

# THE COMMONWEAL

## The Official Journal of the SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

Vol. 4.—No. 132.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1888.

WEEKLY; ONE PENNY.

### ANTI-SWEATING DEMONSTRATION

IN  
HYDE PARK, SUNDAY, JULY 22, 1888.

The Socialist League has appointed the following, who will speak on its behalf from Platform No. 6:—

WM. MORRIS. W. B. PARKER. H. H. SPARLING. J. TOCHATTI.  
J. LANE. F. KITZ.

The following is the resolution which will be moved at the meeting:

*"That this meeting, while protesting against the extortion practised under what is known as the Sweating System, points out that this is a necessary result of production for profit, and must continue until that is put an end to; and it therefore calls upon all workers to combine in order to bring about the Social Revolution, which will place the means of production and exchange in the hands of the producers."*

The following are the times and places of meeting:—

S.E.		N.W.	
Deptford ... ..	1.45	Cobden Statue ... ..	3.15
Brick Lane Station ... ..	2.50	Fitzroy Square ... ..	3.30
(And wait for those from Bermondsey, Walworth, and Peckham.)		(Down Tottenham Court Road.)	
Obelisk, Blackfriars Road ... ..	3.15	Paddington Green ... ..	3.45
St. Thomas's Hospital ... ..	3.35		
Victoria ... ..	4.0	S.W.	
		Wandsworth Plain ... ..	2.15
EAST END.		Prince's Head, Battersea ... ..	2.55
Canning Town ... ..	1.0	York Road Station ... ..	3.25
Poplar ... ..	1.15	Chelsea Bridge ... ..	3.40
Via Burdett Road, Mile End		Sloane Square ... ..	3.45
Waste ... ..	2.15	Knightsbridge ... ..	4.5
Whitechapel Road, Commercial Street ... ..	2.45		
(Wait for those from the Triangle, Hackney)... ..	2.30	W.	
Mansion House ... ..	3.0	Prebend Street, Islington ... ..	2.30
to		Clerkenwell Green ... ..	3.0
Holborn Circus ... ..	3.20	to	
		Holborn Circus ... ..	3.20
		Due at	
		Tottenham Court Road ... ..	3.45

### SWEATERS AND SWEATERS.

No. 1.—MATCHES BY THE FACTORY DRILL.

THE London Trades' Council having taken up the strike of the match girls, it did at any rate go on long enough to force the attention of even the stupidest of the capitalist class, and the girls have at least gained something out of the struggle; and surely nobody but the cruellest as well as the stupidest of bourgeois will grudge them that small gain. For the rest, like other strikes, it is a necessary incident in the war of capital and labour; whatever may be the fate of any particular strike, the whole mass of strikes forms one side of this great war: if there were no strikes but those which were likely to succeed in times like the present, the manufacturing capitalists would have an easy time of it, and would reduce the workers under their control to the very lowest point of misery; but as it is, even people in such a wretched condition as these poor match girls can make themselves felt temporarily, and can help to swell the mass of opposition to the manufacturers' ideal, to wit, human machinery which will give not more, but less, trouble than the machinery of mere dead matter, and will be as contented as that; so that Mrs. Besant and the others whose exertions have made this strike possible have done and are doing good service.

It is curious, though, to see how the capitalist press have straightway set their backs up, and set to work to whitewash the extremely "respectable" firm—company, I should say—who live on this miserable industry. What has become of the "Bitter Cry" and all the fashionable slumming which followed it? Why, this industry, which

is of such commercial importance to the world—of shareholders—is just the very thing that all that deedless sympathy was poured out on; and yet now we find the press, which was so "interested" in the affairs of the East End workers four years ago, is quite content to leave the match girls to the tender mercies of Messrs. Bryant and May and other such benefactors of the human race; and if any attempt is set on foot to make these poor folk conscious of the fact that they are part of a great class which *must* struggle for existence and *should* struggle for a decent life, immediately we find the papers, to say the least of it, tender of the rich and harshly critical of the poor, scattering broadcast inuendoes against the disinterested people who really feel the "Bitter Cry," telling mere lies about the events of the strike, chuckling over the slavery of the poor wretches who hug their chains and are angry with the strikers for making them risk the loss of the starvation wages which they are doomed to exist on. Such shabby people as these, and the public for which they write, who simply want to be mildly amused by other people's troubles, are not likely to note one lesson which would seem to be pretty clearly taught by the exposure of this manufacture to the light of day, and that is the utter helplessness of any philanthropic remedies for these miseries, or, indeed, any remedies but the one remedy of destruction of the whole system under which they are possible; still less are they likely to see that this flourishing and respectable company, the names of whose managers are a kind of household words, is a *reductio ad absurdum* of the competition for profits which is the "bond of society" at present. The superstition of the "cultivated classes" of to-day concerning the necessity of profit-grinding is as gross as ever superstition was. I take as an illustration a sentence from an article in the *Daily News* by a well-intentioned sort of person apparently, and read:—"These poor people are really the victims, not of any exceptional greed or hard usage of Messrs. Bryant and May' (close shavers, though, my friend!) but of that steady onward rush of the great industrial machine whose course is directed not by the needs and welfare of those immediately beneath its wheels, but of the community at large for generations to come."

