241 East Broadway. Comrade Meyer may be seen at the same business any evening between 7:30 and 9:30 at 153 Second Avenue; or letters may be sent to Comrade Tanner at this address.

The Ladies' Daily-Globe Club will meet at 953 Second Avenue, Monday evening, March 2.

## THE PENSION SYSTEM.

A correspondent sends a report of a pension scheme for their employees which has been introduced into their business by Messrs. Graves, of Sheffield. . . . It struck the newspaper man who writes the report quoted, that this was rather a big risk for the firm to run out of mere philanthropy, so he asked: "And what is your grid pro quo? What does the firm expect to get out of the scheme?"

"With a hearty laugh Mr. Graves admitted that the firm did not expect its contributions to be sheer loss. "We believe," he said, "that our most valuable asset is the goodwill of our employees. We want them to feel they have a share in the business, and will benefit by our prosperity, and we are sure then there will be no half-hearted service. Then this scheme solves the difficult problem of what to do with our old men. It is not good to keep men, especially men in really good positions, when they have really got past their work. But how are we to deal with them under present conditions? We value our old servants, and do not want to cast them adrift. Under the scheme the difficulty completely vanishes. The old men can retire gracefully, with flags flying and all the honors of war. Then see what that does in stimulating the younger men. It's not a nice thing to feel that you deserve promotion, but must wait till you can step into a dead man's shoes. The scheme will solve that difficulty also. The old men will retire automatically, and the paths will be cleared for promotions at a reasonable pace."

"This is another case of philanthropy made easy. 'How to Increase Your Profits While 'Sharing Them,' would be a handy title for a brochure for free distribution among industrial capitalists.—Justice, London, England.

## THE DOCILE WAGE-SLAVE'S SONG.

"Oh give me a crust and my liberty," Was the song of our country's infancy. The liberty came, but the wily crust Got somewhere lost in the folds of the trust. And now I'm a-bunting it all day long With a flat, flat stomach and altered song. Oh give me a crust, but the liberty You can keep yourself, it's no use to me.

## THE AGED UNDER CAPITALISM.

An old man in Somers Town, England, who hanged himself, left the following letter behind: "I, William Thomas, sen., finding everything going against me as regards work and other things, I think it best to leave it, thinking everybody for their kindness to me, and hoping they will never miss what they have done for me. "I see that I am getting too old for work by the way I get served. Some say, 'Oh, you can't see!' and others, 'You ought to go into the house and give the young men a chance.' "So I am best out of it. Bury me as cheap as you can, so that you will be able to pay my rent and other little debts. . . . I hope God will reward you in this world and the next. God bless you all."

## "WILLIAM THOMAS."

—If you want to see the Socialist eye in New York doubled again next election, work for the Socialist daily.

## THEY WANT A NAPOLEON.

### Wall Street Lawyer's Solution of the Labor Question.

Republican and Democratic Judges and City Officers at Washington's Birthday Dinner Applaud the Call for Grapeshot and Sabre-Strikes.

At the Washington Birthday banquet of the Sheriff's Jury in the Hotel Savoy, last Monday, five Justices of the Supreme Court, Recorder Goff, Sheriff O'Brien, Borough President Canter, Police Commissioner Greene, and nearly every city officer except the Mayor—Republicans, Democrats, and Reformers all together—applauded the remarks of a Wall Street corporation lawyer, Charles F. Mathewson, on the treatment of strikes. As reported by the "Herald" and the "Times," Mathewson said: "But I want to become serious. We have in this day and age come face to face with labor troubles where riotousness and violence are continuous and un-suppressed, to a time when the man who violates no law is not permitted to earn his bread because he has not secured permission from some man he knows not, to a time when persons have taken the law into their own hands and enforced it with the torch, the pistol, with dynamite, and to destroy."

## A MESSAGE TO MORGAN.

### Socialists Address the Trust King.

By Direction of the Pennsylvania State Committee, Secretary Fred Long Thanks Him for Having Shown the Fallacy of Competitive Theory.

In accordance with the instructions of the State Committee of the Socialist Party of Pennsylvania, the Secretary of that body, Comrade Fred W. Long, has addressed a letter to J. Pierpont Morgan, thanking him, as the representative of the trusts, for the aid and opportunity which the formation of monopolies is giving to the Socialist movement in the United States. The letter has gained considerable publicity in the capitalist press and thus successfully served its propaganda purpose.

## An Unconscious Agent of Social Evolution.

The great trust organizer is told that he cannot help his actions in furthering the economic evolution towards Socialism, being moved thereto by inevitable laws of economic development over which he has no control. The letter says that the trusts have demonstrated the wastefulness of competition and the practicality of combination on a large scale, but points out that Mr. Morgan knows nothing of Socialism and does not see what propaganda work he is unconsciously doing in furtherance of the Socialist ideal—the Co-operative Commonwealth.

## BULLETS FOR THE NEW NAPOLEON.

Federal Government Providing Cartridges to Be Used in Shooting "Rioters."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The War Department has sent notice to Governors of the states that it is prepared to supply them upon demand and according to their legal allowances, with "riot cartridges."

This is new ammunition prepared by the experts of the Ordnance Bureau to enable officers of the law and soldiers to repel rioters with the least possible loss of life to the "innocent spectator." The shell is like that used in the army rifle, but instead of the long nickel-plated and steel-cased bullet, the design was apparently to secure something of greater range than buckshot, yet not dangerous to persons at a distance. The cartridge is charged with about thirty-four grains of smokeless powder. The cartridges have sufficient accuracy for effective use at two hundred yards.

