

THE COMMONWEAL

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WEEKLY; ONE PENNY.

NOTES ON NEWS.

THE Opposition having struck the "very wise and very bold" stroke we heard so much of last week, seems to have exhausted the arrows in its quiver, and no doubt hopes that the country will be satisfied with its last invention in the do-nothing business, and will wait henceforward for the bolt out of the blue which is to pulverise the Tories and raise the hopes of all those who may happen to be watching for the first time the going out of one party and the coming in of another. The hopes of those who have seen this process before will remain pretty much where they were.

Then there was what may almost be called a non-party debate and division on the Channel tunnel. The "person from another planet" would have supposed that the scheme would have been discussed on its own merits; that the subject-matter of debate would have been as to whether the tunnel was wanted; whether it could be safely made; how much it would cost, whether the expense of making it would be worth the advantage to be gained by it; and so on. The other-planeteer would have been disappointed; pretty much all that was talked of was whether or no the French would be able and willing to invade us by means of it. Here we are again under the horrors of war!

Anyhow it seems clear enough that a French or other hostile army who should be rash enough to trust itself to such a means of transit, would soon know as much of the horrors of war "as the man who invented them." The truth is that the whole pretence of fear of invasion through the tunnel is nothing but a pretence; it means opening up an opportunity to be used at some future time for pressing forward an increase of the army.

Lord Randolph Churchill was so candid as practically to admit this, and said that he voted against the scheme because if gone on with, it would give an occasion to a claim for more money for the army, which wouldn't suit him as he has taken a brief for economy just now. Which means in short that we must not consider whether the tunnel is possible or desirable, because if we do the jobbers will directly get their fork into us! O, British nation, wonder of the whole earth for your practicality and business-like habits, what a bragging, twaddling fool you be!

Government, determined to help its friends the publicans a little, has insisted on withdrawing its Sunday-closing clauses from the Local Government Bill. In spite of our friends the teetotalers, we must say that all this is a dismal and empty business. Really is it of so much importance whether a man determined to get drunk, performs that function on a Saturday or a Monday instead of a Sunday? After all, this is a clear case of a palliative that is useless and takes as long to get itself accepted as a condition of things which would not drive people to drunkenness as their only excitement, or as a mere drowning of their wretchedness for a little.

Mr. E. D. Lewis has had his answer at last from those two pillars of Law 'n'-Order, Mr. Justice Wills and Mr. Justice Nupkins—I ask pardon, Grantham—in the matter of Trafalgar Square, and the answer is just what might have been expected. Trafalgar Square was created by statute, and any right of meeting there must be similarly created. That is the gist of their answer. Of course if it had not been created by statute, common law would have forbidden meetings on it. Their lordships say that the right of public meeting is beyond discussion. On these terms it certainly is *at a public meeting*. You may meet in public whenever you please; *only* you mustn't meet here, nor there, nor at the other place. Where is the grievance? if you are starving and want to tell your rulers so, you had better buy a few acres of land: rents are going down in London now we believe.

The lamb going to law with the wolf is a curious spectacle to behold. The lamb must put up with it as long as he is a lamb. Perhaps evolution will change his wool into chain-mail and his feeble little shoulders

of mutton into arms and fists with a chopping-stick in them one of these days. But evolution is a long job, thinks Mr. Justice Nupkins.

At the annual meeting of "The National Association for the Promotion of State Colonisation," or, as we should call it, the Society for the Punishment of Poverty by Transportation (at which it appears that the working classes were represented by Mr. Maudsley, of the Salford Trades' Council), there was much rejoicing at the progress of the "work" (which, by the way, if it means anything, means that people are desperately hard up just now). A Parliamentary committee of 160 M.P.'s to help them (my word!); £10,000 granted by Government for getting rid from their own land of those inconvenient persons the Highland crofters, and all the rest of it. In short, these noble and gentle patriots, who love their native country so well that they want it all to themselves, were very happy, and their trades' union ally no less so.

A person not quite so happy, and whose share in her native country was but small, appeared before a magistrate next day with the following tale:—"To-day, at Dalston, a poor woman asked the assistance of Mr. R. W. Bros to get her son back from Canada. He and another lad, both about seventeen, had been sent out by the East-end Emigration Society on a pretence that they would have plenty of work. The magistrate: You had better go to Captain Hamilton, the secretary; but I should think there are many other lads who would be glad of the opportunity to get to Canada. Applicant: Yes, sir; if there was plenty of work, as they said; but my boy and his friend can neither get work nor food. The magistrate: I cannot give you anything. Go to Captain Hamilton." The worthy magistrate did *not* add "or hell," perhaps because he thought that the poor woman was there already, as certainly her unlucky son was. It is almost a pity that this woman did not apply to the chairman of the meeting held the day before.

It probably would have done little to check the flow of their spirits, though, which were exuberant, as may be gathered from the speech of Mr. Maudsley, the trades' unionist, who said: "The opposition proceeded chiefly from the Socialists, who knew that, if successful, the movement would cut the ground from under their feet." Now, as the Association disclaims the intention of sending out paupers or ne'er-do-wells, the movement must mean the transportation of thrifty and industrious workers. Anyone but a very stupid person, one would think, ought to be able to see that if *this* is an advantage to the country, the country must be in a bad way indeed, and sorely in need either of Socialists or of persons who have some better scheme than getting rid of its producers of wealth. In fact, what these people really want to do (and they would say so if they durst) is to get rid of all elements of discontent, that is to say, those whom they and their idleness have made poor and helpless. A Helot-hunt, again, they durst not recommend, but it is what would suit them best. If they could kill one-third of the working population, it would for a time "cut the ground from under the Socialists' feet"—but not for long.

The only way, Mr. Maudsley, to get rid of discontent is to remove the cause of it. Transportation of units of discontent is like the flea's funeral—a hundred more come to it. The abolition of the monopoly in the means of production, the freeing of labour, which the Trades' Council are doing their best to prevent, is the only thing that will cut the ground away from the feet of the Socialists, because it will make true society possible, and so make an end of our name of combat.

That friend of the working-man, Mr. Blundell Maple, has been disporting himself before the Sweating Commission again, and after some further glorification of his firm, was "recalled" on his departure, and coming back said "that he had finished his evidence as to matters of fact, but there were other matters which he wished to go into." So he went into "these other matters," that were not matters of fact, at great length. Some of these are old friends of ours, which we must admit are to be classed as Mr. Maple classed them, if the report of his evidence, once more, is correct; such as, for example, that the working-men earn as much as ever they did, although the prices of

furniture have gone down; that their hours of labour are decreasing; that their skill as handicraftsmen is on the increase, owing probably to the fact that it is not needed as much as it was; and so on and so on. It is, however, a matter of fact that the number of the unemployed is increasing, and Mr. Maple's admission of it, if it could by any possibility be denied, may be considered the one grain of usefulness in the clammy profusion of words which this feeble committee allowed the workman's friend to shove down their throats. W. M.

THE REVOLT OF GHENT.

THE events of which an account is here given took place towards the close of the fourteenth century amongst a people of kindred blood to ourselves, dwelling not many hours' journey (as we travel now) from the place where we dwell; and yet to us are wonderful enough, if we think of them.

Few epochs of history, indeed, are more interesting than this defeated struggle to be free of the craftsmen of Flanders: whether we look upon the story as a mere story, a true tale, of the Middle Ages at their fullest development, rife with all the peculiarities of the period, exemplifying their manners and customs, the forms that their industry, their religion, their heroism took at the time; or whether we look upon it, as we Socialists cannot help doing, as a link in the great chain of the evolution of society, an incident, full of instruction, in the class-struggle which we have now recognised as the one living fact in the history of the world, since civilisation began, and which will only end when civilisation has been transformed into something else. Whether we look upon the Revolt of Ghent as a story of the past or as a part of our own lives and the battle which is not wasting, but using them, it is one of the great tales of the world.

One piece of good fortune also it has, that, as Horace says, it has not lacked a sacred poet. As the tale is here told, its incidents, often the very words of them, are taken from the writings of one of those men who make past times live before our eyes for ever. John Froissart, canon of Chimay in Hainault, was indeed but a hanger-on of the aristocracy; he was in such a position as would in our days have prevented him on principle from admitting any good qualities whatever in those people whom he was helping to oppress; but class-lying was not the fine art which it has since become; and the simpler habits of thought of Froissart's days gave people intense delight in the stories of deeds done, and developed in them what has been called epic impartiality: added to which, one domain for the cultivation of historical lies was not available in the Middle Ages, since, owing to the form feudal society had then taken, what we now call patriotism—i.e., national envy and rancour—did not exist. Englishman, Scotchman, Fleming, Spaniard, Frenchman, Gascon, Breton, are treated by John Froissart as men capable of valiancy, their deeds to be told of and listened to with little comment of blame or discrimination: and I think you will say before you have done with him that he could even see the good side of the revolutionary characters of his time, so long as they were not slack in noble deeds. The result of a low standard of morals, you will say. Maybe; and indeed I have noticed that a would-be high standard of morality is sometimes pretty fertile of lying, because it is so anxious that every event should square itself to an *a priori* theory. However that may be, there is the general epic impartiality of the mediæval chronicler amidst all his mistakes and misconceptions.

Now a word or two as to the political and social condition of Flanders in the fourteenth century, and then without more to do I will get to my story and introduce you to John Froissart, who has given me at least as much pleasure as he did to any one of the lords, ladies, knights, squires and sergeants who first heard him read.

First very briefly as to the political position of the country. Lying as it did between the growing monarchy or rather suzerainty of France and the disjointed members of the "Holy Roman" empire, it was with the former power that it had to deal. The rise of the great cities of Flanders and Hainault, and the power they could not fail to acquire, made the feudal lord of the country but a weak potentate, and he always had a tendency to lean on France for support. The French king on his part was ambitious of making the Earl of Flanders his vassal, and the help he gave him against his rebellious subjects had to be paid for by homage to the French Suzerainty, or at least by promises of homage. France therefore was distinctly the enemy of the Flemish people, though it was, when occasion served, the friend of the Flemish feudal lord. France also could strike a blow at the prosperity of the country without even putting an army in the field, by forbidding the export of wool, the great necessity to the woollen-weaving which was the main industry of Flanders, and this was done on several occasions.