Well! that is tall talk. Let us pick this match-making business from "the steady onward rush," and see what it means. It is a very simple story, and a very shabby one. A lot of helpless girls and women are driven by fear of mere destitution to hire themselves out at starvation wages to do mechanical and unhealthy work; they are cleverly drilled by a perfected system which aims at wasting nothing (except human life) and the result of their labour is sold at the lowest price possible in order that the money passing through the hands of the company may be turned as often as possible; and in order to do that even the wretched wages are clipped by fines, which have the double advantage of helping in the drilling as well as saving the wage outlay. That is the process; what is the gain that comes of it, beyond the keeping alive in misery a number of girls? Certain persons are able to live a luxurious and useless life without working, and matches are made so cheap that the public buy twice as many as they want of them and waste half. Here is a gain indeed for "the generations to come"! Are we so helpless that this shabby story is to be told over and over again, and the sad fact always a-doing? Once more, a farthing box of matches is no great plunder to take from a "victim" of the great industrial machine, and, on the whole, I think it would be better to try to direct it "by the needs and welfare of those immediately beneath its wheels"—only you cannot, as long as the machine is composed of capital and wage-slavery. You can only help whatever tends towards upsetting the said machine. And all wise men will do so, and spread discontent till we make a better bargain than selling ourselves to the Devil—for nothing.

No. 2.—PASSING ON THE PINCH.

It is noteworthy that we are to-day having the extreme form of the systems of the robbery of the worker dragged up before the public gaze. On the one hand there is this system of the complete merciless drill of the factory, obvious authoritative compulsion, and on the other the compulsion which passes through the links of the sweating system, in the last link of which mere obvious necessity of bread-earning compels the poor sweater to compel. When the two systems are brought face to face it will be seen that there is little enough to chose

between them, because after all there are plenty of links between the idle appropriator of the results of other people's labour and the workman in the factory system; the various managers, clerks, and foremen are the sweating machinery in this case, and many of these are of the working-class just as the sweating tailor is. It is true that the organised sweating system carries the misery a stage lower down, in spite of the shameless defence of it which is being made before the Lords' Commission, and the last link the poor sweater is a speciality of the system, and a disgrace even to our disgraceful sham society. But it must never be forgotten, and we must repeat it again here, that all capitalistic production which is not purely individual, as the work of the doctor or the artist, is done by means of sweating in some form or other. It is the knowledge, conscious or otherwise, of this fact which gives some of the witnesses before the Lords' Commission courage to stand up and represent their horrible industry as a benefit to humanity; they cannot help feeling that the sympathy of the lords and gentlemen on the Commission will be accorded to those respectable people who are performing the whole duty of modern man by making a profit, even if they are forced by circumstances to be the instruments of inflicting misery upon other people; for as our worthy friend in the *Daily News* on the match-girls sees, that is the necessary process of commercial production: in short, the respectable factory capitalist excuses the sweater, respectable or not. Doubtless the conclusion that will be expressed in the report of the Commission on Sweating will be that the evils of the system have been much exaggerated, that the worst form of it is not widespread, that the system, with whatever exaggerated evils belong to it, is necessary to civilisation, nay, to humanity; all this probably in much these words, and as a practical rider to the conclusion, though *not* openly stated, that we the commission recommend that something be pretended to be done to keep the people quiet.

A friend of mine once expostulated with a hatter for the price he charged for his hats; the hatter had been dining, and wine inspired him to tell the truth. "Mr. ———," said he "how can I live in the style in which I do unless I charge you at least as high?"

This is really the conclusion which the Sweating Commission must come to. The misery of those who are sweated, whether by the drill of the factory or the many links of the sweating chain, is the high price that we pay for the glory of sustaining a class of idle rich men. Is the gain worth the price? Working men, it is for you to answer the question, and act according to your answer.

WILLIAM MORRIS.

## THE REVOLT OF GHENT.

(Continued from p. 218.)