## INSECURITY.

The workingman, whose very existence, whose family's education, training and care depends upon the tiny thread of the daily task, cannot be happy, no matter how many delights there may be in the home. The specter of needs stands at his threshold hourly; let but a slight accident interpose, and the income stops, the little saving begins to leak, the substance melts away, and the family stands face to face with want. When the man stops, the pay stops. Life and comfort depend upon the "job."—Pendleton East Oregonian.

## THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF NEW YORK CITY.

Free public lectures, followed by answering of questions and general discussion, will be given in New York City, under the auspices of the Social Democratic Party, as follows: FRIDAY, FEB. 27. Charles Ufert: "The Co-operative Commonwealth." At the West Side Socialist Club, Clark's Hall, corner of Twenty-fifth Street and Eighth Avenue, second floor, 8 p. m.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 1.

Mrs. Mary E. Lease: "The Religion of the Twentieth Century." At the Socialist Educational League, 953 Second Avenue, 8 p. m. Debate on Socialism vs. Prohibition between Sol Fieldman and Henry W. Wilbur. At Colonial Hall, 101st Street and Columbus Avenue, 8:15 p. m. James N. Wood: "The Crisis." At Dispensary Hall, Thirty-sixth Street and Ninth Avenue, 8 p. m. Also cinematograph exhibition. Kate Richards O'Hare: "Woman's Place in the Socialist Movement." At the Socialist Literary Society, 241 East Broadway, 8 p. m.

## IN BROOKLYN.

Dr. C. L. Furman: "From Whom Comes Your Bread and Butter." At the Socialist Propaganda Club, 315 Washington Street, March 1, 8 p. m. George D. Herron will speak on "The Religion of Life," at the Brooklyn Philosophical Association, South Eighth Street, between Bedford and Driggs Avenues, on Sunday, March 1, at 3 p. m.

## MASS MEETING.

The Social Democratic Educational Club of the Eighth Assembly District of New York will open the campaign of this year with a monster mass meeting in New Irving Hall, 216 Broome Street, Wednesday evening, March 4. Comrades George D. Herron, Wm. T. Brown, L. Miller, J. Baronides, M. Zametkin, L. Rosenzweig, J. Panken, and B. Weinstein will be the speakers.

The Social Democratic Party of New York is the same as the Socialist Party of other states. The difference of name is due solely to provisions of the election laws. Do not confuse this organization with the so-called "Socialist Labor Party," or "union-busters."

## SOCIALISM OR PROFITABLE MURDER.

Over in Jersey they are killing school-children by the dozen, because to abolish grade-crossings would cost money, would reduce dividends, would be unbusinesslike.

Here in New York, as the Board of Health has just shown, they are poisoning sick people daily with adulterated medicines, because to sell pure medicines would reduce profits, would be unbusinesslike.

In the Massachusetts Legislature the three Socialists stood alone in supporting a bill to compel railway companies to protect the lives of trainmen by using automatic couplers and brakes. The Democrats joined the Republicans in defeating it.

That is not surprising. Both the old parties support private ownership of the means of production. They endorse the profit system. They regard profit as the basis of civilization. What is businesslike, in their view, is natural and eternal.

The Socialist Party stands for the overthrow of capitalism, of private ownership in the means of production, of profit as the rule of industry. If you, the voters, choose capitalism under either the Republican or the Democratic name, you must accept all that it implies—grade-crossings, poison, and all. If you are opposed to businesslike murder, you must reject the profit system that necessitates it.

It is for you to choose. The capitalists will not help you. You must think and act together for yourselves. If you fail, on your heads is the responsibility.

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PARTY NOTES.

For comrades in any part of the country who wish to see the stereotypical in propaganda meetings this information will be of interest: Comrade Swing of Cincinnati has a good selection of slides for such purposes, which will be gladly duplicated for any comrade or local at a very small cost. Address Alfred J. Swing, 412 Pike Bldg., Cincinnati, O.

Workington and others interested in the labor question in Rochester, N. Y., are invited to attend a lecture by F. A. Van Auken in the Common Council Chamber of the City Hall on Sunday, March 1, at 3 p. m. "Patriotism—What Is It?" is his subject. Admission is free.

The County Committee of the Socialist Party of Luzerne County, Pa., will hold its regular monthly meeting at headquarters on Tuesday evening, March 2, at 7:30 p. m. Every local should be represented as this will be a very important meeting. A new constitution is to be adopted and action taken on the Wilkes-Barre Township affair, the Lynch decision, the stand taken by the State Committee toward the S. L. P. of this state, the place of holding the next state convention, and other important matters. The complete official election returns will be at hand and plans discussed for the fall campaign—Local Wilkes-Barre will meet at headquarters, Friday evening, March 6, at 7:30 p. m., and take action on the revised constitution and other matters of importance. All members who are over six months in arrears are hereby notified that unless they pay before April 1 their names will be dropped from the roll of membership.