Therefore it was natural for the leaders of the Flemish people to turn towards England as a support, both because there was a standing quarrel between the feudal lords of England and France, and because England was the wool-producing country of Europe. On the other hand, to an English king with a quarrel on hand with a French one, the advantage of the Flemish alliance was obvious enough; and accordingly at the beginning of the great feudal war between England and France we find our King Edward III. in firm alliance with James van Artevelde, the leader of the Flemish people, or rather bourgeois, treaties made between them as to the free passage of wool, and Queen Philippa godmother to the enfant oïld of the great Bourgeois, while the Earl of Flanders was hanging about the French Court a disinherited lord.

Now as to the social condition of the Flemings. Manufacturing by handicraft pure and simple, without division of labour, was carried by them about as far as it could go; and the gild-system was fully developed there, accompanied by a complete municipal system, democratic and social as far as matters within the association were concerned, though exclusive as regarded outsiders. The great towns of northern Europe, it must be remembered, were not originally "cities," sovereign bodies with a definite polity like those of the ancient classical world. The origin of them was the agricultural district, the land that gave subsistence to the clan, all the free men of which took part in the affairs of the community; the first towns were not as in Greece and Rome, the sacred spots of the tribal ancestor, but pallisaded places where convenience had made the population thicker than in other parts of the district. These as they grew kept their territory, and developed at last within themselves an aristocratic and oligarchic government.

But as these towns changed from being mere centres of an agricultural population, into being places of resort for handicraftsmen and merchants, and as the associations for the organisation of industry, that is the gilds, grew up amongst the former, a new democratic feeling rose up which opposed itself to the remains of the old tribal band of freemen, now become a mere exclusive oligarchy, who considered the practice of handicraft a disgrace.

The new democracy triumphed at last, and by the end of the thirteenth century the gilds, the actual workmen, were the masters of the great towns; under the feudal lords, however, to whom they owned homage and fealty.

Within the gilds themselves there could be no capitalists or great men, because the rules of the gilds were framed to prevent the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few, the masters were master workers, and were kept so by the rules aforesaid.

I suspect, however, that there were remains of the old municipal aristocracy (the lineages, as they were called in Flanders) still in existence in the towns, otherwise it would not be easy to account for the masterful position of James van Artevelde, and others whom we shall meet with later on in our story, who were certainly both wealthy and of importance, apart from any office they might happen to hold.

In Ghent also and elsewhere, notably at Bruges its rival, an aristocracy of the crafts was forming, as is apparent in the fact of the jealousy between the greater and the lesser crafts,¹ so that if the development of commerce joined with the rise of bureaucratic monarchy had not supervened and swept away the power and freedom of the towns altogether, the struggle between the municipal aristocracy and the craftsmen would have been repeated in the fifteenth century in another form.

Meantime, one thing is to be noted, which is specially interesting to us, and that is the visible existence of strong Communistic feeling along with the development of the gild democracy.

In the popular literature of the epoch one comes across passages whose mediæval quaintness gives a pleasant sense of surprise and freshness to aspirations and denunciations which are familiar enough to us Socialists to-day, and, so to say, at once make us free of the brotherhood of the old gildsmen. The two following centuries obliterated this feeling, or rather drew a dark veil of misery and degradation over all the feelings of the working-classes; but we now in our hope of better days soon to come can look back cheerfully to the times when the craftsman citizen of the great towns had his hope also, which he hands over to us across the lapse of the drearier days.

WILLIAM MORRIS.

(To be continued.)

NEWS OF JOHN DILLON.—John Dillon's health is reported to be improving. The prison doctor has extended the period of exercise from three to four hours a day, and full advantage is taken of the concession. A garden seat has also been provided. Dr. McDonnell takes great interest in his distinguished patient, and has friendly chats with him every day. Two local justices who visited Mr. Dillon state that he is in a cheerful mood, and appears entirely recovered from the excitement of the trial.

THE TITHES WAR IN WALES.—The proceedings in Anglesea are being characterised by scenes almost identical with those which followed the advent of Mr. Peterson for the Clergy Defence Association. The attacking party now acting in the interests of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners is, however, much stronger than on those occasions when Mr. Peterson was twice driven out of the island. On the 27th the forces engaged were ten emergency men, a sort of special bodyguard for Mr. Stevens, the acting agent for the Commissioners; thirty police constables under command of Colonel Thomas, chief constable of Anglesea; and a half company of the Cheshire Regiment from Chester Castle, under charge of Captain St. George and Lieut. Howard. The combined forces number 110 rank and file, the emergency men and police being armed with the regulation batons, and the infantry with rifles and an ample supply of ball cartridge. During the day there was an extraordinary series of scenes. Large crowds collected, carrying every imaginable instrument with which to create a noise. Free fights were indulged in, and during the afternoon the aspect of affairs became so serious that Mr. C. F. Priestley, J.P., read the Riot Act in English and in Welsh. Many farms were visited, and twenty miles of ground were covered, but the only result was the collection of a five-pound note. At one point the gorse lining the road was set ablaze, and some inconvenience was caused while marching through the stifling smoke. Cheers were given for Mr. Gladstone, and Messrs. Gee and Parry, the anti-tithe leaders; and exultation was expressed everywhere at the failure of the authorities to secure the tithes.

¹ The lesser crafts were the weavers and fullers, that is to say, the workmen of the staple industry of the country.

REVOLUTIONARY CALENDAR

WEEK ENDING JULY 14, 1888.

8	Sun.	1790. Adam Smith died. 1796. D. I. Eaton found "guilty of libels on Kingly Government."
9	Mon.	1386. Battle of Sempach. 1809. W. Cobbett convicted of libelling the German Legion.
10	Tues.	1793. Trial of D. I. Eaton for publishing a seditious libel. 1795. Henry Yorke tried for high treason. 1848. Ernest Jones imprisoned.
11	Wed.	1789. Mirabeau died. 1836. Alibaud hung for attempt on Louis Philippe. 1848. Speech of Kossuth to Hungarian Diet. 1871. General Council of International Working-men's Association denounce Mr. Washburne for his conduct to the Commune.
12	Thur.	1450. Jack Cade killed. 1536. Erasmus died. 1841. W. J. McNevin died. 1849. Battle of Dolly's Brae. 1881. Riots at Rome when Pio Nono's body was being removed from St. Peter's to San Lorenzo.
13	Fri.	1683. Earl of Essex murdered in the Tower. 1683. William, Lord Russell, tried for high treason. 1794. Marat murdered. 1799. Brothers Sheares hung. 1820. Andrew Hardie tried for high treason.
14	Sat.	1781. F. H. de la Motte tried for high treason. 1789. Bastille destroyed. 1791. Riots at Birmingham on Bastille Anniversary. 1877. Great Strike on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Death of Adam Smith.—Adam Smith, born at Kirkcaldy, in Fifeshire, on June 5, 1723, was a shrewd, sceptical, middle-class Scotchman, who did for the Class State in England what Voltaire did for the Class Church in France. His life's work was to break down the superstition that "the Government" is all-wise, all-virtuous, and all-powerful; and he succeeded so effectually that students of economics are taught to this day that the worst evils of unrestricted private enterprise and individualist competition are to be preferred to the corruption and inertia of State interference and management. His success was due to his convincing the commercial class that the State regulation of industry in the only way then known, by bounties, protective tariffs, laws of settlement and apprenticeship, and other survivals from the days of feudal dues, trade guilds, and restricted national and local trade, were only hindering that prompt adjustment of the supply of labour to the demand for it, upon which depended the development of the great international commerce which made so many greedy and pushing English tradesmen into "merchant princes." Smith, however, was quite guiltless of any conscious class bias in favour of the manufacturers. He despised them heartily for their ignorant and shortsighted opposition to perfect freedom of trade; insisted that workmen had as good a right to combine in Trade Unions (then illegal) against masters as masters had to combine against workmen; and based his opposition to the oppressive settlement law as much on its cruelty to the poor and its hindrance to wage-earning, as upon its ultimate effect in limiting profits. His system is inadequate because he failed to perceive that whilst the entire sources of production remain in the hands of a part only of the nation, the rest, degraded into a mere proletariat, are thrown into irreconcilable antagonism with that favoured part. Thus, though he foresaw that the realisation of his programme of tariff abolition and "free contract," which began about twenty-five years after his death, and was crowned by the establishment of Free Trade in 1846, would cause an immense increase of wealth, he had no suspicion that it would be accompanied in England by such an atrocious degradation in the condition of the people as to necessitate a series of protective enactments (Factory Acts), which were direct violations of his great principle of "natural liberty" from State interference. His hostility to State interference was, however, justified at the time by the incompetence and venality of the oligarchies which then discharged the functions of the State. His "Wealth of Nations," though very long and discursive, is still the most readable of the large English treatises on political economy; and a modern university professor of economics can hold his own when he has added to what it teaches him a knowledge of the elaborations made by Ricardo in the theory of rent, Jevons in that of value, and Walker and others on business profits. Adam Smith was educated at Glasgow University (1737-40) and Balliol College, Oxford, where he spent seven years. Four years after his return from Oxford to Scotland he became professor of logic and moral philosophy at his university in Glasgow, and became locally famous by his lectures, some of which he worked up into his "Theory of Moral Sentiments," published in 1759. In 1763 he gave up his professorship, and went to the Continent as tutor to the Duke of Buccleuch for a few years, during which he met Quesnay, the founder of individualist economics, and Turgot. He then retired to Kirkcaldy for ten years, in spite of the remonstrances of David Hume, who was indignant at so able a man hiding away in the country. Smith, however, was writing "Wealth of Nations," published in 1776, after which he spent two years in London. The Duke of Buccleuch then procured for him an appointment as Commissioner of Customs, which took him to Edinburgh, where he passed the rest of his life. He never married. His mother kept house for him until her death in 1784. His cousin, Jane Douglas, looked after him until 1788, when she, too, died, only a year before his own death. Socialists must not found their opinion of Adam Smith personally upon the criticisms of Marx. In his literary style he is as social as he is intelligent and honest. He was one of the most amiable of men; never lost his friends; and had, as far as can be discovered, no enemies. Although the notion that society would shake down into a happy "natural" adjustment if only Governments would cease meddling and coercing, was part of the intellectual revolt of eighteenth-century France against feudalism, and was therefore by no means an invention of Adam Smith's, yet it appealed the more to him because of his predisposition towards a healthy simplicity of life and manners, and an easy and spontaneous conciliation of individual interests. Before the reader has gone very far in "Wealth of Nations," he discovers that Adam Smith had a kindlier feeling towards a porter than towards a philosopher, and that he was as credulous of any report favourable to the morals and even the good looks of the labouring class, as he was sceptical of the pretensions of statesmen, jurists, and big-wigs of all kinds. Even now he does not seem illiberal or old-fashioned on any subjects except those to which he gave no thought. And it is to be remembered, to his personal credit, that though he lived sufficiently within his means to make his friends eager to hear his will read, it was found that he had hoarded nothing, and had indeed very nearly achieved the final duty of leaving no more than enough to bury him.—G. B. S.

