

The Worker.

AN ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY PUBLISHED WEEKLY 15 SPRUCE STREET, NEW YORK.

Telephone Call: 44 14 Beekman. TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS. Irrevocably in Advance.

Address all business communications, and make money orders, checks and drafts payable to The Worker. Communications concerning the editorial department of the paper should be addressed to the Editor of The Worker.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post Office on April 6, 1901.

Table with subscription rates: One year \$9.50, Six months \$5.25, Single copies 15¢.

THE SOCIALIST VOTE. 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 for the Socialist Party in various states like Pennsylvania and New York.

RUSSIA AND IDAHO.

The National Committee of the Socialist Party is voting on a motion offered by Comrade Schwartz of Pennsylvania, calling on locals in all parts of the country to arrange public meetings on Jan. 22 for the double purpose of commemorating Bloody Sunday in St. Petersburg and extending sympathy and national aid to the revolutionary movement in Russia.

The two centers of interest in the forward movement of to-day are in Russia and in Idaho. In the one we have vast masses of the population, numbering many millions, struggling for political liberty, with the purpose of using that political liberty, when won, to establish economic justice.

But here in the United States we have Colorado and Idaho. Here we have the forms of political liberty, and some of its reality—only some, not all, because we have felt so safe in the possession of the forms of freedom that we have neglected its substance.

terests and forming a powerful organization, have threatened the power and profits of our dollar lords, the capitalists and their political tools.

Let us not trust to the rames of law and justice. Law and justice have become puppets, worked by wires pulled from Wall Street and from Washington.

LORD SAVE US FROM OUR OVER ZEALOUS FRIENDS.

The Socialist movement is from time to time more or less discredited by the wild talk utterances of zealous but indiscreet adherents or friends. It is unavoidable, no doubt, since we cannot prevent men who make exaggerated statements from calling themselves Socialists.

The occasion for these remarks is, of course, the lecture delivered before the Association for the Advancement of Science last week by Henry J. Call and reported under big headlines in all the newspapers.

It is easy to show that Mr. Call's figures are false. If one per cent of the people owned 99 per cent of the wealth, it would follow, of course, that the other 99 per cent of the people owns only one per cent of the wealth.

We do not know anything about Mr. Call, except that he is not a member of the Socialist Party nor in any sense one of its authorized spokesmen.

pathing with the old Scot who prayed: Oh, Lord, protect me frae me freends; I can take care o' me enemies myself."

TAFT'S NEW THEORY OF PENAL LAW.

President Roosevelt has illustrated the practise of punishing the innocent along with the guilty—nay, of punishing many certainly innocent men along with some alleged to be guilty, but not so proven, not even tried.

AND WITH NECESSITY, THE TYRANT'S PLEA, EXCUSED HIS DEVILISH DEEDS.

No tyrant, no unjust judge, no infringer of popular liberties ever admitted that he wished to punish the innocent. When cruel punishments were inflicted freely, when jurymen were threatened with fine and imprisonment if they dared to bring in a verdict of acquittal, when the accused were denied opportunity to face their accusers and cross-examine witnesses.

PROFESSOR FISHER ON SOCIALISM.

Professor Irving Fisher of Yale, Vice-President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, would seem, from a paper read by him before the Economic Section last Friday, to find himself in a troublesome dilemma.

And so Professor Fisher seems inclined to believe; for what he really discusses is not the "adoption" of Socialism, but the survival of a Socialist state, once it comes into existence.

So there you are. Individualism is impracticable, for it does not serve the interests of society as a whole nor of the individuals composing society. But Socialism, thinks this economist, is

also impracticable. Therefore, we are left between the devil and the deep sea; or, like the fabled coffin of Mahomet, hanging between heaven and earth; or, after illustration still, like the ass in the medieval schoolmen's theorem, placed exactly midway between two exactly equal stacks of hay and unable to satisfy his hunger because the motive to go and feed from the one stack was exactly balanced and nullified by the motive to go to the other.

We do not mean, of course, to compare the economists to asses—not in any offensive way, tho all theory, when divorced from practical life, is likely to develop a certain degree of asininity.

For observe, it was the philosophers, not the donkeys, that were perplexed. No long-eared quadruped was ever troubled by such a problem; in practise, your unphilosophical ass will most certainly not starve between the hay-stacks. To be sure, if the animal's perception of the one stack were mathematically equal to his perception of the other, and if his nervous and muscular structure were perfectly symmetrical, and if these exact equalities could be maintained, psychology and logic compel us to believe that the ass would remain motionless and miserable.

The proletarian revolution will be the last in the series of economic class revolutions which makes up history, because it will be the victory, not of a middle class over an upper, not of one exploiting class over another, but of the exploited class over all exploiters.

POST THANKS THE "GLOBE."

Last week we paid our respects to the New York "Globe" for its malicious attack upon the men and women of the working class who are doing their best to awaken public interest in the approaching trial of the officers of the Western Federation of Miners and to raise funds for their defense.

In ruling out of order Comrade Wentworth's motion for an advisory vote of the National Committee as to the expediency of repealing the constitutional amendments adopted a year ago, we suppose that the National Secretary has acted as he was obliged to act under the constitution as hitherto interpreted.

NOTE, COMMENT, AND ANSWER.

In ruling out of order Comrade Wentworth's motion for an advisory vote of the National Committee as to the expediency of repealing the constitutional amendments adopted a year ago, we suppose that the National Secretary has acted as he was obliged to act under the constitution as hitherto interpreted.

were not reversed, the class which they had been instrumental in overthrowing was not restored, the class which they had represented did not return to the old subjection. Indeed, these parties fell when and because they had served their purpose; so, we may well expect, will the Socialist party fall when its work is done.