Rev. Father Thomas McGrady will lecture in New Haven, Conn., Tuesday evening, March 31, probably at Music Hall, Court street. Ten cents admission will be charged.—Local New Haven will hold its annual Commune Festival and dance at Aurora Hall, Monday, March 16. All friends of the party are cordially invited. Tickets can be had from members.—Rev. Newman Smythe, pastor of Center Church, New Haven, one of the most wealthy congregations in that city, recently made severe attacks upon the trade unions in an address to the New Haven Chamber of Commerce. The New Haven Trades Council adopted some caustic resolutions in reply, and Dr. Smythe expressed a desire to address a meeting of the Council and explain his position to the unionists of the city. The Trades Council extended an invitation to him to do so, and a meeting has been arranged for Thursday evening, Feb. 23, at Union Hall, Orange street, to which all unionists and their friends are invited. Comrade Frank A. Sieverman, General Organizer of the Boot and Shoe Workers, will be the principal speaker for the unionists and will reply to Dr. Smythe's criticisms.

The regular monthly general meeting of Local Philadelphia will be held on Wednesday evening, March 4, at the Labor Lyceum, Sixth, above Brown street.

Reports from many places where Father McGrady has spoken show that local priests try to keep the people from attending his meetings.

A strong new local has been formed at Wooster, O., county seat of Wayne County. Dayton, Columbus, and Hamilton have nominated city tickets and an active campaign is promised. The state organization fund is growing rapidly and by May 1 systematic outdoor work through the state can be begun.

Local Buffalo, N. Y., will hold a series of lectures at the headquarters, 512 Washington street, beginning March 1, when Edward S. Bock will make the opening address and general discussion will follow. The local hopes to have Father McGrady speak in Buffalo on March 29.

The County Committee of Local Hudson County, N. J., meets Sunday, March 1, at 10 a. m., in the new Headquarters, 215 Central Ave., Jersey City.

Henry Rieth of Patogue, Long Island, gives \$120 to the Auxiliary Campaign Fund.

The agitation meeting held at Colonial Hall, Friday evening, Feb. 20, to which the enrolled voters in the district were invited, was a very successful one, twelve new party members being obtained. Comrades Fieldman, Young and Cassidy spoke. Similar meetings will be held in the near future in the 19th, 23d, and 31st Assembly Districts.

At the last meeting of the Socialist Educational League, 953 Second avenue, it was decided that plans selections, recitations and songs be given before the lectures, and after the lecture dancing to 11:30 p. m.

A festival will be held by Branch 2 of the 24th A. D. on Saturday evening, Feb. 25, at the rooms of the Socialist Educational League, 953 Second avenue. Tickets are only ten cents and the following table has thus far been secured: Frank Richter, monologues and recitations; Wright brothers, Socialist songs and recitations; Harry Wier, English comic songs; son and daughter of Comrade Oppenlander in violin and piano solos; Charles Fuchs and John Korman, reciter artists; Comrade Cooper, in recitations without words; A. Lindstrom, violin artist; Isabella Reichenthal, songs and recitations. Mrs. Fischer and George Bower will assist on the piano and furnish the music for the dancing which will follow the entertainment.

The General Committee of Local New York meets Saturday, Feb. 25, at 8 p. m., at Labor Lyceum, 94 East Fourth street.

The comrades of the West Side assembly districts held a well attended general meeting last Saturday. Organizer Wood was present and the situation on the West Side was discussed at some length. It was decided to continue the lectures at Dispensary Hall, and to order 3,000 handbills announcing these meetings, and also 3,000 leaflets. Comrades Lewis, Dunne, and Martin were elected as a committee to conduct agitation in the trade unions on the West Side, and Comrades Harth, Solomon, and Brown were chosen to attend to advertising of the Globe Fair. It was decided to hereafter hold the general business meeting of the West Side comrades the second Monday evening in every month.

A good meeting is promised at Dispensary Hall, Thirty-sixth street and Ninth avenue, on Sunday evening, March 1. A cinematograph exhibition, music, and a lecture on "Socialist Policies" by Organizer Wood, should unite to make the affair a success. All West Side comrades should be present.

A branch of the Social Democratic Party was organized last month in the 9th A. D. of Kings County by seven comrades residing in the 9th who transferred from the 12th A. D. The branch now has nineteen members and expects to triple its membership in the near future. The branch meets on the second and fourth Thursdays in each month at 18 Cole street; Comrade Pat Sinnott, 113 King street, is organizer, and Peter Thorsen, 46 Dikeman street, secretary. All sympathizers in this district are urged to join the branch and help in the party work.

Kings County Committee meets Saturday, Feb. 25th, in Brooklyn Labor Lyceum.

All earnest thinking men and women interested in abolishing the demoralizing conditions which are retarding the human race in its march toward a real civilization are cordially invited to attend the debate to be held under the auspices of the Colonial Socialist Club, at Colonial Hall, 127 West 42nd and Columbus avenue, New York, on Sunday evening, March 1. The debaters will be Sol Fieldman, Socialist speaker, and Henry W. Wilbur, editor of the Prohibition organ, "The Defender," and the proposition to be debated will be: "Resolved, That the purpose of the Prohibition Party commends the allegiance of all citizens desiring social order and good government more than does the purpose of the Social Democratic Party." Admission free.