Jack Cade—Rebel; said to have been an Irishman, and young at the time of his death. Nothing is known of him until a year before the Rebellion, when he was living in a nobleman's family in Sussex, which he had to leave and fly the kingdom for a murder. Returning, he took a false name, gave himself out for a physician, and settled in Kent, where he gained so much credit as to marry a rich yeoman's daughter. Next thing we hear is that he is at the head of the Commons of Kent in arms against the King's extortions. It was neither an aristocratic nor democratic rising; no noble openly took part in it, nor was it wholly made up of the "scum and dregs" as some historians have described it. The greater part of the gentry, the mayors and burgesses of the towns, the constables

of the different hundreds, rose with the people. The feudal system was falling to pieces; was indeed to perish utterly save as a legal theory during the civil war that broke out five years later. The bonds of society were loosening on all sides, and open wrong was the order of the day; the Duke of Suffolk had been put to death by the people at Dover for his treachery and oppression, and Kent was threatened with heavy fines and other penalties therefor. The men of Kent were in no humour to stand this; they drew together a great army, well organized, and put forth a "formal complaint," in which their grievances are said to be excessive taxation; abuse of purveyance, appointment of unworthy persons of high office, undue interference of great men with the laws, and exactions under colour of law; of these things and others they demanded redress. Cade was chosen captain, and led them on London. The rebellion broke out at Whitechapel; June 1 saw the army encamped on Blackheath, where Tyler had lain 70 years before. Here they "made a field, diked and staked well about, as it had been in a land of war," and lay there till the 6th, when the king came to London and sent them a deputation. Refusing their demands, he issued a proclamation against them and prepared for battle; they drew back to Sevenoaks. The Royal army occupied Blackheath, and part followed the rebels, who defeated them with much slaughter. Terrified by this his Council persuaded the King to send Lord Say, the head and front of the offending, to the Tower, and to return to London. A few days later he made a strategic movement to Kenilworth, and Cade came again to Blackheath; on July 1 he occupied Southwark. Next day it was voted by the Common Council that he should be received into the city, which was done, he forbidding his followers to plunder or in any way injure the citizens. Friday, July 3, he caused Lord Say to be brought from the Tower to the Guildhall for trial by the Lord Mayors and other justices. Refusing to be tried but by his peers, Cade had him taken out into Cheap and there beheaded. He also ordered the death of other extortionate oppressors of the people. So far the mass of the citizens of London had been with him, but now he began to give way either to his own desires or to the demands of his followers, and to indulge in a little plunder. Alarmed at this the citizens resolved to keep him out, and when he retired on Saturday night, as he had done every night, to Southwark to sleep, they occupied London Bridge to prevent his re-entry. Sunday he lay still, but at night attacked them, and the struggle was kept up with fury all night. At midnight the draw-bridge was set on fire, and many citizens slain or drowned, but they held on, and about nine in the morning the rebels were beaten back. Both parties were severely mauled, and the Council seized the moment to come forward with promises of general reform and a proclamation of amnesty. By treachery or mistake Cade's pardon was wrongly made out, and therefore invalid, and after waiting some days he sent off a barge-load of booty to Rochester and followed it by land with a remnant of his host; after lying at Rochester two days he tried to take Queenborough Castle, apparently to hold as a security. Repulsed with heavy loss, and 1,000 marks set upon his head, he made off in disguise; but being found by Squire Iden in his garden, was taken prisoner after a desperate resistance, in which he received a mortal wound. Taken to London in a cart, he died on the road; the poor revenge of beheading and quartering was wreaked on his dead body.—S.

Henry and John Sheares.—Sons of a Cork banker; born in Cork, Henry in 1753, John in 1766; educated at Trinity College. Henry entered the army, but left it for the law and was called to the bar in 1789; John had been called the year before; both had ample incomes outside their profession. They were strongly in sympathy with the French Revolution; and in 1792 went over to Paris, attended many political meetings, became acquainted with leading men; and were present at the execution of Louis XVI. They returned to England by the same vessel as Daniel O'Connell and his brother—they glorying in all they had seen, the O'Connell's tearing off the tricolour as soon as they were safely away, and cursing vehemently the *sans-culottes*. The brothers became United Irishmen, John afterwards taking the chair at public meetings; both attended the funeral of the Rev. W. Jackson. After this they were so strongly suspected by Government, that warrants were made out for their arrest and held ready. On the seizure of most of the members of the Leinster directory at Bond's, in March, 1798, and the enforced hiding of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, John took the place of the latter as chief organiser of the proposed rising. How far Henry was in it is not easy to say. In May, a Captain Armstrong wormed himself into their confidence, and soon had enough "evidence" to hang a regiment, especially with the aid of Reynolds and Major Sirr. (What would not Balfour give for helpers of this kind!) Monday, May 21, they were arrested, and tried on July 12; being defended by Curran, Plunket, and McNelly. In spite of a splendid fight on their behalf, they were found guilty after a "trial" which lasted all day and night. The verdict was given at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 13th; sentence was deferred till 3 in the afternoon—death, of course. They were hung next day, the 14th, in front of Newgate (Dublin).—S.

The Baltimore and Ohio Strike.—The workers are apt to have short memories; and thus they have most likely forgotten the great labour rebellion in the summer of 1877 in the United States. In fact, European workmen were never allowed to understand the "true inwardness" of that affair, and there is a "conspiracy of silence" in the newspaper press to bury the thing in oblivion. To-day such an outbreak might occur without warning, and people abroad wonder what occasioned it all. The cheap political tittle-tattle which is sent across the ocean and is dished up in London as "American news," is swallowed by newspaper readers as gospel. The truth is that presidents and governors and legislators in the United States are mere froth on the great social current. Earnest men take little heed of such insignificant rubbish. The great railway system of the North American Continent represents the veins and blood of all social connection. The men who tyrannise over those railways are the real rulers of the country, and it is to overthrow their iron reign that all social reformers unite their efforts. The Grant's and Garfield's, the Blaine's and Cleveland's, are only playthings. The greatest man on the American Continent to-day is a man whose name is rarely mentioned in the daily press, Mr. Huntington, the arbiter of a greater territory than Hannibal ever conquered or Napoleon put in tribute. Next to him come such men as young Mr. Garratt, the master of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, the first of all American "trunk lines," and one of seven great rivals for autocratic power over the Continent. Every one has heard of Mr. Vanderbilt, the late master of another of the seven, the New York Central Railway, but simply because he chose to make a display of profuse wealth in New York city. There was a Satanic appropriateness in his sudden death. These "great governing families" of America have their deadly rivalries and hatreds. The morning after one of Vanderbilt's master strokes against the Baltimore and Ohio system, young Garratt called at the famous palace on Fifth Avenue. Claudius or Nero were never more luxuriously surrounded than was the son of Cornelius Vanderbilt, the penniless longshoreman, when the son of his father's rival faced him for the first time. Vanderbilt was old and apoplectic; Garratt was young and choleric. The two kings were in secret conclave for only a few minutes, for this their first and last interview. Garratt walked out of the gorgeous residence on to the immaculate thirty-foot flags in front, leaving Vanderbilt dying on the floor, killed by his own passion. The rule of Garratt's has been more high-handed than any of the other railway kings, Jay Gould alone excepted, and Gould has never had undisputed sway, being properly a gambler not a simple exploiter and master. It was on the 14th of July, 1877, that the American labour "struggle to be free" began on the Baltimore and Ohio system. With what treachery and tyranny the revolt was suppressed, after the war had spread to the Pennsylvania system, will be alluded to later on. It is sufficient at present, in this the year of the presidential election, that there is something else happens in the United States besides the hollow scheming of political tricksters.—L. W.



HAVE YOU NOT HEARD HOW IT HAS GONE WITH MANY A CAUSE BEFORE NOW? FIRST, FEW MEN HEED IT; NEXT, MOST MEN CONTEMN IT; LASTLY, ALL MEN ACCEPT IT—AND THE CAUSE IS WON!

Communications invited on Social Questions. They should be written on one side of the paper, addressed to the Editors, 13 Farringdon Rd., E.C., and accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

All articles are signed, no special significance attaches to them because of their position in these pages. None to be taken as more than in a general manner expressing the views of the League as a body, except it be so explicitly declared by the Editors. Rejected MSS. only returned if a stamped directed envelope is forwarded with them.

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T. B. (Leicester), D. McC. (Glasgow), T. P. (Leeds), and others.—Too late; reports must reach us on Tuesday morning.
P. O.—See advert. in another column.
F. D.—Send us full particulars.