However that may be, and whatever in its details may be the nature of the Socialist party's activity, assuredly its work will not be "subject the opposing class to a benevolent paternalism". The advent of Socialism would not mean the subjection of the capitalist class, but its extinction—as a class. Classes are not biological species. It is the possession of capital that makes the capitalist; take away his capital, and the capitalist ceases to be a capitalist.

The proletarian revolution will be the last in the series of economic class revolutions which makes up history, because it will be the victory, not of a middle class over an upper, not of one exploiting class over another, but of the exploited class over all exploiters.

LABOR WINNING ITS WAY.

Little by little and day by day, Labor is ever winning its way. From the depths of slavery in the past, it has risen until it can see at last The dawn sublime Of the better time That will break o'er the night of greed and crime.

LABOR WINNING ITS WAY.

When every throne Has been overthrown, And the toilers have come to claim their own, —J. A. Edgerton, in the Technical World.

LABOR WINNING ITS WAY.

A good idea for a miners' union label: Skull and cross bones, with the word "Tragedy" written across it.—Westraill Worker.

doing; but the opposite view seems so far to have prevailed.

The purpose of Comrade Wentworth's motion is effected, however, even tho the motion does not formally come before the National Committee. The question is broached, and we think it should be considered.

The national constitution of the party, as adopted by the Chicago Convention, provided for a National Committee consisting of representatives from the various states, to be elected by vote of the party membership therein, and for a National Secretary and a National Executive Committee of seven members, to be elected by the National Committee.

The arguments which were advanced in favor of the amendments may be summed up in a single phrase: it was held that the organization of the Socialist Party must be Democratic, that the election of these officers by the National Committee was undemocratic, and that to democratize our constitution it was necessary to provide, that all party officers must be chosen by direct vote of the membership.

The arguments on the other side were based on conditions of efficiency. But lest we be misunderstood, let us say here, what we have said before in a similar connection, that we do not consider that it is a question of choosing between democracy and efficiency. We do not say that, as between undemocratic methods and inefficient methods, we should choose the former; we say that there is no occasion for any such choice, that what we desire is efficient democracy or democratic efficiency. An inefficient organization cannot be in any true sense democratic; if the organization does not well serve the purposes of its membership, it is not democratic; no matter how many referendums and general elections it may hold yearly.

We consider that the present plan tends to lessen the efficiency of the party, in the first place and chiefly, because it sets up three independent and co-ordinate authorities in the national organization. Division of authority and of responsibility is always a source of weakness and often a source of danger, and such division of authority and of responsibility is the direct result of the amendments adopted a year ago.

For both these reasons we agree with Comrade Wentworth and, we know, with many others in thinking that the amendments ought to be repealed and the original plan restored. There is no need for haste in this matter, since a change adopted now would have no effect until next November. But it is worth considering.

LABOR WINNING ITS WAY.

Little by little and day by day, Labor is ever winning its way. From the depths of slavery in the past, it has risen until it can see at last The dawn sublime Of the better time That will break o'er the night of greed and crime.

possible for these parts to go on working in harmony; but it is also possible that a deadlock may occur at any time. And even if there is no deadlock, there will always be the uncertainty which of the three independent and co-ordinate agencies of the party ought to act on any given matter, with the tendency either for one to arrogate power to itself or for all to remain inert.

Our other reason for considering the new plan a bad one is that we do believe that the National Committee, definitely informed as they must be and conversant with the work to be done, are better able than the rank and file of the party members to choose just the right men for the particular executive or administrative duties to be fulfilled.

Some comrades will think this heresy against democratic principles; to be consistent they should go a step farther and argue that the assistants and clerks in the National Office, as well as the National Secretary himself, should be chosen by general vote—unless, indeed, they take the other horn of the dilemma and maintain that they wish the National Secretary and the Executive to be independent of the National Committee, instead of being their responsible servants.

Some three hundred and fifty were nominated and nearly one-third of these accepted. The present writer, as an editor and a National Committeeman, has exceptional opportunities for acquaintance with the membership throuthout the country, yet of the majority of the candidates he knows only that they are party members belonging to such-and-such locals and that some locals thought fit to nominate them.

The arguments which were advanced in favor of the amendments may be summed up in a single phrase: it was held that the organization of the Socialist Party must be Democratic, that the election of these officers by the National Committee was undemocratic, and that to democratize our constitution it was necessary to provide, that all party officers must be chosen by direct vote of the membership.

We consider that the present plan tends to lessen the efficiency of the party, in the first place and chiefly, because it sets up three independent and co-ordinate authorities in the national organization. Division of authority and of responsibility is always a source of weakness and often a source of danger, and such division of authority and of responsibility is the direct result of the amendments adopted a year ago.

Current Literature

All books noticed in this department can be obtained, at the published price, from the Socialist Literature Company, 15 Spruce street, New York. The word "net" in the statement of price, indicates that postage or expressage will be charged extra.

Some months ago we gave a full and favorable notice of John M. Wark's excellent propaganda pamphlet entitled "What's So and What Isn't", then published by the "Appeal to Reason". Charles H. Kerr & Co. have now issued it as a bound volume in their Standard Socialist Series, selling for 50 cents. We can recommend it as a book to be put in the hands of those who have a mistaken conception of Socialist methods and purposes and who would rather read something written in a distinctly popular manner—a little in the fashion of "Merrie England", but more condensed—than study more strictly scientific works.

LABOR WINNING ITS WAY.

When every throne Has been overthrown, And the toilers have come to claim their own, —J. A. Edgerton, in the Technical World.