THE "ANTI" S. L. P. IN PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 23.—On Saturday began the state convention of the anti-DeLeonite S. L. P. in this city. Delegates were present from Pittsburgh, Allegheny City, Easton, Bethlehem, Scranton, Blytheville, and Philadelphia. Lucien Sanial and two or three other ex-DeLeonites were also in attendance. Jules Eberle, the State Secretary of the organization presented a rather lengthy report, largely with a recital of the troubles which culminated in the suspension of the Pennsylvania organization by De Leon's N. E. C. He stated that the organization was now confronted with a deficit of \$323. The fact that the S. L. P. ticket received only about 5,000 votes last fall, while the Socialist Party had nearly 22,000, was cited as having convinced many among them that the policy pursued by the S. L. P. was not altogether a wise one. This gathering, it was stated, should consider the question of co-operation or union with the Socialist Party.

The discussion showed a divergence of opinion, all agreeing in denouncing De Leon's conduct, but some wishing to maintain a separate organization against the Socialist Party.

Resolutions were finally adopted "advising friendly intercourse with the honest members of other Socialist organizations in Pennsylvania, with a view to final union" on the basis of the class struggle; advising that steps be taken to form a new national party, distinct from the De Leonite organization and from the Socialist Party; declaring that the S. L. P. of Pennsylvania should express its sympathy with trade-union struggles as with all other struggles of the working class against the capitalist class," while pointing out the growing impotency of organized labor unless it makes use of its political power to establish the Socialist Republic; tentatively providing for the publication of a weekly or monthly paper; and, finally, deferring nominations till June 10, in the hope that unity may be effected.

Before adjourning the thanks of the convention were tendered the Socialists of Flint for the many courtesies extended the visiting delegates.

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At the New York State Committee meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 10, Comrades Neppel, Abbott, Slobodin, Wood, and Bub were present; excused, Chas. L. Furman, Boverman; absent, Reich, Phillips, G. Lelner.

STATE COMMITTEE.

At the New York State Committee meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 10, Comrades Neppel, Abbott, Slobodin, Wood, and Bub were present; excused, Chas. L. Furman, Boverman; absent, Reich, Phillips, G. Lelner.

FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

We have received from National Secretary Mally the monthly financial report for January issued by the then National Secretary Greenbaum. It shows receipts as follows: For dues—Alabama, \$7.50; Arkansas, \$2.70; Colorado, \$70.85; Florida, \$5; Idaho, \$5; Illinois, \$60; Indiana, \$27.95; Iowa, \$50.55; Kansas, \$54.35; Kentucky, \$16.40; Louisiana, \$6.80; Maine, \$10; Maryland, \$8.60; Massachusetts, \$50; Michigan, \$15; Minnesota, \$27; Missouri, \$18.55; Montana, \$9.55; Nebraska, \$19.70; New Hampshire, \$8.75; New York, \$50; North Carolina, \$1.50; North Dakota, \$17.75; Ohio, \$45; Oregon, \$12.85; Rhode Island, \$5; South Dakota, \$4.57; Tennessee, \$3.50; Vermont, \$3.50; Virginia, \$1; Washington, \$21.90; Wisconsin, \$7.40; Wyoming, \$9.00; total for dues, \$734.32; for supplies, \$14.44; miscellaneous, \$3.20; total receipts for party purposes, \$751.96. There was also received \$23.79 for strike relief, which was remitted.

Expenses for the month were \$804.61, the principal items being: Salaries, \$143.33; office help, \$60; expenses of National Committee attending annual meeting, \$371.76; John C. Chase, on account of Labor Lecture Bureau, \$100; printing, \$51.27; office rent, \$15; postage, \$14.71.

The financial standing at the end of the month is shown in this table: Balance, Jan. 1, \$370.91. Receipts, incl. strike fund, \$780.95. Expenses, incl. strike fund, \$828.40. Balance, Feb. 1, \$323.46.

MICHIGAN CONVENTION.

Gathering at Flint the Largest Ever Held by the Party—Candidates Nominated for State Election.

SAGINAW, Mich., Feb. 19.—The Socialist Party state convention at Flint on Tuesday was the most largely attended of the four annual conventions thus far held by the party.

Robert S. Clark of Flint called the convention to order, and J. A. C. Menton of Flint, Secretary of the State Committee, read the call for the convention, after which a temporary organization was effected by the election of Comrade Clark as chairman and Clarence Neely as secretary, and the various committees were chosen. On reassembling, the credentials committee reported about sixty delegates entitled to seats, representing organizations in the following counties: Arenac, Calhoun, Eaton, Genesee, Hillsdale, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lapeer, Oakland, Saginaw, Sanilac, Washtenaw, and Wayne. The temporary organization was made permanent.

The report of the resolutions committee consisted only of a reaffirmation of the national platform of the Socialist Party and an indorsement of the action taken by the National Committee at St. Louis, without expressing any preference as to the location of permanent headquarters.

The constitution committee reported two candidates covering the resignations of members of the party elected to office, and the formation of city central committees, which were adopted.

Nominations were then taken up, no time being lost in speech-making. All nominations were made by acclamation. Herbert A. Hodge of Jackson, candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court, is a real-estate and insurance man, and has been admitted to the bar, although not at present engaged in the practice of the legal profession. In a short speech of acceptance he said that in the triumph of Socialism would come the breaking up of the big boarding house in his city (the Jackson prison); such places would be little needed if men were given opportunity to gain a livelihood in honest ways.

John D. Hunt, one of the candidates for Regent of the University, is a farmer, Hillsdale County, well known among Socialists for his earnestness in the cause. William A. Benesi of Kalamazoo, the second candidate for Regent, is a member of the Painters' Union, one of the organizers of the Socialist Party in that city, and a writer of much force.