Periodicals received during the week ending Wednesday July 4.

ENGLAND	Fort Worth (Tex)—South West	SWITZERLAND
Church Reformer	Milwaukee—National Reformer	Zurich—Sozial Demokrat
Belcester—Countryman	Arbeiter Zeitung	Arbeiterstimme
Labour Tribune	N Haven—Workmen's Advocate	SPAIN
Norwich—Daylight	Paterson (N J) Labor Standard	Barcelona—Tierra y Libertad
Our Corner	Providence Independent Citizen	Madrid—El Socialista
Postal Service Gazette	FRANCE	PORTUGAL
Railway Review	Paris—Cri du Peuple (daily)	Lisbon—O Protesto Operario
Woolwich Echo	Le Parti Ouvrier	Porto—A Revolucao Social
New SOUTH WALES	La Revolte	GERMANY
Hamilton—Radical	Lille—Le Travailleur	Berlin—Volks Tribune
UNITED STATES	HOLLAND	AUSTRIA
New York—Der Sozialist	Hague—Recht voor Allen	Brunn—Volksfreund
Truthseeker	BRUSSELS	Wien—Gleichheit
Volkszeitung	Shering (Ougree)—Le Reveil	ROUMANIA
Jewish Volkzeitung	Ghent—Vooruit	Jassy—Municipalul
Boston—Woman's Journal	Liege—L'Avenir	Braila—Romania's Vutoare
Chicago—Labor Enquirer	ITALY	SWEDEN
Vorbote	Rome—L'Emancipazione	Malmo—Arbetet
Buffalo—Arbeiter-Zeitung	Cremona—Il Democratico	WEST INDIES
Detroit—Der Arme Teufel		Cuba—El Productor

TWO ARMIES.

A VOICE FROM AMERICA.

No one but a Socialist, or one who believes as radically in a complete change of present systems, seems to recognise the constant existence of two great armies—the army of unemployed and the army of criminals—more often victims. Every half-way reformer, every one with a hobby, a panacea, or ameliorative measure, brings something that concerns the poor labouring man, some scheme of getting more comfort out of his meagre wages, some receipt for inflating a regular income however small, but nothing for the man with no income at all. They are conscious that here and there are men who have unfortunately "lost their jobs," but hope they will soon find something else—they do not realise that this army of unwilling idlers is an inevitable element in the present disorganisation of society. That men are out of work sometimes is generally considered an inconvenient accident; and it is not remembered that this certain number of men out of work, is a necessary part of the conditions civilisation in its present stage of development imposes. There is constantly a throng of about three million working-men out of employment in this country with that number steadily increasing and never really lessening. It may not always be the same three millions—the units change places. Here a shop shuts down; there a new enterprise is opened; now a new machine closes an old avenue of labour—again the manufacture of the machine gives employment to a few who were idle before. But at every new move a few more will be left out in the cold than were there previously. Each year, with new and complicated divisions of labour, which call for less effort than before on the part of human kind to accomplish the same result, each year sees the army larger. And there is no possible hope of anything better, until inventions are placed where they will do the worker the most good—and this means the complete overturning of the present society. But the army is ignored for all that. Some of the capitalistic papers have advocated very heroic methods of cure—such as strychnine, lead, bullets, etc., but that is all.

The economist gives many a wholesome word of advice to the worker about hoarding his earnings; denying himself good food, entertainment, small comforts and luxuries, beer and tobacco, though he derives more cheer from them than from anything else in his narrow life. He is told to "save" and let his wages go into a "home," forgetting there is one chance in fifty of his ever paying the whole amount and interest, try as he may. To the man who has literally nothing, of course the "economic" adviser has nothing to say, except "Why didn't you save your wages when you had work?"

It is irony to accuse a man of being extravagant on a dollar a day, but brutal to tell the person with nothing a day. The mild "friend of the labourer" can advise the toiler who has regular meals, meagre and poor though they be, to save out of one to make the next more bountiful, but such advice is lost on the tramp who has no meals at all. So the advocate of economy has no comfort to offer the "man out of work."

Then there is the philanthropic business man who would settle all the wrongs of the working-man by "profit sharing." He honestly has the good of his employes at heart, and if only the fierce competition between him and other business men would allow of such a course, he would pay his working-men well and give them more leisure hours and more holidays. If the profit-sharing system could become common, then the philanthropic man could ease his conscience and save his business at the same time. But this would not help the "man out of work." Profit-sharing and philanthropy would not put more men at work than would "pay" after all. And the bottom principle, the underlying wrong, that forces three millions of men to be unwillingly idle in a prosperous country, is as yet untouched. Men still must beg a chance to labour, too often in vain, and the masses are as insecure in their position as ever.

The co-operationists—those who gather up the financially-able, and take them to some far-off corner where the evils of civilisation do not buzz about their ears so loudly—these have no use for the very poor, the homeless, workless, friendless tramps, nor their wives and children. They may build up a paradise sometime in the future for those who have money and strength enough to live till the paradise comes. But utter poverty is not wanted. The white-faced sewing-woman, the stunted factory child, the man hopelessly hunting work—these have as little hope of participating in the blessings of isolated co-operative schemes as they have of securing stock in the West Side Railway Company. The co-operative associationists help people who can help themselves; the people who have nothing, who want to work and are not allowed, these remain in their misery.

Even the person who believes intoxicating liquors is the cause of nearly all the poverty and misery in existence can say but little to a man thrown out of work on account of a machine—run by his own child, perhaps—who hasn't even five cents to buy a glass of beer. The temperance lecturer may deeply regret that a kindly bestowed nickel finds its direct way into the beer saloon, but after all, more comfort is derived from it there than anywhere else. Wherever it goes, there is no probability of a steady flow of nickels, and what difference can the expenditure of a few stray pennies make to a man who rarely sees them?

The new discoveries in science, labour-saving machinery, and inventions; the steady monopolisation of all opportunities, the private ownership of natural resources, and the consequent crushing out of the middle classes, are creating more and more idle men every day—thronging of people with absolutely no resources. The ameliorative measures do not touch them. The toilers who have places drudge-harder, and those who have none must plead more submissively, as the system grinds on. The time will come when this army of unemployed—the recruiting ranks of the criminal army—must be recognised. It is a factor in the great unsolved problem before us, and cannot be cancelled. These men have not just happened there—they are not ciphers to fill up space, but units left over from wrong divisions, and they belong somewhere. They cannot very long be ignored. Is it the part of wisdom to recognise them now as part of the problem, or shall we wait until desperation shocks an apathetic society?

LIZZIE M. SWANK, in Chicago *Labour Enquirer*.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES.

The unemployed of Melbourne (rich section) to hold a *levée* at Government House on Thursday, the 24th inst., the other section will doubtless fill in the time by starving under the trees in public parks.

Bull miners have sent a donation of £10 to the South Waratah men who are on strike. The Miners' Secretary is advertising the strike in various papers with a view to keep other miners from coming to take the places of the strikers. Why not ask the workers to boycott the South Waratah coal?

Judge Wilkinson says that so far as his "experience goes no two persons can agree as to whether a salary is good or bad. The person who pays it says it is good, and the person who receives it is always complaining about its smallness." The only way out of the difficulty is to make every man his own employer.

The coal miners of New South Wales say the Government ought to ventilate the mines of the colony, or see that they are properly ventilated; and at the same time they make a cobbler Minister for Mines and send in the mine-owners to instruct him in the art of ventilating the mines.

"Why does the Government allow such filth amongst the Chinese in Lower George Street, Sydney?" asked a correspondent of a Sydney paper the other day; apparently oblivious of the fact that the owners of the filthy premises are the Powers that Be.

Australian Radical, May 12th, '88.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE AGAIN.

NOTWITHSTANDING the "decision" given by In-Justices Wills and Grantham on Friday, or it may be (*should* be) on account of it, a determined attempt was made to hold a meeting in Trafalgar Square on Saturday afternoon, and when Mr. Conybeare, M.P., Mr. Saunders, and other leaders of the movement took up a position on one of the parapets on the south side of the square, about four o'clock, some 3,000 persons were present. Handbills, containing resolutions against police tyranny, and calling on the Government to uphold the rights of the public, were freely distributed amongst the crowd, which was kept continuously on the move by the small body of police in attendance. At a quarter past four Mr. Saunders, speaking from the parapet, moved the first resolution: "That the government of London by proclamation, without the sanction of the law, is an outrage upon liberty and a gross breach of trust on the part of the Government." The police now came forward and endeavoured to cut off the speakers from the crowd, but carefully avoiding meanwhile both Mr. Saunders and Mr. Conybeare. A second resolution, according to the printed programme, was timed to be put at half-past four, but some few minutes before that time the police made an attack on Messrs. Saunders and Conybeare. The united force, however, of an inspector, two sergeants, and eight policemen failed to shift them. They clung to the stone coping with both arms, and stolidly maintained their ground. At this time a crowd of male and female Socialists had taken possession of the line of parapet; everybody that could—men and women, clung to the coping. The police were strongly reinforced, and a running fight began—if a fight it can be called—where all the blows were on one side.

Mr. Saunders, a few minutes after time, put the second resolution, one about the Channel tunnel, which was seconded, and while the crowd cheered and waved hats it was declared to be carried. During the efforts to remove the people from the coping, a woman was severely ill-treated, and a member of the Patriotic Club rushed forward, and, clinging to the coping, shouted a vehement protest. He obstinately resisted all the efforts of the police to remove him, and as he was being brutally illused, a number of men ran to his rescue and tried to beat the police away. They succeeded, and stood round him whilst he once more addressed the meeting, streaming with blood. The police had not only been kicking and beating him, but also biting his hands to make him let go his hold. This they did to several others also—thereby justifying the title they have already won, of "Warren's Wolves." In the fight which took place, an elderly-looking gentleman was arrested and taken off to King Street station, charged with assaulting the police. He gave the name of Mr. J. Norman, of Brixton. The attack by the police became so general along the parapet that, at the appointed time, the third resolution was formally moved without any speech, and then Mr. Conybeare and others, accompanied by their solicitor, went with the man Borgia to Scotland Yard, to lodge a complaint with the Commissioner of the brutal conduct of the police. After that they went to King Street police-station, and brought Mr. Norman out on bail. In the meantime the fighting in the Square had continued. At six o'clock the police began to clear it, and two boys and one man were arrested. While they were being conveyed to King Street police-station the crowd followed, hooting and jeering; near the Horse Guards an attempt was made to rescue the prisoners, but after a severe struggle they were got to the station.