PEACE being made, the Earl is rather shy of Ghent, and takes up his quarters at Bruges, no doubt playing his old game of setting the towns against one another. The citizens of Ghent (one may suppose the respectables chiefly) are anxious for their Feudal Lord to come amongst them, so that they may be sure that the peace is really kept. After much persuasion, the Earl comes ungraciously enough, and the very first thing he says to "the men of the Law," as Froissart calls them—that is, the municipal chiefs, who go out to meet him—is thus given by Froissart: "Sirs, good peace requireth nothing but peace; and I would that these White Hats were laid down and amended made for the death of my Bailey, for I am sore required therein of all his lineage."

Here is the smouldering fire stirred again. "The men of the Law" answer humbly enough, and beg the Earl to come into the great square the next day and "preche to the people"; but the White Hoods make up their minds to be part of his audience. Well, he comes, and looks very angrily at the White Hoods; then from a window with a red cloth before him he makes a speech nearly as long as one of Mr. Gladstone's, winding up with a demand for the disbanding of the White Hoods. "At all these words that he spake before every man held their peace; but when he spake of the White Hats there was such a murmuring and whispering that it might well be perceived that it was for that cause."

In short, he took himself out of the town in a day or two in the worst possible temper.

The Ghentmen did not deceive themselves as to his intentions, and fell to victualling the town for a siege. Here Froissart moralises: "The rich sage and notable persons cannot excuse themselves of these deeds at the beginning. For when John Lyon first began to bring up the White Hats they might have caused them to have been laid down if they had lyst, and have sent other manner of persons against the pioneers of Bruges than they: but they suffered it because they would not meddle, nor be in no business nor press. All this they did and consented to be done, the which after they dearly bought, and specially such as were rich and wise: for after, they were no more lords of themselves, nor they durst not speak, nor do anything but as they of Ghent would. For they (the men of Ghent) said that neither for John Lyon nor for Gilbert Matthew nor for their wars nor broiles they would never depart asunder: for whatsoever war there were between one or other they would ever be all one, and ever ready to defend the franchises of their town. The which was well seen after; for they made war which endured seven years; in the which time there was never strife among them in the town: and that was the thing that sustained and kept them most of anything, both within and without: they were in such unity that there was no distance among them, as ye shall hear after in this history."

An outrage and reprisals follow. The kindred of Roger Dauterne, the slain Bailey, come upon forty ships of the Ghentmen in the Scheld, and put out the eyes of the mariners and maim them, and so send them home to Ghent. In return for this horror John Pruniaux, Captain of the White Hoods, marches suddenly on Oudenarde and beats down the two towers and gates of that town looking toward Ghent and the wall between them. The Earl of course is or feigns to be greatly enraged; though the rulers of Ghent refuse to avow the deed; but after some coming and going a sort of a peace is patched up again; Oudenarde is given up by the Ghentmen, John Pruniaux on the one side and the maimers of the mariners on the other side are banished: and on these terms of peace the curtain falls again.

It rises on a lordly act of dastardliness on the part of the Earl, who gets John Pruniaux delivered to him by the Duke of Burgundy and strikes off his head. Also, "Then the Earl went to Ypres and did here great justice, and beheaded many evil-ruled people such as had been at the death of his five Knights there slain and had opened the gates to them of Ghent."

This lordly fashion of keeping the peace was not well seen to by the Ghentmen, and the war began again more sternly than ever, and also now took more definitely the aspect of a class struggle. "Then Peter du Bois<sup>1</sup> said: Sirs, if ye will believe me there shall not a house stand upright of never a gentleman in the country about Ghent. . . . That is truth, said all the other. Let us go forth and beat them all down."

Which was not a mere flourish of speech, as the White Hoods, who are now identified with the town of Ghent, set to work at once; so that "when the gentlemen knights and squires being at Lysle with the Earl and thereabout heard tidings how their houses were burnt and beaten down, they were right sore displeased, and not without good cause." In short, the Earl let loose his chivalry on Ghent, his bastard son the Hase of Flanders at their head, and there was plenty of hard skirmishing after the fashion of the time.

The Ghentmen for their part summoned their vassals "the knights and squires of Heynault" to come and do them service for their holdings under pain of forfeiture; as also their Constable or Burgrave, Hervé Dantoin. It was a matter of course that the gentlemen did not come, and that the Constable sent an insolent and threatening answer. The Ghentmen retorted by destroying the houses of their disobedient vassals, who had legally forfeited their rights. This incident is a curious illustration of the mediæval *status*: the burgesses of Ghent, who were not noble, yet in their collective capacity could claim the services of noblemen, who held lands under feudal service to the town, and legally punish them for disobedience.