William E. Walter, candidate for Governor in the recent campaign and State Organizer of the party, submitted a report of his tour last summer. A vote of thanks was unanimously tendered him for his splendid work in the campaign.

Headquarters of the party were continued at Flint for the coming year, and the Local Quorum was requested to retain J. A. C. Menton in the office of Secretary.

Under "good and welfare," C. J. Lamb presented a plan of carrying on outdoor agitation. The plan was approved, and the convention elected Comrade Lamb as organizer to carry on the work, with the assistance of the State Committee.

HOW CAPITALISM GUARDS THE HOME.

A Few Notes of Current News Showing the Absurdity of the Charge that Socialism Would Destroy the Family.

From Manila, where manifest destiny and commercial interests have set up the American flag, comes this cable news: "Two girls were sold into slavery in this city a few days ago by Gregorio Torres, one bringing one hundred and fifty pesos, and the other one hundred pesos. A number of cases have been reported from time to time where young girls have been bought and sold. There are a number of human vultures in this city that are engaged in the business of buying and selling girls, something that should receive the attention of the authorities." The authorities take it all very coolly.

Our women should most certainly be lured to the present capitalistic system of industry, designed as it is to foster all the home-loving instincts of gentle femininity. Let us see some of the ways in which she is treated in various parts of this round world, and then, woman-reader, tell me if you are a lover of this beautiful system. Out in South America girls are lured to lives of shame in which they are compelled to submit to mock marriages before a notary public, and live in the most degrading and threatening conditions. Most of the girls are German, Hungarian, and Bohemian.

In some of the central provinces of Russia there are regular sales of women and children; and a sound, wholesome young maiden brings \$35 in the market. A healthy female child is sold from \$10 to \$25. Speculators are said to do a thriving business by fattening up their purchases and then selling again at a profit.

According to some of the Russian journals the sale of women and girls has enormously increased in Korea. In their homes and in the public market these child-sellings of our profit-producing system are openly sold to the city of "Buy girls, pretty girls, cheap girls!" A small child will fetch 10 shillings, while a girl from 13 to 15 years of age brings from \$3 to \$4; and rich merchants make money by buying the children of the poor, feeding them up and selling them at a big profit.

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We offer the following Books and Pamphlets while they last at just half the price:

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A Debate on the Tactics of the S. T. & L. A. Towards Trade Unions, between D. DeLeon and Job Harriman. 5c.
"The Communist Manifesto." By Karl Marx and Fred. Engels. 10c.
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"IMPARTIAL" MENDACITY. Remarkable Record of National Economic League.

Startling Exhibition of Incoherence in Organization Backed by Bankers, Bishops, and Statesmen—Disturbed by Socialist Challenge—"Labor Leaders" in Queer Company.

Readers of The Worker will remember that in our issue of Dec. 28 we gave some account of the National Economic League, a body organized and endorsed by many noted capitalists and politicians. We quoted from a circular of the League the statement that one of its objects was "to render its services in an impartial educational movement to oppose Socialism and class hatred."

As further reported in our issue of Jan. 11, Comrade Alex. Fraser of Brooklyn, on behalf of the Socialist Propaganda Club, addressed a letter to Mr. Dutcher, Chairman of the League, protesting against the misrepresentation involved in the phrase, "Socialism and class hatred," and inviting or challenging the League to choose a representative to debate the question of Socialism.

We ventured to predict that the challenge would not be taken up. Subsequent events have not only justified our prediction, but illustrated in the most striking manner the hypocrisy and moral cowardice of these eminent defenders of capitalism.

Will Not Debate.

In due time Comrade Fraser received a reply from A. H. Mattox, Editorial Manager of the League, to whom Mr. Dutcher had referred the challenge. Mr. Mattox declared that it was NOT the purpose of the League to oppose Socialism and that therefore the challenge would not be accepted; at considerable length he insisted on the truly "impartial" character of the League and intimated that its purpose was to protect "our commercial supremacy" by proving the interests of Capital and Labor to be identical.

Almost on the day that this letter was written, Thomas Henry Cochrane, a member of the Organization Committee of the League, addressed the officers and employees of the National Cash Register Company of Dayton, O., a notoriously benevolent union-smashing concern. The Toledo "Daily News" reported his speech in full (noting especially that he was the guest of the president of the company), and the "Coming Nation" of Jan. 17 reprinted the report. We have not space to give the speech in full, but here are some typical sentences:

"Impartial" Utterances.

"The cancer of Socialism is threatening the whole body politic."

"Socialism is the real cause for class hatred and discontent among the laboring classes in this country."

"The rapid growth of Socialism is largely due to the fact that the Socialist Party is educating the workmen in their vicious doctrines by printing inflammatory articles calculated to deepen and intensify rebellion and class hatred by presenting one-sided views, so cleverly and speciously written that the factory boss is misled by these strong leaders who are to be found in manufacturing and business plants in this country, who are not only teaching Socialism, but are making converts to the party."

"Political Socialism, however, is growing among all classes, except the thoughtful and law-abiding citizens."

Challenged Again.

In view of these utterances by a recognized spokesman of the League, Comrade Fraser wrote Mr. Mattox again as follows:

"I regret very much that you decline to debate with the Socialist Propaganda Club. I should not have troubled you in the first instance were it not that your refusal distinctly states that the purpose of the National Economic League is to oppose Socialism. I shall avail myself of your invitation to submit an article on Socialism and have asked one of our best writers to prepare such an article.