The futility of the policy hitherto pursued has been made perfectly clear, and a small beginning has been made once more in earnest to assert popular rights in the London forum. How that beginning will be followed up it is hard to say, though popular apathy and cowardice make it most probable that it will not be followed at all. The *Star* on Monday yelled as usual about Irish coercion, but dismissed the Square in a few lines of report, making no comment. The *Pall Mall* was so occupied in piercing the millstone of European politics with its eagle eye that it could not spare time to look through the ladder at its door. The *Daily News*, with its smug Whig smile, saw nothing of the unrespectable affair, its attention fixed on the nobler matters of place-hunting and parliament. The *Daily Chronicle*, wonderful to say, was the one paper to give a decent report.

In the police-courts on Monday Mr. Norman was remanded, and a poor man was fined a pound for, as far as could be seen, the sole offence of having his head broken. On Tuesday a summons was granted against the police in Borgia's case. The efficient officers 544 A and 75 M, who particularly distinguished themselves by heroically heading the charge against Borgia, will now have a chance of qualifying for canonisation along with Endacott, Bloy, and the glorious army of other Moral Miracles. X.

EAST-END MATCH MAKERS.—In the *Link* of June 23rd there was an article by Annie Besant, entitled "White Slavery in London," containing statements as to the amount of wages which Bryant and May, the match makers, pay to their workgirls. The statements were given by some of the girls, and three, on whom suspicion has fallen, have been discharged. Annie Besant and Herbert Burrows pledged their word to the girls that if any of them were discharged in consequence of the statements made by them, their wages should be paid till they could find other work. The amount required is about eighteen shillings per week for the three, and we appeal to those of our readers who can afford to help to pay this sum to send any subscription, however small, to Annie Besant, 34, Bouverie Street, Fleet Street, E.C. She has till now received £1 from Mr. Conybeare, M.P., 10s. from another M.P., 10s. from a member of the Merchant Tailors' Company, and 5s. from Miss Mussell. A meeting of protest against Messrs. Bryant and May's action with regard to these poor girls will shortly be called in the East-end.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROPAGANDA BY SONG.

In the issue of the *Commonweal* for June 23, W. Mitchell of Dalston makes some enquiries concerning a Socialist choir, very rightly pointing out the important aid that music is or should be to Socialist propaganda. He may be interested to know that in the Hammersmith Branch a choir has been formed for some time past, meeting regularly for practice every week, and that some attempt is now being made to utilise several of the lately published "Chants of Labour." I am convinced, however, that anything beyond local choirs in such a vast place as London is impracticable, the distances being so great and our time so precious—so much to be done, and so few hands to do it. At the same time I may point out that if the different Branches would form choirs to meet at least once a-week to study carefully the most suitable of these and other revolutionary songs, it might be possible for such choirs to meet *en masse* occasionally for practice for some special demonstration or meeting. I hope our London friends will do something in this way.

Perhaps it is hardly fair to make any sort of criticism on E. Carpenter's book in a passing letter like this, but it should be noted that it is entirely a mistake to take a well-known patriotic air to which stupid and boasting doggerel is inevitably wedded in men's minds, and sing words of a revolutionary nature thereto. There are many fine tunes—Welsh, English, and so forth—which are scarcely known at all, and it is these that should be brought forward and fitted to suitable words to be sung at our weekly meetings in the parks and streets.

MAY MORRIS.

PIECE-WORK.

SIR,—I have read with great interest the article on "Piece-work" in the last number of the *Commonweal*, and I wish to make a few observations on the subject of a special character. I am a compositor, and a member of the London society of that trade. In theory it may be admitted that some trades-unionists are opposed to piece-work, but in practice—I am speaking now of the society above mentioned—this opposition takes only the form of a private opinion. I assert without fear of contradiction that the London Society of Compositors would cease to exist if the system of working "by the piece" were insisted on as contrary to the fundamental principles of that body, and I assert further that the very iniquities perpetrated under that system flourish under the protecting wings of the leaders of said body. The piece system alone makes it possible that so many of the large book-printing establishments still adhere to the rules of the society; without that system they could not compete with those houses who are a law unto themselves. I have tried both sides, union and non-union houses, and I have found out that the difference is so small between them that one might work as well in the one as in the other, the iniquities of the piece system being essentially the same in both cases. The writer of the article referred to, assumed, and the assumption is theoretically a correct one, that the piece system was more advantageous to the worker than the time system. In my trade just the contrary is true. Keeping in mind that I speak for the book-compositor (the news-compositor is better situated), my experience shows that work given out as piece-work is of such a nature that more time is consumed in its accomplishment than could give to the compositor his fair wage. Sometimes the difficulties and hindrances are such that the best and most industrious workman cannot earn more than say from 15 to 25 shillings a-week. It is at such starvation wages that all the composition of the technical and scientific literature of this the greatest centre of printing in the whole world is done. There are thousands of compositors in London suffering under this besotted, cast-iron, hide-bound piece system. They grumble, they curse it, but they have to endure it. The society does not help them, perhaps does not wish to help them. Those outside the society are of course no better off, only they have no society dues to pay, and in this their position is the more rational of the two.

To some specially luminous minds it would appear that the piece system might be altered so that all the extra-time—consuming factors in any kind of work might be taken in account—in short, that a scale might be devised which would ensure to the worker a wage say of about 30s. per week. Such scales have been devised in France, in Germany, in Switzerland. If the British mind cannot at once rise to the whole grandeur of such a conception, some foreign comrades would no doubt be willing to give lessons, or the officers of some foreign society might be consulted. I know this is the country of sweet simplicity, of plain rules, of plain systems. But even here it would not be required of a tailor to accept the same wage for the making of a fine gentleman's suit as for the making of a corduroy suit.

I know these are revolutionary views. They cannot fail to upset the English trades-unionist's mind. But when a man like myself has worked for native and foreign Jew sweaters, when after unceasing, worrying, brain-killing toil on some work like Volapük, or some grammar with six different types in the same line, after wandering through Greek, Latin, three or four kinds of Saxon, German, French, down to modern English, grasped at through a kind of compositor's inspiration, and received, "under the piece system," 18s. as a week's earnings, such a man, even when satisfied with the comforts of a philosopher, cannot fail to think sometimes that there must be something wrong in the piece system. Grant that there is something holy about the system, something venerable, yet the conditions of the work are always changing, and a scale which might have been adequate at the time when Shakespeare wrote his plays is not of necessity a just scale in this improving age.

I know that this is not a Socialist but a trades-unionist question. At the same time a good many Socialists are suffering under it, and so long as we all have to live under this cursed system we ought to mend it a little. Of course the proper thing to do would be to end the piece system in all classes of book work, but this is at present only a vision of an unwilling ascetic.

J. B. LUCHSINGER.

NEWARK, N. J.—The General Working-men's Union met at Charles Weiss' Phoenix Park Hall, Newark, Sunday afternoon. Mr. Frey occupied the chair. H. Charles, late of London S. L., now of New York, lectured on the labour movement. He said that organisation on a revolutionary basis was a necessity. Strikes and boycotts were comparatively useless nowadays, because the development of trusts, machinery, and the army of the unemployed rendered the working-men powerless. He advised Socialists and Anarchists to unite in the interest of the common cause.

THE LABOUR STRUGGLE.

BRITAIN.

From Friday (20th ult.), 25,000 cotton operatives engaged in the Bolton spinning mills have received an advance of 5 per cent. in their wages, and the strippers and grinders 10 per cent., while the ironworkers at various establishments in the town receive back 7 per cent. and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. taken from them in 1886-7.

STRIKE AT WORKINGTON.—About 600 men are at present out of employment at Workington, owing to the strike of rail mill and steel-furnace-men at the West Cumberland Iron and Steel Works against a proposed reduction in wages. In consequence the Bessemer department, rail mill, and rail finishing works are stopped.

AN ADVANCE CONCEDED.—The dispute in the Halifax iron trade has been settled by the masters consenting to pay the wages which were given in 1886, from the first pay-day in August. This will, in many cases, amount to an increase of 10 per cent. On their side the men have rescinded their resolution against overtime. Had the dispute continued, nearly 2,000 men and boys would have come out on strike on the 2nd of July.

STRIKE AT HEBBURN COPPER WORKS.—On Monday 25th a large number of the men out on strike at the Tharais Sulphur and Copper Works, Hebburn, and at Willington Quay, held a meeting at the Argyle Hotel, Hebburn New Town. The men resolved to continue the strike, and were more hopeful than ever that it would have a satisfactory result. They continue to hold meetings and are heartily supported by the local public.

ANOTHER TYNE WAGES DISPUTE.—The dispute which inadvertently arose on Monday morning 25th with Swan and Hunter, shipbuilders, Wallsend, and the joiners in the employment of the firm previous to the late strike, has been amicably settled. About 50 of the men resumed work on Thursday, and the other hands who formerly worked in the yard, most of whom live in Newcastle and Shields, and were, consequently, unaware that a settlement had been effected, started Friday morning.

WROUGHT NAIL TRADE.—The operatives engaged in the nail trade in the Rowley, Old Hill, and surrounding districts continue in a most disorganised state, and, as a consequence, the wages of the nailers are being constantly reduced in various ways. As an illustration of the deplorable state of things existing in the trade, it may be mentioned that one aged but skilled workman received, after deductions for carriage and other things had been made, the sum of 4s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for a whole week's work.