Well, on the part of Ghent the war went on briskly enough; but though they were still in nominal alliance with the other cities, yet in the latter, and especially in Bruges, the mean crafts had not the same power as in Ghent, and any defeat was certain to detach Bruges, and likely to detach Ypres and Courtray from the popular cause. Bruges fell off first; there was a struggle between the respectables and the mean crafts in the town, in which the former were victorious, and they at once sent to invite the Earl among them. To Bruges he came nothing loth. "At the Earl's coming were taken all the principals of them that had their hearts Ghentoise, and such as were suspect, and so were put in prison more than 500, and little by little their heads were stricken off." After this stroke of resolute government Bruges became the headquarters of the Earl, and the war began to go heavily against the Ghent men.

The Earl marched with a considerable army to attack Thorout and Ypres, and the Ghentmen sent two bodies of men for the relief of those towns under the command of Peter du Bois, John Bull, and Arnold Clarke. But the affair was ill-managed; the two corps missed supporting each other, and that commanded by John Bull fell into an ambushade, and one of those curious mediæval routs took place, which some of us may the better understand after the sights of Bloody Sunday.

Peter du Bois, cool and wary as usual, held his men together and retreated to Ghent; but the fugitives from John Bull's corps, who with him had got into Courtray, in their rage and terror slew their captain, and both Ypres and Courtray fell. The Earl massacred 700 of the mean crafts in Ypres "to encourage the others," and sent off 300 hostages to prison in Bruges, and afterwards 200 from Courtray. 3,000 of the Ghentois fell in the combat before Ypres.

The Earl then besieged Ghent, but loosely enough, as the Ghentmen were able to get supplies from Brussels, Brabant, and Liege, and generally from the whole country behind them, where the people were in complete sympathy with the rebels, especially in Liege.

A sharp combat took place before Nivelles, where the Ghentmen were again defeated, with the loss of two of their captains, Rafe of Harselles, a man of noble blood, and John Launoy. Of this matter Froissart, telling how the Ghentmen retreated into the church at Nivelles, says: "John de Launoy all abashed and discomfited entered into the minster to save himself, and went into the steeple, and such of his company as could get in with him, and Rafe de Harselles abode behind him and recoiled his company, and did great feats of arms at the door, but finally he was stricken with a long pike through the body and so slain. Thus ended Rafe of Harselles, who had been a great captain in Ghent against the Earl; and the Ghentois loved him greatly because of his wisdom and prowess, but for his valiantness this was his end and reward."

The Earl bade his men set fire to the church, and I give you the

<sup>1</sup> Peter Bush would be his due English name.

end of this tragedy in Froissart's own words as a dreadful little picture of mediæval war: "Fire, faggots, and straw were set together round about the church; the fire anon mounted up to the covering of the minster. There died the Ghentois in great pain, for they were burnt quick, and such as issued out were slain and cast again into the fire. John Launoy who was in the steeple, seeing himself at the point to be burnt, cried to them without 'Ransom! Ransom!' and offered his coat which was full of florins to save his life. But they without did but laugh and scorn at him, and said to him, 'John, come out at some window and speak with us, and we shall receive you; make a leap in like wise as ye have made some of us to leap within this year; it behoveth you to make this leap.' When John Launoy saw himself in that point, and that he was without remedy and that the fire took him so near, that he saw well he should be burnt, he thought it were better for him to be slain than to be burnt, and so he leapt out at a window among his enemies; and there he was received on spears and swords and cut all to pieces. Thus ended John Launoy."

Peter du Bois was posted so badly at this battle that he was kept by a marsh from helping. He once more drew off, and got into Ghent in good order, and it was a near thing that he did not share the fate of John Bull at the hands of the enraged people. But after all the Earl raised the siege and went back to Bruges. Skirmishing, however, still went on, and the Ghentois, after some successes, had another body of men cut up, 1,100 out of 1,200, says Froissart, and Arnold Clarke slain.

WILLIAM MORRIS.

(To be continued.)