"I desire, however, to call your attention to the enclosed extract from a speech delivered by Mr. Cochrane of the National Economic League in which he says that 'Socialism is the real cause for class hatred and discontent among the laboring classes in this country.' We are so confident that this is no far-fetched statement of the truth, and that class hatred and discontent are due to an entirely different cause, that we should be glad of an opportunity to discuss that proposition with Mr. Cochrane.

"He also says that 'the rapid growth of Socialism is due to the fact that the Socialist Party is educating the workmen in their vicious doctrines by printing inflammatory articles calculated to deepen and intensify rebellion and class hatred by presenting one-sided views.' In view of the fact that we offer you our platform on the most liberal terms, it is such a palpable misrepresentation that in justice to us and to yourselves you are in duty bound either to accept our invitation to debate or repudiate the utterances of Mr. Cochrane. The strength of the Socialist movement lies in the fact that it does everything openly and aboveboard and invites the most discriminating criticism of its methods and teachings. Misrepresentation is not criticism.

menace to the interests of the working people?"

"Falling all of these, will the League consent to have one of its speakers present its views upon Socialism and the Socialist Party, so as to put an end once and for all, to the farce of the League's concern to be misrepresented and misrepresentation which appears to be, if not the only weapon, certainly the most potent weapon employed by those who are opposed to Socialism and from which most is expected. We shall place our platform at your disposal for this purpose also.

"It is perfectly natural that the capitalists, being the present incumbents of privilege, should command the sun to stand still on Mount Gibbon, but one would imagine with all the data at hand which was not accessible to any of their predecessors that even they would perceive abundant evidence of a great impending change. Human society is a living thing and like all living organisms subject to change.

To attempt to set limits to this change is to invite disaster. The child who is born or the mother will die. We can no more prevent the change from one form of society to another than we can command the winds and waves and bid them be still. Yet in all ages men have blindly set themselves in opposition to these forces which have been at work since the world began. Socialism is the new offspring that is to be born of the old.

"The Socialist is neither the inventor nor the creator of this new society, nor in fact are they in any way responsible for it. Rather are they the discoverers and harbingers of a new and better era which shall know neither stress nor strife. To set ourselves in opposition to the birth of this new society is to set ourselves in opposition to the laws that govern the entire universe. If there is any danger to be apprehended it lies in adopting repressive measures to prevent something from taking place which in the natural order of events will and must take place, and in filling the minds of the people with vague and groundless fears born of ignorance and the creation of an unhealthy imagination. Society has nothing to fear from Socialism, for it does no ill to any man. Neither has Socialism anything to fear from open and fair discussion."

"Since the sending of this second challenge the 'Coming Nation' has published another letter of Mr. Mattox, written to a business man in the West. We present some excerpts:

"The National Economic League has been organized by thoughtful, careful men, good citizens, for the express purpose of counteracting such incendiary and anarchistic publications as the 'Coming Nation'. The business men of the country do not know that there are thousands of vile sheets like this that are kept alive by exciting the passions of the working people.

"The National Economic League believes that the greatest danger that threatens capital to-day in all lines of productive industry come from Socialism and class hatred."

"To counteract these evil influences, which, if not checked, will bring national disaster, the National Economic League has organized an impartial non-political movement, to be under the direct supervision of representative men in the manufacturing world, labor leaders, commerce, college, agriculture, church, law, transportation, newspapers, magazines, etc. . . .

"The League will also, at an early date, issue an illustrated publication printed in various languages, to be devoted to the investigation, discussion and study of these questions, with the object of overcoming the vicious influence of the Socialist press. . . .

"I take pleasure in enclosing a prospectus of the League, which will give you better information as to its aims and purposes. I also enclose a partial list of the men prominent in commercial and professional life, who not only endorse the League and support it by financial aid, but have consented to be members of the Board of Editorial Associates, and will contribute articles on vital social questions of the day."

In Queer Company.

The "labor leaders" mentioned in the third of the paragraphs above appear to be represented by just two names—E. E. Clark of the Order of Railway Conductors, whom Baer and Roosevelt chose as the sole "representative of Labor" on the Strike Commission, and Frank P. Sargent of the Brotherhood of Firemen, who has lately been rewarded with a political job for his long service in keeping honest politics out of the union. They appear on this League's list in company with Grover Cleveland, who sent the troops to break the A. R. U. strike; with Jacob L. Greatholder, who as President of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit has mercilessly punished any attempt at organization among the men; with John H. Patterson, President of the National Cash Register Company, and other officers of the same scab concern; with D. M. Parry and Charles A. Schieren, President and Treasurer of the National Manufacturers' Association, which is so vigorously lobbying at Washington against the Eight-Hour Bill and all other labor bills; with Ludwig Nissen, President of the Manufacturers' Association of New York, which so vehemently attacked the trade unions in supporting the Pennsylvania tunnel franchise; with Lyman J. Gage and Henry Clews, the spokesmen of Wall Street; with three railway presidents, several bank presidents, several great manufacturing capitalists, a few junction-issuing judges, a dozen injunctions and professors of subsidized universities, some bishops, and a lot of capitalist editors.

WHAT WORKINGMEN'S VOTES CAN DO.