THE SWEATING INQUIRY.—A trade unionist complains in the *Star* of the manner in which this inquiry is conducted. He says it has been confined to the furniture trade, and that evidence as to other notorious sweaters has been refused by Arnold White or his agent on the ground that evidence about Messrs. Maple was all that was required. He adds that some of the members of Mr. Parnell's society are so dissatisfied that they have elected two of their number to represent them; independent of White.

STRIKE IN CABLE CHAIN TRADE.—Another large meeting of cable chain-makers on strike was held on Wednesday 27th at Red Lion Inn, Cradley Road, Cradley Heath, Rowley Regis. Mr. Luke Johnson stated that the demand of the workmen—viz., 1s. 7d. per cwt.—was admitted to be reasonable, and the employers were not justified in reducing wages as they had several times done during the last twelve months. Mr. T. Homer, of Cradley Heath, said he was fully convinced that the strike would not be of long duration. It was resolved to continue the strike until the employers pay 1s. 7d. per cwt.

NUT AND BOLT TRADE.—With reference to the strike announced in this column last week, a further meeting of nut and bolt makers was held on Thursday at the Cross Guns Inn, New Street, Darlaston, to consider the action of the employers in enforcing a reduction in wages. The following resolution was carried unanimously: "This meeting agrees to give notice on July 7 for a return to the 1881 list of prices, less 5 per cent., on condition that the nut and bolt makers in the Smethwick, Birmingham, and Hockley districts will pledge themselves to render support during the strike, should one take place."

FEMALE CIGARMAKERS' STRIKE AT NOTTINGHAM.—The workers of this country should be grateful to the female cigarmakers of Nottingham for the brave stand they are making against their masters. They have just issued a boycott circular—so far as I am aware, the first in this country—against the firm. It takes the form of a small handbill, asking cigarmakers and the public in general "to remember the man who would reduce the wages of the girls." I also understand that some larger bills have been posted up about the town of a similar character. This is indeed cheering news, and we wish them every success.—H. D.

A FEATHER IN THE CAP OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES TRADE FEDERATION.—The last issue of the *Midland Counties Express* contains the following compliment to the above-named federation:—"The advantage of combination amongst working-men has been strikingly exemplified by the speedy settlement of the dispute at the Rowley Hall Colliery. Twice recently these men have had to cease work on account of actual and threatened infringements upon their rights and privileges, and as often have they been able to maintain them through their connection with the Midland Counties Trades' Federation. This is one of many instances in which this valuable organisation has successfully operated in defence of the rights of labour."

IRONWORKERS' DISPUTE.—Monday morning, July 2, an adjourned meeting of ironworkers was held at Swan Inn, Great Bridge, for the purpose of trying to induce men to join the association, and further, to consider what steps it would be advisable to take in reference to a dispute that has arisen at the Great Bridge Iron and Steel Company's works, namely, a proposal made by the masters to take off 6d. per ton for making "fours." A workman presided. Addresses were delivered by the chairman and several of the workmen, and a resolution was unanimously passed that those present would decline to make "fours" unless they were paid at the same rate as formerly—viz., without the proposed deduction of sixpence per ton. A deputation was also selected to wait upon the masters and to convey the resolution.

ENGINEERS' STRIKE ON THE TYNE.—A largely-attended meeting of engineers on strike in the mid-river district of the Tyne was held in the Co-operative Hall, Wallsend, on Tuesday, 26th ult., when the proposals made by the masters at their meeting in Newcastle on Monday were discussed. The result was not officially announced, but it is stated that they decided against accepting the compromise offered—namely, 1s. a week advance all round, and an additional 6d. on time wages over 30s. a week, the latter to take effect in August. The feeling of the meeting seemed to be that the

advance should be the same all round. July 2.—The dispute was settled on Saturday, after a strike of nearly three weeks. The masters have conceded an immediate advance of 1s. 6d. all round, and an additional 6d. to men earning over 30s. a week, the latter not to take effect till a month hence.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE MINERS.—These, of whom there are 17,000, are being organised. They work from nine to ten hours a day, with an average wage of from 17s. to 18s. per week. The royalties are very heavy in some parts of this district, as, for instance, the Annesley Colliery, which has from 600 to 800 men, pays £50 per week royalty all the time the work is going on. Another evil is the limited liability companies which abound close to the town of Nottingham. The constant endeavours of these bodies to reduce wages naturally creates considerable feeling among the men. A strike against a reduction is now going on at the Wellaton Colliery, 650 men being out. On Wednesday a meeting was held. The masters have refused arbitration. Nottingham comrades are talking to the men. The miners of this district are looking with interest to the action of their brethren in other parts of the kingdom, and will fall into line for a general advance of wages.

The drivers of the mail carts are not servants of the Crown, but are employed and paid by the contractors. We believe this is correct. Well, we open our columns to the drivers or to the contractors as well, to give a little information for the general public. Is it a fact that, previous to the present contractors taking over the affair, that the drivers were allowed certain articles of clothing, and when a new batch was delivered to them they were allowed to keep the old ones? This was looked upon as a privilege, and this privilege is now stopped, as the men have to return their old clothes. Was the original wages of these drivers from £1 to 30s. per week, according to the rides? and the maximum has now been reduced to 28s. Further, that those who get the higher scale are continually being found fault with for the most trivial things, and after being thrice cautioned they are discharged, and those who take their seats are only paid 20s. for the same rides? We hear these items on good authority, but can hardly credit them, and should like to hear further on the subject from those concerned. If this wholesale reduction of wages is a fact, can it be traced to the reason that the Department have beat the contractors down to such a figure that they are compelled to make their employees suffer, or is it a case of more, wanting more, or shall we put it down to the "wheel tax" rumour, and that back pay will yet be given?—*Postal Service Gazette*.

UNITED STATES—JUNE 16.

The Pennsylvania Tube Works employing 800 men, has announced a 10 per cent. cut in wages.

The stonemasons of Baltimore have asked for an advance from 3 dollars 50c. to 4 dols. per day for the coming season.

Great preparations are being made throughout the States for the celebration of Labour Day, Monday, September 22d.

Ship-carpenters of Bath, Me., have struck against a reduction from 2 dols. 50c. to 2 dols. The Carpenters' Brotherhood organised eighty new local assemblies in January, February, and March.

The Bakers' National Union has ordered a strike of all bakers in Pittsburg, exclusive of the South Side, which order went into effect Sunday night. They are striking for the recognition of their men and to secure eleven hours as a day's work, except on Saturday, when eighteen hours is allowable.

According to an estimate in *Bradstreet's*, the whole number of strikes last year in the United States was 856, involving 340,854 wage-workers. Returns from 389 labour organisations in New Jersey give a membership of 57,692—40,172 being Knights of Labour and 17,790 trade unionists.

140 men employed in the blast furnace depot of Joliet, Ill., Steel Works, struck, bringing work to a standstill. They claim the management is not living up to agreements, but is endeavouring during a boom to run the establishment on a daily-time basis, with a short force and a ten per cent. reduction in wages.

McLanahan, Smith, and Co., of Holiday's Burch, Pa., invited their striking puddlers to go to work at 3 dols. 75 c. a-ton, but they refused, demanding 3 dols. 85 c. The firm thereupon discharged them, and will start up the mills with non-union men. All the iron mills have been idle here for seven weeks, and 700 men are out of employment.

The silk workers of the United States have formed a national trades-district of the K. of L., with a membership of 18,000. It will interest silk workers to know that the strike of weavers in the Rhenania silk mill at College Point, N. Y., is settled by compromise. They are to get 18 dollars a week and the non-strikers must join the union.

Fifty-one unions are now said to be connected with the German Federated Trades of Newark (N. J.). The Jersey City Socialists are reported to have established night schools for their children and the working-men of their party. The Annual Labour Congress of the New Jersey Federation of Trades and Labour Unions will be held on the third Monday in August in the State House, Trenton, N. J.

New York, June 30.—All the iron mills in the Western States except those worked by non-union men closed to-day, the workers refusing to accept the manufacturers' scale of wages, which involved a 10 per cent. reduction. The strike is expected to last about two months, as both parties are well prepared. About 80 mills and 100,000 workmen are involved. Trouble is expected; in spite of the silly rumour that the bosses were glad of a chance to work off stock and the men to rest (!) during hot weather (!!). The men can't live on the weather; and if they can, they won't.

The Minneapolis, Minn., sewing girls who struck were receiving 3 $\frac{1}{2}$, 5, and 8 cents for shirts; 9 and 8 cents for jean trousers; 15 cents for three-stitch jean trousers; cashmere trousers, 14 cents; engineers' jackets, 6 cents; California overalls, 7 cents; bib overalls, 5 cents; and for double-seam overalls, 90 cents a dozen. In Massachusetts 12,000 children under 14 years are working in the mills and shops. The age at which children may be employed in Ohio workshops and factories has been raised to 12 years. During the past year a law was enacted compelling employers to furnish seats for women employees.

Some time ago the Cigarmakers' International Union of America got out an injunction against Emanuel Bamberger, of Cincinnati, O., to prevent his using a fac-simile of the union label on boxes of cigars not made by union men and thus injuring the members of the union. Judge Maxwell heard the case and made the temporary injunction perpetual. The case went to the Circuit Court on error. That court has affirmed the decision. New-Haven cigarmakers have also obtained an injunction against a firm for using a bogus label. And they have followed this by a suit for 5,000 dollars damages. New York Cigar Makers' International Union No. 144, at its quarterly general meeting, reported 1,587 good standing members; and the union's property is valued at 18,095 dollars. Receipts for the last quarter averaged 7,473, and expenditure 7,071 dollars.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

ITALY.

MANTUA.—The murmurings of a crowd is heard in the town, which draws all citizens to the windows and doors to see whatever sight may be. It is a caravan of emigrants passing through the town on its way to Genoa and the sea, and consists of some 150 country-folk, men, women, and children, whole families leaving their villages on the hill-side or along the wide channel of the river shrunken up to a thread in the summer months, to try their luck in America. The women and children are seated in carts among their household stuffs, and the men walk behind urging on the mules and horses. The hopelessness of the home-life of country-folk like these drives them to seek the only "change of air" possible to them, and doubtless the change and new sights and distractions refreshes them a little bit, but this is all the "good" they will get out of the emigration craze.