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

### ITALY.

There is a slight stir in Italy just now over the scandalous lengths which various forms of usury have reached in that country. As *Il Democratico* of Cremona observes in an article on the question, of all the ingenious forms of usury, from the State establishments, Institutes of Credit, and the like, downward, the worst is that on a small scale which deals entirely with the working-folk and wrests from them in bad times one-fourth, one-third, and not seldom one-half of next season's earnings, crops and produce of their labour. "In certain parts of Italy, especially in the south where the money-circulation and commercial exchange are scanty on account of the poor means of distribution and communication, etc., usury sometimes reaches 50 per cent. No one protests against such an enormity, and the peasant of Calabria, who half through the winter borrows a half *tomolo* (56 lb.) of grain has to return for it a whole *tomolo* at the following harvest, thanks his usurer for the loan, and, without thinking, looks upon him as his benefactor." And yet the working-people prefer to pay such enormous prices to help them at a pinch, to going to the *Monte di Pietà* (government pawn shops), where the interest is of course lower, or apparently so. The reason is that at these establishments all sorts of difficulties are made, and, in short, Red Tape reigns supreme, to the humiliation and exceeding torment of the needy, who shrink from official badgering (of which in truth they already have more than enough in that happy land), and prefer to it the ready hand of the private usurer, putting behind them all thought of the future, too heavy in mind and heart with the cares of to-day to think of what may come upon next year or next month. Social reformers will talk of putting down usury by popular Institutes of Credit and the like philanthropic schemes, whereas growing Socialist ideas will soon show people that nothing less than national prosperity can do away with the foundation of what is courteously called the *commercial system*.

ANDARNO.—In consequence of the many and heavy fines on the weavers in a large cotton-factory here, they the employés turned "nasty" and proceeded to thrash an overseer, one Hoffmann. Several arrests were made, and a strike of the *apparecchiatori* (strippers), to the number of 800 have left the works. The strikers are quiet and make no demonstrations of anger at present.

MILAN.—The strike of basket-makers still continues, the strikers receiving some help from various other trade associations, their own Association being very poor.

### FRANCE.

Boulangier went last week to the Chamber, read a speech prepared for him, and behaved himself in as coarse and brutal a manner as if he were already Dictator. He was afterwards challenged to a duel by Prime Minister Floquet and seriously wounded next morning, his recovery being not at all certain. All this is a matter of great indifference to us. Scoundrels of this type are the product of the present rotten system. The exploiters of all countries have the presentiment of the coming proletarian revolution, and are ready to lick the boots of the first adventurer who seems to present them stronger guarantees of law, order, and sacred property than the Government under which they actually live. So the French bourgeois submitted to Napoleon I. and III.; the German bourgeois care now no more for the most elementary liberties if only Bismarck protects them, as they imagine, against the growing Socialist movement, etc. It may fairly be said that unscrupulous cynicism is about the only virtue required in a bourgeois hero of to-day, be his name Gambetta, Bismarck, or Boulangier. Of course, they must also devise certain means to deceive the less intelligent part of the people, and the question of patriotism, national defence, is one of their most-used tricks, another being promises in the line of some kind of State Socialism, like the magnificent so-called "social reform" of Germany, by which a disabled worker is now to get a yearly pension of £4 or £6, provided he pays for it most of his life. As to Boulangier personally, one of the wanton slaughterers of the Commune, he seems not even to have got much brains in his head, or he would not act in the way he lately did. May be the bourgeois see that, and let him drop, and he will disappear; or he may still go on in his old way. At any rate, another person of the same kidney is sure to take his place sooner or later. By the way, some supposed Socialists are sure to go over on all such occasions to the gang of the new Dictator, thus clearing the party of their presence.

A new Socialist daily paper will shortly appear at Marseilles, edited by Félix Pyat, with Eng. Chatelain, T. B. Clement, Alphonse Gormain, Emile Courret, etc., as contributors.

Eugène Chatelain's *Coup de Feu* will be issued weekly from September 1 next. It was hitherto fortnightly.

At St. Etienne a new paper, *La Loire Socialiste*, with the rather vague and impractical programme of uniting the Socialist parties, has made its first appearance, another paper of the same kind having failed not long ago.

The management of the Fourierist Familistère of Guise has passed from the widow of the founder, Godin, into the hands of M. Dequenue, Madame Godin being about to use her time in publishing her husband's works. This establishment, like other similar experiments, is rather based on partnership or profit-sharing than on any socialistic system, and revelations were made shortly before M. Godin died showing how little the personal liberty of the workers employed therein is cared for.

### GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

To replace some recently-suppressed papers, two new organs have been started, viz., the *Bremer Tageblatt* (since July 1, at Bremen) and the *Grundstein*, an organ of the building trade (at Hamburg). It would be too monotonous to chronicle all arrests that took place recently at Hamburg, etc.