"What Workingmen's Votes Can Do," by Benjamin Hanford, is one of the best propaganda leaflets that you can get. It was written for use in the last campaign in New York state and was found to be so useful in bringing workingmen to a true understanding of the principles and purposes of the National Economic League that a special edition has been prepared for use in the country at large—the name Socialist Party, as used in place of Social Democratic Party, as used in New York. In places where city campaigns are now opening it should be widely distributed. Prices: \$2 a thousand, or 25 cents a hundred; expressage paid. Order of Socialist Literature Company, 184 William Street, New York.

WORKINGMAN-AFRAID-OF-HIMSELF.

By F. A. J. Waldron.

[An address delivered at the Labor League in Rochester, N. Y., on Sunday, Jan. 25.]

A number of years ago, one of the Indian tribes of the West went on the warpath. Among the chiefs who figured in the affair was one named Man-Afraid-of-His-Horses. That is the way his name appeared in the papers. I thought at the time that that was a ridiculous name and wondered how a man who was afraid of his horses could rise to be a chief among the Indians. Observation has taught me, however, that there are many stranger things in this world. In our civilized society there is a great chief upon whom we are all dependent. He builds our houses, runs our railroads, raises our food, makes our clothing, builds our churches, schools and universities and, in short, produces all the necessities, comforts and luxuries of civilized life. Who is this great chief? His name is: Workingman-Afraid-of-Himself.

In any rationally constituted society, the man who produces all these good things would have an abundance of power for himself; everyone would be eager to do his will; the government would be administered in his interests; the conditions of work would be so arranged as to protect his life and health and keep him in condition to do his work to the best advantage; he would have the best education that society could afford; he would have leisure to cultivate his mind; he would be the most important member of society; in fact, he would be society, and all the efforts of the world would be directed toward securing his welfare.

Are these things true of society as it exists to-day? Does our great chief demand that they shall be made true? Before answering these questions, let me give you a little parable.

Once upon a time the dogs formed a union to regulate the fleas. The objects of the union, as announced, were: (1) To determine the number of fleas which should be allowed to prey upon a given dog; (2) To limit the hours during which the fleas should bite, in order that the dogs might have time to recuperate; (3) To fix the maximum bite which any flea should be allowed to take.

One dog, who was universally regarded as a crank, brought forward a remedy whereby the fleas might be exterminated. The canine union stood aghast: "What! abolish fleas entirely? You must be crazy. Ever since dogs came into being, there have been fleas. Before you can abolish fleas, you must change dog nature. Besides, we must have some one to provide us employment."

Unfortunately, society has not yet outgrown its robber ideas. In order to be honored and respected by the community, it is still necessary to be somewhat of a thief. Our honored citizens are not the men who produce wealth but the exploiters of labor, who take advantage of existing conditions to appropriate the greater part of the wealth which the workers produce. People are still inclined to look upon labor, especially manual labor, as a badge of slavery. We still sing of the man behind the gun, but who sings of the man behind the machine? Too often there is no man there—only a woman or a little child.

Not so very long ago we used to see companies of soldiers parading through the streets on their return from Cuba. I am told that one company, on reaching Rochester, swarmed around the locomotive and smeared their faces with grease in order to appear as "tough" as possible. As they paraded up Main street the people cheered, gazing with awe and reverence at their tanned and greasy countenances. Suppose they had been returning from their faces black and griny and their very lungs saturated with coal dust, how many people would have cheered them? Yet we have learned by our recent experience that one miner, actively engaged in digging coal, is worth more to the community than ten thousand soldiers.

Society does not estimate the workingman at his true worth. That is not the point, however, with which I wish to deal. A more important question is: What does the workingman think of himself? Does he accept the prevailing estimate of himself? In many cases he does. He feels ashamed because he is obliged to work for a living. In his every look and action he seems to apologize for the fact that he is a mere workingman. He tries, in many cases, to set up an aristocracy of labor; he persuades himself and others that he is not in the same class with certain other workingmen; that his work is more dignified than certain other kinds of work; he talks of his "salary" and his "profession," and in every way tries to conceal his shame over the fact that he is a producer rather than an exploiter.

Shame always leads to distrust of oneself and to fear. The workingman ashamed of himself soon becomes the workingman afraid of himself. He knows that things are not as they should be and he casts about for a remedy, but he is positively frightened when any one suggests that he himself must change the conditions which hold him down. He is always looking to others to do something for him. "If only certain laws were passed," thinks he, "everything would be lovely." But who is to enact these laws? Of course, he could not trust any member of his class to do it. What should a mere workingman know about law? So he entrusts the job to the first smooth-tongued politician who comes along proclaiming himself the friend of labor. He spends thousands of dollars yearly to support lobbies in Washington and in different state capitals, begging legislators elected by capitalist parties to do a little something for him. What does he get in return for all this? An eight-hour law so doctored that nobody wants it; an employer's liability bill which throws all the liability on himself and his fellow employees.

shoulders, exposing their precious persons to danger. The militia is composed mostly of wage-workers. When the call of "duty" comes, they leave their work in store or factory, hasten to the scene of conflict, shoot down members of their own class in obedience to orders, and then return, only to find that their foe of an employer has discharged them for their devotion to the interests of his class.

I see that the Pennsylvania Railroad is pursuing a more enlightened policy toward its employees who served in the militia during the recent coal strike. They are to retain their positions and receive pay for the time they lost in the line of duty. That will, doubtless, keep the flag of patriotism blaring brightly in their homes—until they go on a little strike of their own and are called out as militia to protect the fellows who have taken their jobs.