CALATAFIMI.—Last April about 16 people who took part in a "hunger demonstration" were arrested and put aside for trial when it should suit the pleasure of the law to trouble about them at all. In spite of the defence of an able lawyer, among the number only seven have been let off, the remaining nine being sentenced to three months' imprisonment. The sentence has made a bad impression on the townsfolk, who expected, says *La Nuova Età*, more indulgence for the poor souls who were merely victims of police arrogance and provocation.

SAN CATALDO.—The number of the workers in the mines here has been reduced, and thence the competition among the men for field-work, the masters immediately reducing the tariff. Fourteen hours' laborious work for 85, 60, and 25 centesimi (English, 8½d., 6d., and 2½d.)!

ALTAVILLA (AVELLINO) has mutinied because they have received no wages for five months (1.50 lire a-day the maximum).

F. S. Merlino has written a Manual of Economic Science for Working-men (*Manuale di Scienza Economica*, Pietro Vasai, Florence), which puts the past and present position of Economics in clear and simple words for the use of those who have little time for the study of larger works, nor much opportunity for collecting and comparing facts for themselves. The writer has avoided as much as possible in such a work those technicalities which are unto many Socialists who propound the Faith the most grievous pitfalls; yet it must not be thought that he goes to the other extreme with the ornate words and vague generalities which are thought by some to be all that the "lower orders" can take in on this complex subject. In short, Merlino expounds his views in a simple straightforward manner which should render the Manual very useful to Italian Socialists. The last chapter or heading, on the future social economy, is to our thinking almost too much condensed. The difficulties of writing on this subject we fully appreciate, but venture to think that more might be written thereon even at the risk of "troubling the waters" considerably: a little distraction from the dreary facts of to-day which we have to face and think out, whether we like it or not, might be refreshing and not unwelcome. The manual is workmanlike and thoughtful, as indeed are all Merlino's writings that we have read. M. M.

GERMANY.

A great number of Social Democrats have been sentenced at Leipzig to more than twenty-one years' imprisonment in all for distributing a very harmless leaflet on the 18th of March. One of the imprisoned, a compositor, the son of the old Lassallean Toecke, became mad in prison, as also did one secretly incarcerated at Elberfeld. It is the common practice in this country to shut up Socialists under any pretext for months, and then to collect "materials" against them, meanwhile to torture them by incessant judicial examinations. If nothing can be found against them, it may really happen that they are again set free after so many months. At Berlin even, a number of bricklayers charged with forming a trades-union were discharged; but to square matters at present again a number of potters are on trial for a similar "offence." Three papers have also been prohibited—at Bremen (*Volkzeitung*), Koeln (*Gerichtszeitung*), and Hamburg (*Neue Bauhandwerker*). So we see that all these mean things can be done as well without Puttkammer as with him.

DENMARK AND NORWAY.

The annual congress of the Danish Social Democrats will be held at Copenhagen on July 13, 14, 15. In the same town, on August 16-18th, a congress of Danish trades unions will be held, to which Sweden and Norway will send delegates.

At Bergen a biography of the Socialist, S. Pihl (died April 17), has been edited (price 15 ore).

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

It is reported from Kronstadt (Transylvania) that in the adjoining village of Foeldoar the legal commission appointed to carry out the amalgamation of small agricultural holdings has been attacked by the people, more than 1,000 persons, whose revolt was at the end quelled, as usual, by the gendarmes, who fired amongst them. The affair has no importance in itself, but shows how deep discontent and revolutionary spirit are rooted in the Slavonian, Roumanian, and Hungarian peasants. They have a much firmer conviction than those in more civilised countries that the land belongs to them, that their landlords and masters are their enemies; and they are only kept down by military despotism, chiefly by the gendarmes, who, without much responsibility, frequently use their repeating rifles and revolvers on them. But here and there, often from apparently illogical reasons, they combine together, upset the authorities in one commune, and then the revolt spreads. Remember the large riots in Russia and Hungary, a few years ago, against the Jews, as is commonly said, but in fact against capitalists and landlords; in the first moment misled by holding the village owner for the only cause of their misery, they soon attacked rich Christians also, and their anger turned against the masters. Since 1886, again, peasant revolts in Galicia (Poland) are frequent, the immediate motive of them being of late some law on the maintenance of public highways, forcing back the peasants on this point nearly to the level of serfs. The great peasant revolts between 1840 and 1850 in this country are known; the Austrian Government, perfidious as ever, first tolerated it, wishing the Polish szlachta (landholding aristocracy) to be broken, but, like every revolt, it turned against the State and its organs alike, and so it was bloodily repressed. In Croatia, four or five years ago, such a trifling matter as the painting the Hungarian arms on public notice-beards initiated a revolt, the reason and nature of which will be clear when we know that facts like the following are quite common there. The tax-collectors suck out the country; thousands of small holdings are sold by auction every year, and bought by the State or by money-grabbers; e.g., a farm worth £20 was put up for sale

for 10s. arrears of taxes; other peasants were not allowed to bid, under the quite legal pretext that they could not deposit this sum on the table in money, which the representative of the fiscal, of course, did, and so the farm was knocked down to him (viz., the State itself) at the first bidding for 2s. The Servian movement is quite on a level with the others. In this country, even more than in those already mentioned, Socialist agitation has done its share in stirring up the people. Finally the Roumanian revolts, larger than any thought of before, occurred quite recently, and the Government is still busy in crushing and prosecuting who they think are the leaders. If coercion alone helps no more, they use their old weapon, which will always do its share, namely, to raise and foster national hatred, and so they now send to Moldavia soldiers just from these parts, in which old animosities against the Moldavians exist. These peasants have no interest in and deeply distrust political matters; they know what they see: the landlords, usurers, and tax collectors, as representatives of the beneficent State exploiting them, the military service wasting the best years of their sons, and the gendarmes, etc., helping the rich. So they, more than people with so-called political education, realise the fact that the social and not the political conditions must be altered, and, once the central power of the State is broken, they will go in for that in their own way. * *

THE GOSPEL OF THE GUN.

In order to protect the collecting agents and emergency men, the War Office a while ago sent a military force who will carry with them an adequate supply of ball cartridges to help collect the tithes in Wales, and we hear of their doings from time to time. This is the full development of latter day Christianity as expounded by bludgeons and "ball cartridges." Stanley the evangeliser of the African savage uses the same means to illustrate the glorious gospel of peace and good-will on earth to all men; and at home the unfortunate Welsh are made to pay for what they neither desire nor receive—i.e., the ministrations of an alien clergy—by the use of murderous weapons.

The land thief having stolen the means of subsistence here below, appoints his nincompoop younger sons as clerical prigs to point a way hereafter; and they forage themselves by robbing hard-working people of their goods and chattels. Pretty disciples of him who knew not where to lay his head!

When carrying on a Socialist campaign in Wales, I frequently was met with the common objection that under a Socialist system the lazy man would share in the proceeds of the industrious man's toil. A totally groundless fear; but, by the way, the lazy man is just now showing the Welsh people, and for that matter the world, what he can do when backed by Government forces to preach the doctrine of love thy neighbour as thyself, and to pay for the preach by seizing your neighbour's goods. And such is the gospel as rendered by an adequate supply of ball cartridges! F. K.

THE SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

OFFICES: 13 FARRINGTON ROAD, E.C.

The Offices of the Socialist League will be open for the sale of *Commonweal* and all other Socialist publications from 8.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day except Sunday. The Secretary will be in attendance from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

"COMMONWEAL" PRINTING FUND.

C. J. F., 2s. 6d.; P. W., 6d.; Langley, 2s.; K. F., 1s.

East-end Propaganda Fund.—V. D., 2s. 6d. Collected at Princess Square Club, 2s. 3½d. J. LANE, Treasurer.

REPORTS.

FULHAM.—Sunday morning, Catterson Smith and Grosor spoke to good audience. Fair sale of *Weal*. In evening, Morris addressed capital meeting outside rooms. Some opposition easily disposed of. 3s. 1d. collected during the day.

MERTON.—Good meeting on Mitcham Fair Green Sunday, addressed by Eden and Kitz. Good sale of *Commonweal*, and 1s. 5½d. collected for use of Vestry Hall.—W. G. E.

HAMMERSMITH.—Meeting held at Acton Green (opposite Duke of Sussex) by Harnett, Mordhurst, and Tochiatti, Chamberlain supporting Tochiatti, who was the speaker; 9 *Commonweals* sold.—M. H.

BRADFORD.—A student from Glasgow University, at present officiating at Ingleby Road Congregational Chapel, about three weeks ago lectured on "Socialistic Methods," and has given occasion for good work to be done. Wednesday, 20th, good discussion in Branch; 27th, Brad read paper on "Competition," useful debate. We are to have another lecture on the 11th inst. Sunday 1st, Maguire, Paylor, and Minty accompanied our branch on a 25 miles walk round Rombald's Moor, and there lectured at Laycock's Temperance Hotel. *Weals* and pamphlets sold. Paylor lectures here on 15th.—P. B.

NORWICH.—During week, meetings held at Thorpe, Yarmouth, and St. Catharine's Plain. On Sunday, Mainwaring (London) was with us. Good meetings held Sunday morning at St. Faith's, St. Paul's Plain, and St. Mary's Plain, by Mowbray, Morley, Poynts, and Mainwaring. In afternoon, large meeting in Market Place by Mowbray and Mainwaring. Meeting also held on Crostwick Common by Poynts, Barker, and Browne. In evening, another meeting in the Market Place by Mowbray and Mainwaring; slight opposition easily disposed of by Mainwaring. Very good collections and fair sale of *Weal*.—A. T. S.