The present London match-girl strike will give some interest to the following details on the earnings of Silesian match-box makers, recently published in the *Schlesische Volkszeitung*. The price of 1,000 is 7½d.; if they are labelled, 8½d. The barley-flour for paste (one pound for 2,000 boxes, 2½d., must be paid for by the worker himself. A woman with three children, who, up from their fifth year, work from four in the morning until eight or nine at night all the time they are out of school, may make 3,000 to 4,000 boxes in a week, and thus earn from 1s. 10d. to 2s. 10d. per week, from which 7d. to 9d., the cost of the paste, must be deducted. So, when Bryant and May say they would transfer their factory to Norway or somewhere else, they are sure to find still cheaper labour than in the East-end of London. Present society offers no remedy against this to the workers, except that a few tricks of the employers may sometimes be repelled by international solidarity of the working classes, as was the case recently at Hamburg, where, in the great strike of the cabinet-makers and joiners, the masters sent for some hundred men from Holland. They went there, learned that they were engaged under false pretences and that they were going to be used as scabs; and they refused to take up work under these circumstances.

### DENMARK AND SWEDEN.

The Danish Socialist Democratic party has just edited a translation of "Capital" (473 pp., price 2 kroner), at the same time Domela Nieuwenhuis's "Capital and Labour" is published in the *Social-Democraten*, of Copenhagen.

Axel Danielson, editor of the *Malmö Arbetet*, already under sentence of one year's imprisonment, has again been sentenced for blasphemy (!) to ten months. The loss of the editor will be hard to bear for the paper which had so soon developed from a weekly into a thrice-a-week organ.

### SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

On August 12th-14th a congress of the Spanish *Sociétés de Resistance* will be held at Barcelona, with the object of forming a new federation of the said societies.

A *Revolution Social* has been published at Oporto.

### OTHER COUNTRIES.

Looking over the countries in which no regular Socialist movement exists, we find discontent and revolt taking this or the other form spread everywhere. Besides new small peasant riots in Roumania, Russia, Galicia, we hear, for instance, of a large meeting being held at Sant Iago, Chili, to protest against capitalism, and in particular some tramcar company. Twenty-five cars were afterwards heaped together, ignited by petroleum, and burned. This would show a struggle against monopolism even there, whilst we were only aware of a Socialist agitation at Buenos Ayres, Montevideo, and Rio de Janeiro. On the other side of the Pacific strikes of Chinese workmen are reported. The freight-carriers at Shanghai and the dock labourers at Hongkong struck work; the taxes at Shanghai having been augmented, and a vexatious demand—each worker to deliver his photograph to the employer—at Hongkong, were the immediate reasons. The Chinese coolies are not at all without feelings of solidarity, as is generally believed. We do not know what became of the Knights of Labour assembly formed last year at New York by Chinese workers, but we know that in China itself they often organise themselves similar to the Russian *artels*. The articles of E. Reclus, "The Internationale and the Chinese," (*Le Travailleur*, March, 1878), L. Méchnikoff who has just died at Clarendon, on "The Chinese Associations" (*ib.*, May, 1878), and some notes reprinted in *Le Devoir* of February 27, 1887, contain useful information on this subject. In consequence of the inundations, general revolts, in which the military partly sided with the people, occurred in large districts of China, and took the right direction of a war against the rich, not those of any political movement. In the province Bantam of Java another rising of the people took place. In this part of that island 2 gulden (nearly 4s.), in Cheribon 1½, in Krawang 1½, in Tapara 2½, etc., are the yearly wages of a servant paid by the exploiting Netherlanders. In Algeria a famine ravages the country; whilst the French Government thinks of relieving the proprietors of land by compensating them for their loss by locusts, etc., they heap together troops in the southern parts to be ready to crush the starving natives. The Arabians of the south are said to be on the verge of a rebellion; they remember of the famine of 1867, when 100,000 of them died of typhus and starvation, and it is possible that they will go on in large tribes against the French, with the vigour and fanaticism their fellow tribes displayed in the Sudan. So we see everywhere struggle against exploitation, and we might learn from these uncivilised peoples, at any rate, to strike boldly at the exploiters who represent the system, instead of begging for political and even very small social reforms, as is generally done.

\* \*

An intelligent lad of 14 or 15 asked a friend of ours if he would be so good as to give him a little information on the subject of politics; because, said he, the only information I can get about them is from the newspapers. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou perfected praise!—W. M.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers relieved in the first week of the current month was 90,621, of whom 54,350 were indoor and 36,271 outdoor paupers. The total number relieved shows an increase of 2,884 over the corresponding week of last year, 4,333 over 1886, and 6,772 over 1885. The total number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 893, of whom 698 were men, 178 women, and 17 children under sixteen.



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.

