

The Worker.

AN ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT 184 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK...

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS. Invariably in Advance.

Table with subscription rates: One year \$1.00, Six months .60, Three months .35, Single copies 10c.

Address all business communications, and all orders, to the Editor of The Worker, 184 William Street, New York.

All communications should be written with ink and on one side of the paper. Words should be abbreviated; every letter should bear the writer's name and address.

As the Worker goes to press on Wednesday, correspondents sending news should file their communications in time to reach the office by Monday, whenever possible.

One or other of the Editors may be seen at the office between 4 and 5 P. M., on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post Office on April 5, 1901.

THE SOCIALIST VOICE

The Socialist Party has passed through its third general election. Its growing power is indicated by the increase of its vote:

Table showing election results: 1902 (President) 25,981, 1902 (State) 239,732, 1904 (President) 408,290.

Rockefeller's pastor says that if Christian business men now should follow the example of Christ it would put an end to business.

A leading Sunday School paper advises young Christians to take W. E. Corey, till recently President of the Steel Trust, as an exemplar.

Insurance Commissioner Hendricks says it is not his official duty to prevent dishonesty in the companies under his supervision.

MR. VREELAND, THE "WELFARE" EXPERT.

Mr. Vreeland of the Metropolitan is getting busy as a member of the "Welfare Committee" of the Civic Federation.

CAPON AND NICHOLAS.

This week's news about Father Gapon is most instructive. It proves the Russian government to have been guilty of the most gigantic combination of treachery and cruelty that the world has ever seen.

Next and Caligula and Terquemada and Henry the Eighth of blessed (or cursed) memory may well, from their proper quarters in hell, admire and envy the ingenuous duplicity and the stuporous baseness of Nicholas and his advisers.

As the first issue in the case of old Countess Sherwood gave us: "Put just your faith in prison." When kings or any of the wielders of power speak fair words, beware of a deadly plot.

And the second lesson is: Put not your faith in priests. Gapon is not the first traitor who has come in the name of that Nazarene carpenter who, for his part, made no priestly pretensions.

And the whole lesson is: Working-men, trust yourselves.

NO GOAL STRIKE? It looks as if there would be no coal strike. When the Steel Trust, the Goulds, and the President of the United States—we name them in the order of their real importance—all intervene and tell the "operators" (who don't operate) and the workers that there must be no fight, it is fairly probable that there will be a compromise.

We may expect that the coal-miner workers, if their case is rightly managed by their officials, will get a material advantage out of such a settlement. They ought to. They can, if good faith and good sense prevail among their representatives. It belongs to them. For there would be no talk of conciliation if the capitalist class, as a whole, did not fear the direct and indirect results of a strike—that is, if they did not fear the power of a body of self-assertive workmen such as the organized coal miners.

Let the coal miners well understand: If the bosses had been fairly sure of whipping them in open fight, neither Carnegie nor Gould nor Roosevelt could keep peace. If the "operators" go into a second conference, it means that they recognize the power of organization among the more or less clearly class-conscious workmen of the coal fields. It follows that the mine workers should not be too modest in their demands. It is a conference between known enemies and they should get all they can out of it. They owe this, not only to themselves and their families, but to the working class at large.

IF THE TYPOTHESE ENJOIN US FOR THIS, ALL RIGHT! The attention of all readers of The Worker is called to the fact that the Butterick Publishing Company in New York and the Crowell Publishing Company in Springfield, O., are among the bitterest enemies of the International Typographical Union, which is now fighting for the eight-hour day in book and job shops. The Buttericks publish a number of fashion magazines, fashion plates, and dress patterns, among them the "Delineator," the "Designer," and "Butterick Patterns." The Crowells publish the "Woman's Home Companion." The Worker earnestly requests its women readers to refrain from subscribing for or buying any of the publications of either of these companies, and with equal earnestness requests its men readers to ask their mothers, sisters, wives, sweethearts, or daughters to refrain from patronizing such scab concerns. If the ladies who are accustomed to get one or other of these publications will not only stop taking it, but will also tell the company or the newsdealer that she does so because of the company's fight against the union, all the better. They can thus help directly in gaining a shortening of the workday for some thousands of printers and indirectly in strengthening the whole working class in its daily fight against the capitalist class.

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NOTE, COMMENT, AND ANSWER. Two instances come to hand this week, well illustrating the inefficiency of the referendum as a method of democratic administration, useful as it may be for purposes of general legislation and certainly is as a potential check on maladministration.

A Missouri local proposes a referendum on the question of leasing a leaflet or "manifesto" on public-ownership and union-labor reform parties. At the same time a local in Montana would launch a referendum in favor of concentrating the party's resources for propaganda in the coal fields and a grid to coal strikes.

Now let us see how well, at the best, either of these can serve its purpose. It cannot be expected, no matter how favorably the propositions are regarded, that the number of endorsements required by the constitution can be got on record at the National Office in less than three weeks. Under the constitutional provisions, the propositions must then wait thirty days before submission, to allow for possible amendments; and then forty-two days must be allowed for the taking of the general vote. These provisions are very reasonable—quite necessary, indeed—to obviate the danger of confusion or of snap judgment, either of which may result from undue haste. But they mean that, under the most favorable circumstances, it is impossible to get a proposition accepted or rejected by general vote within three months from the date of its origin.

The two propositions mentioned above, then, cannot possibly be decided in a constitutional manner by general vote before June 1. In the event of their adoption, another month must be allowed, no matter how promptly the National Secretary acts, before the people can begin to vote. For it takes time to work and to print a ballot. It takes time to send letters back and forth. It takes time to count the votes. With

might be that by the Fourth of July we could have our leader ready for distribution and could begin putting speakers into the coal fields and sending money to the strikers.

So far it is just a common story of crime—all too common, under our corrupting capitalist system. But now comes what is, for us, the point of the whole story.

At the papers described this racial, McEachern, as a mine worker—which was true, so far as it went. Not one of them mentioned the fact that he is a scab, one of the deliberate and willful strike-breakers who, for a suitable consideration, helped to do the dirty work of the Mine Owners' Association against the Western Federation of Miners in the great fight of 1904.

Of course, this fact was kept dark. It would never do for the Associated Press to let the people know that this scoundrel was one of Eliot's "typical