Suppose the militia should become class-conscious and refuse to shoot workingmen, as a company in New Orleans did recently. How long would it be before the capitalists would refuse to pay taxes for the support of such a useless luxury?

The root of the workingman's timidity lies in his false views on economics. He thinks he must earn a loss or employer to provide him work. There have been wage-workers and employers as long as he can remember and he assumes that this state of things has always existed and that it must continue forever. A very slight knowledge of history would show him that society has already passed through many forms; there have been different modes of production in different ages, each of these modes being adapted to the people living at the time; each form of society has passed away as new methods of production arose; the capitalist system is the latest product of the growth of society; it must sometime give way to a new system and the only question is, how soon will the workingman put an end to it and what will be put in its place?

Were any of you employed in one of those concerns which had to shut down recently for lack of coal? Whose was your employer then? Did it not seem just then as if your real employer were the man down in Pennsylvania who mines the coal? At other times, no doubt, it has looked very much as if your real employer were the men who produce the raw material on which you work or the machine in which you work—all workingmen like yourselves. Well, who is your employer after all? If you are a farmer, your employer are the people who eat your grain and vegetables; to eat; if you are a butcher or cutter, your employer are the people who want meat to eat; if you are a tailor, your employer is the man who wants clothes to wear; if you are a carpenter, stone-mason, bricklayer, painter or plumber, your employer are the people who want houses to live in—and the great majority of these are working people like yourself.

If the scientific method of production were abolished, would the demand for your labor be one whit less than it is to-day? Would people want less food, clothing and shelter than they do now? You say, however, that you could not run a great manufacturing establishment yourself. But let us see how such concerns are actually managed to-day. In former times, the employer managed his own business; when it grew so large he usually employed in partnership who understood the business as well as he did; as the business grew they hired a superintendent to take part of the burden off their hands; at present, in a business of any size, the employer manages a very small portion of the business; he lets out the greater part of it to superintendents, foremen, bosses, underbosses, etc. In the very largest concerns, the great corporations and trusts, even the work is done by employees working for salaries or wages. The stockholders come together once a year, perhaps, to hear the report of their president, to decide whether they shall retain him or hire another man, to discuss certain questions, such as the conversion of stocks into bonds or bonds into stocks—none of which have anything to do with production—and then their "work" is done. Many of them have never even seen the place where the work is carried on.

Now, who should know more about the management of a business—the man who is actually working at it or the man who knows nothing about it? Could not you and your fellow workmen get together and select bosses, foremen and superintendents, just as well as these stockholders? If you know of no one else, could you not select the same men who are over you now? If they know how to make the business profitable to the present employers, could they not organize it as to make it productive for you and for themselves? The beauty of such a system would be that you would choose your superintendent instead of his choosing you and he would have to serve your interests in order to retain his position.

Timidity has been the mark of the slave class in all ages, and has been the chief means by which the master class has held them in subjection. The slaves have been led to believe that they cannot care for themselves and that their masters hold a divine commission to look after them. Kings and feudal lords and owners of chattel-slaves have all maintained that they held their position by divine right. The latest divine right is the right to rob a man by giving him wages and taking what he produces. But one divine right after another has been smashed to pieces and the divine right of the capitalist will, sooner or later, go the way of all the rest. When the workingman comes to his own, there will be but one divine right left—the divine right of manhood and womanhood and childhood. That divine right will endure and will prove a blessing to the world.

As a conclusion, let me give you this advice: Demand everything in sight. Don't be bashful. It is yours. You produce it. If you do not get what you demand, take it. "The Lord helps those who help themselves." Remember, however, that the only way in which you can take what belongs to you, is by going to the ballot box and capturing the government, making it a government of the workingman, by the workingman, for the workingman. You will never get anything in any other way, excepting, perhaps, a gold brick from one of the old parties or a silver brick from the other.

National Platform of the Socialist Party

The Socialist Party of America in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by the individual worker. To-day the machine, which is not an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. This ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever increasing uncertainty of livelihood and the poverty and misery of the working class, and it divides society into two hostile classes—the capitalists and wage-workers. The only powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives to the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulpit, and the schools, and enables them to reduce the workingmen to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, wars are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The Democratic, Republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to Socialism also depend upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We, therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist Party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices, in order to facilitate the attainment of this end.

As such means we advocate: 1. The public ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as all other industries controlled by monopolies, trusts, and combines. No part of the revenue of such industries to be applied to the reduction of taxes on property of the capitalist class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employees, to the improvement of the service and diminishing the rates to the consumers.

2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor.

3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age; the funds for this purpose to be collected from the revenue of the capitalist class, and to be administered under the control of the working class.

4. The inauguration of a system of public industries, public credit to be used for that purpose in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor.

5. The education of all children up to the age of eighteen years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing, and food.

6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women.

7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

8. In advocating these measures as steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth, we warn the working class against the so-called public ownership movements as an attempt of the capitalist class to secure governmental control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the exploitation of other industries and not for the amelioration of the conditions of the working class.

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SPECIAL NOTICE. THE SCANDINAVIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY of New York meets 1st Sunday every month, 10.30 a. m. and 3rd Sunday every month, 7 p. m. Debate on Socialistic questions, at 216 E. 41st St., N. Y. All Scandinavians are welcome. C. J. MILLER, Sec'y., 802 Knickerbocker Ave., B'klyn.

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