As 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. Subscriptions.—For Europe and United States, including postage, per year, 6s. six months, 3s.; three months, 1s. 6d.

Business communications to be addressed to Manager of the COMMONWEAL, 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. Remittances in Postal Orders or halfpenny stamps.

F. O.—The first English revolutionary almanack of which we know was a 12mo published by Ridgway for 1794, at 2s. 6d., and contained the usual English almanack, the decree of the French National Convention altering the style, the report of D'Eglantine on the same subject, the French Calendar with translation, the Declaration of the Rights of Man, words and music of the *Marseillaise*, *Ca Ira*, *Chant Civique*, and *Carmagnole*, several poems, etc., on revolutionary subjects, and a chronological table of the principal events of the French Revolution. A copy is in the British Museum library.

D. B.—The Editor's red pencil is a very necessary instrument in the crowded state of our columns. Reports should be as brief as possible.

T. S., D. N., and others.—Unfortunately crowded out. SEVERAL reports came to hand too late.

Periodicals received during the week ending Wednesday July 18.

ENGLAND	Milwaukee—National Reformer	Marsala—La Nuova Eta
Justice	Coast Seamen's Journal	Cremona—Il Democratico
Labour Tribune		Menaggio-Lecco, Il Nuovo Lario
Labour News	FRANCE	SPAIN
London—Frisie Presse	Paris—Cri du Peuple (daily)	Madrid—El Socialista
Norwich—Daylight	Le Parti Ouvrier (daily)	Barcelona—Acracia
Railway Review	La Revolte	Barcelona—Tierra y Libertad
Telegraph Service Gazette	Lille—Le Cri du Travailleur	PORTUGAL
NEW SOUTH WALES	Nimes—L'Emancipation	Lisbon—O Protesto Operario
Hamilton—Radical	HOLLAND	GERMANY
INDIA	Hague—Recht voor Allen	Berlin—Volks Tribune
Bankipore—Behar Herald	BRUXELLES	AUSTRIA
Madras—People's Friend	Sarsing (Ougree)—Le Reveil	Arbeiterstimme
UNITED STATES	Ghent—Vooruit	Wien—Gleichheit
New York—Der Sozialist	Liege—L'Avenir	Brunn—Volksfreund
Truthseeker	SWITZERLAND	DENMARK
Workmen's Advocate	Zurich—Sozial Demokrat	Social-Demokraten
Boston—Woman's Journal	Arbeiterstimme	SWEDEN
Libertas	Geneva—Friedewit	Stockholm, Social-Demokraten
Buffalo—Arbeiter-Zeitung	ITALY	NORWAY
Chicago—Labor Enquirer	Milan—Il Fascio Operario	Kristiania—Social-Democraten
Fort Worth (Tex.)—South West	Rome—L'Emancipazione	

NOTES ON NEWS.

THE Government has offered Mr. Parnell a Commission of judges and others to go into the accusations made against him by the *Times*, and under the circumstances such a Commission would be as likely to be impartial as any Parliamentary Court of Inquiry would be. Of course if it were a case of trying a mere revolutionist the judges would almost to a man decide against him, whatever the evidence might be; but the chances are that since Mr. Parnell now belongs to a respectable Parliamentary party they will not look upon him as seriously as that, and that consequently their professional pride will act as a set-off to their political bias, unless, of course, the worst members of the bench are chosen. Mr. Parnell may be pretty well satisfied.

Meantime, the appointment of such a Commission, emphasises the fact alluded to in our last week's issue, that the *Times* as a great Corporation is practically above the law, as indeed all very rich people are. We are at the mercy of these money-bags, by whatever name they may be called. In the case of the *Times* the Government has now admitted this, as the whole country really does. Everybody knows that it would be sheer madness of an ordinary private person to attempt to bring such a huge power within reach of law. Rich people make the laws, but not for themselves—that's a very old story.

W. M.

A *Star* man the other day interviewed Mr. Chan Toon, a Burmese law student who has taken many prizes in our centres of legal education lately. Here is a gem: "Now, what do you particularly admire in England?" "Your institutions and government. Any one can get on here who works. Then you are so free, religion, occupation—nothing is interfered with." This interesting Burmese has evidently not missed his proper vocation.

Every column in the paper recording the interview contains some item which calls Chan Toon either liar or fool. On one side is a column of reports from the Labour World, and on the other reports of Law'n'-Order under Calph Balfour.