WALSALL.—On Monday, Tarn (Birmingham) lectured on "Human Nature." Burns (Birmingham, S. D. F.) and Tarn also addressed open-air meeting Saturday. Sanders lectured to Liberal Club, Bilston, Friday evening, and heartily received. Also held good open-air meeting at West Bromwich. Good audience addressed by Carless, Guillemard, and Russell, Sunday morning on West Bromwich Road; considerable discussion.—J. T. D.

EAST-END PROPAGANDA.

As usual good meetings were held at our various stations last week, though, owing to the illness of two of our speakers, we were unable to carry out all the advertised meetings. We have also found it is necessary to have more speakers than one at our meetings, so have been compelled to drop some of our stations to enable us to send more speakers to the others. We hope all friends and sympathisers living near our places of meeting, will attend and help us either in selling *Commonweal* or otherwise. Comrades who have not yet joined a party of bill-posters or leaflet distributors, are earnestly requested to do so at their earliest convenience.

BRISTOL SOCIALISTS.—Open-air meetings resumed this season at old spot, Goodhind Street; no opposition; Socialism readily received by most who listen. We are much helped this year by the 'Chants of Labour'; meetings opened by singing a song, this with display of red banner brings together some people to start with. Cause making fair progress here; work of all kinds slack.—R. W.

(Several items are unavoidably crowded out.)

LECTURE DIARY.

LONDON.

Acton.—Any information from Secretary Harnett, 7 Redmore Road, Hammersmith.

Clerkenwell.—Hall of the Socialist League, 13 Farringdon Rd., E.C. Sunday July 8, Special Business Meeting of Members at 6.30 p.m. Sunday July 16, at 6 p.m., will be held, in our new hall, a Members and Friends' Social Evening; Tea on table at 6 p.m.; Songs, etc., after tea.

Fulham.—8 Effie Road, Walham Green. Sunday July 8th, at 8 p.m., F. Verinder (Guild of St. Matthew), "The Bible and the Land Question."

Hackney.—28 Percy Terrace, Victoria Road, Hackney Wick.

Hammersmith.—Kelmescott House, Upper Mall, W. Sunday July 8, at 8 p.m., H. Halliday Sparling, "John Ball."

Merton.—Club-house, 3 Clare Villas, Merton Road, Singlegate.

Mile-end and Bethnal Green.—95 Boston St., Hackney Road.

North London.—The business meetings will be held on Friday evenings at the Autonomie Club, Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road, after the open-air meetings at Ossulton Street. All members are asked to attend at Ossulton Street at 8 o'clock. Secy., Nelly Parker, 109 Cavendish Buildings, opposite Holborn Town Hall.

Plaistow.—A branch has been formed here and is commencing a vigorous propaganda in this district. All communications to be addressed to A. Barker, 4 Osborne Terrace, Leyton, E.

St. Georges in the East.—A meeting of the members of this branch will be held at 23 Princes Square, on Sunday morning after the meeting at Lemna Street. Rochmann, secretary.

PROVINCES.

Aberdeen (Scottish Section).—Secretary, J. Leatham, 15 St Nicholas Street. Sunday night meetings, Baker Street Hall, 6.30. Choir practice at 46 Marischal Street on Thursday evenings at 8.

Bradford.—Read's Coffee Tavern, Ivegate. Meets Tuesdays at 8.

Carnoustie (Scottish Section: Forfarshire).—Meeting every Tuesday, at 8 p.m., in the Carnoustie Restaurant. H. M'Cluskey, Millar Street, Secy.

Cowdenbeath (Scot. Sec).—J. Duncan, 30 Arthur Pl., sec

Dundee (Scot. Sect.).—Meetings every Sunday in the Trades Hall, opposite Tay Bridge Station.

Edinburgh (Scottish Land and Labour League).—In Oddfellows' Hall, at 8 p.m., meetings for Discussion. July 12, "A Socialist Commune." Letters and communications to 35 George IV. Bridge.

Galashiels (Scot Sect).—J. Walker, 6 Victoria St., sec.

Gallatown and Dysart (Scottish Section: Fife).—Meet every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Gallatown Public School. Secretary, A. Paterson, 152 Rosslyn St.

Glasgow.—84 John St. Reading-room open 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. daily. Discussion every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. On Sunday evening, at 7 o'clock, comrade Saupen will give an account of the Revolutionary Movement on the Continent.

Leeds.—Clarendon Buildings, Victoria Rd. and Front Row. Open every evening. Business meeting Saturdays at 8 p.m. communications to T. Paylor, 11 Sheldon Street, Holbeck, Leeds.

Leicester.—Hosiery Union, Horsefair St. Fridays at 8.

Lochgelly (Scottish Section: Fife).—Secs. (*pro tem.*), John Greig and Hugh Conway, The Square.

Norwich.—On Monday July 9, all members and friends interested in our co-operative movement are requested to attend a meeting at the Gordon Hall at 8.30 p.m. Tuesday, at 8.30, Members' Meeting. Wednesday, at 8.30, Dramatic Class. Saturday, 8 until 10.30, Co-operative Clothing Association. On August 12th and 13th a great Socialist Demonstration will be held; Annie Besant and others will take part.

Oxford.—Temperance Hall, 25½ Pembroke Street. Wednesdays, at 8.30 p.m.

Walsall.—Lecture Room, back of Temperance Hall. Mondays at 8 p.m.

West Calder (Scottish Section).—Sec., Robert Lindsay, West Calder.

OPEN-AIR PROPAGANDA.

SUNDAY 8.

11 Acton Green Bullock & Fry
 11.30... Latimer Road Station.....Tochatti & Maughan
 11.30... Mitcham Fair GreenEden & Kitz
 11.30... Regent's ParkMainwaring
 11.30... Walham GreenFulham Branch
 3.30... Hyde ParkMainwaring
 7 Clerkenwell GreenThe Branch
 7 Weltje Road, opposite Ravenscourt Park
Hammersmith Branch

Tuesday.
 8.30... Fulham—opposite Liberal Club...H'mrsmith Bk

Friday.
 7.30... Euston Rd.—Ossulton Street.....Parker

EAST END.

SUNDAY 8.

Mile-end Waste ... 11 ...Graham & Cores.
 "Salmon and Ball" ... 11 ...Samuels.
 Lemna Street, Shadwell ... 11 ...Davis.
 Gibraltar Walk, Bethnal Green Road. ... 7 ...Lane & Charles.
 Kingsland Green ... 11.30...Turner & Brooks.
 Victoria Park ... 3.15...Lane & Davis
 Triangle, Hackney Road ... 8 ...Lane & Charles.
 Lea Bridge Road ... 11.30...Charles & Lane.
 Stamford Hill ... 7.30...Davis & Brooks.
 Broadway, Plaistow ... 7.45...Mnwarding & Cores.

TUESDAY.
 Mile-end Waste ... 8.30...Charles, Davis, and Cores.

WEDNESDAY.

Broadway, London Fields 8.30...Parker.
 Charlotte St., Gt. Eastern St. 8.30...Mainwaring, Lane.

THURSDAY.

Packington St., Essex Road 8.30...Brooks, Mnwarding

FRIDAY.

Philpot St., Commercial Rd. 8.30...Mainwaring, Lane and Charles.

SATURDAY.

Mile-end Waste ... 8 ...Fuller, Cores, and Lane.
 S. Docks, Millwall ... 6 ...Parker, Lane, and Mainwaring.

PROVINCES.

Aberdeen.—Saturday: Castle Street, at 8 p.m. Sunday: Duthie Park, Waterside Gate, 3 p.m.

Glasgow.—Saturday: Jail's Square, at 6 p.m. Sunday: Jail's Square, at 12; Paisley Road Toll, at 5 o'clock.

Leeds.—Sunday: Hunslet Moor, at 11 a.m.; Vicar's Croft, at 7 p.m.

Leicester.—Sunday: Russel Square, at 11 a.m.

Norwich.—Sunday: Bishop Bridge, at 10 a.m.; Market Place, at 3 and 7.30—W. B. Parker. Wymondham, Sunday at 11 a.m. Thorpe Village, Monday at 8 p.m. Yarmouth, opposite Town Hall, Thursday at 8. St Catharine's Plain, Friday at 8.15 p.m.

LABOUR UNION—WOOLWICH.—Arsenal Gates (open air), Sunday July 8, at 6.30 p.m., Rev. S. D. Headlam.

HOXTON.—Persons wishing to join this branch, which is in process of formation, should communicate with H. D. Morgan, 22 Nicholas Street, Hoxton.

JUNIOR SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.—On 7th July, Rev. Stewart Headlam will lecture on "Christian Socialism" at 31 Upper Bedford Place, Russell Square, at 8 o'clock.

At the Farringdon Hall, 13 Farringdon Road, on Friday July 13th, a Free Discussion will be opened by P. Kropotkin—subject, "The Moral Justice and Injustice of the Wage-System"; at 8.30.

EXCURSION OF LONDON SOCIALISTS.—A Committee has been formed for the purpose of arranging an excursion to take place in August. All Socialist bodies have been invited to take part, and a meeting of delegates will be held on Friday evening in the Hall of the Socialist League, at 8 p.m.—W. B. PARKER, Sec.

EAST-END PROPAGANDA.—A meeting of all interested in the Socialist propaganda in the East-end of London will be held at the International Club, 23 Princes Sq., Cable Street, E., on Saturday evening at 10 o'clock. All who can assist us by speaking at our various stations, and especially those who can aid us either on Sunday or any time during the week by distributing literature from house to house are earnestly invited to attend, to enable us to extend our field of work.

SHEFFIELD SOCIALISTS.—The Sheffield Socialists, in conjunction with the Chesterfield and Nottingham friends, have arranged to have a Picnic at Ambergate on Sunday the 15th. The Sheffield contingent will leave the Midland Station by the 9.5 a.m. train.—The Sheffield Socialists have secured the St. James's Assembly Rooms for their meetings, and meet for lectures and discussions every Monday night.

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