On second thoughts, however, perhaps Chan Toon was only practising a bit. He is "the son of the largest paddy (rice) merchant in his native district, and is preparing to practise law in the native courts." What a lovely mix-up presently when this son of a food monopolist gets on to his hind legs to hold forth on the duty the Burmese slaves owe to their English owners, when this winner of all the English law prizes chops logic and quibbles on the English system in his native tongue for the further bedevilment of his fellow natives, robbed for generations by force of English-built arms, and now to be robbed by English-built fraud under guise of strict legality. T. S.

The *Times*, in the serene consciousness of its enormous power and quite unmoved by the full exposure of its dishonesty and meanness, goes on its vituperative and slanderous road without a pause. The *Star*, however, has attacked it face to face, and defied it to come out into the open; most probably with all the more valour that one may be quite sure the *Times* will not come forward. It has never done anything of the kind in its long career, but has crawled and crept and stabbed in the back.

In 1831, defending himself before Lord Tenterden, against a charge of seditious libel, William Cobbett said: "In the year 1810 a noble lord, now sitting on the bench, showed me a letter, by authority of the writer, which he received from the elder Walter of the *Times*, who was then alive, in which Walter complained bitterly of the injustice of Pitt and his Government who employed him to publish libels against the King's sons, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, and for which he said so help him God, he never got but £700 as a compensation! He wrote to the Attorney-General of the day, and said that the niggardly rascals had given him only £700 for what he had done. The tax-gatherer took only £700 out of your pockets to pay for libels on the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York! This fact I could prove if allowed to do so."

What the *Times* was then it is to-day, and that others from the one end to the other are not so bad is only that they lack the ability to be so; the *Times* has exceptional opportunities. Anyone who takes the trouble to follow closely the course of events, and at the same time compare them with the version of them given, say in—any you please, will come out at the end of the trial with his estimate of man considerably lowered. From the simple suppression of truth, right up to the more artistic methods of dexterously distorting it or replacing it by elaborate lying, skilfully and clumsily done, the whole art of misrepresentation is constantly practised.

So obvious does it all become, now and then, that the *Pall Mall*, apparently startled by the shameless forswearing that has been going on over the late German Emperor, explains it in despair as the outcome of a "Reptile Fund" expended on a "Reptile Press," mentioning a rumour that *John Bull* for instance has been bought by creatures of Bismark. "Reptile Press" is a good and descriptive term, but its application should be farther extended than it is by the *Pall Mall*. Our American comrades are nearer the truth when they make it co-extensive with the whole of the bourgeois press.

Of course the attempt to place the police of London under popular control has been easily defeated. It would be dangerous, said Mr. Matthews, for the London Council to have the command of 14,000 men. This, in sound, carries one back to the period when London was by no means chary of rising against the King and Parliament if they did anything to displease it, but what it means is that the Government recognises the value of the military police of London as a repressive engine too fully to care about losing control of it.

During the past week we have seen the "exemplary way" in which Warren deals with the least breach of what he is pleased to consider discipline, and many policemen have suffered for a friendly raffle among a few comrades of a watch belonging to one of their number. Nothing short of dog-like submission and the surrender of all individuality will content him; how else is he to maintain the "efficiency" his moral miracles have shown in Trafalgar Square, or the beautiful sense of responsibility and fitness shown by Endacott, Bloy, and their like?

Meanwhile, the Nottingham police feel deeply hurt that they are not deemed fit to look after their own town, and that 40 of the Warren's Lambs have been drafted into it to look after the Royal Agricultural Society's Annual Show. It is to be hoped their feeling will not result in an imitation of the London model; to be a policeman at all is bad enough—but to be one of Warren's! S.

ANTI-SWEATING DEMONSTRATION.—The following societies have signified their willingness to take part in the Anti-Sweating Demonstration convened by the S. D. F., which is to be held in Hyde Park on Sunday July 22:—The Socialist League, the L. E. L., London Patriotic, East London Tailors and Machinists' Society, Metropolitan Branch National Union Boot and Shoe Riveters and Finishers, and West-end Branch Alliance Cabinetmakers. The Eleusis Club, the Bow Liberal Club, and the St. Pancras Reform Club have recommended their members to support the demonstration. Other replies in the same sense are expected.

## LETTER FROM AMERICA.

The principal event of this week—of course the absurd nonsense of commemorating the Fourth of July excepted—is a gigantic strike or rather lock-out.

The question of wages comes up in the iron mills west of the Alleghany Mountains every year. In previous years there has always been a meeting between the manufacturers and men, at which the prices to be paid during the year beginning July 1 have been determined, and the scale decided upon has prevailed until the new one was put in force.

When the meeting of the committee from the manufacturers and men was held this year, the former presented a scale which called for a reduction of 10 per cent. on all wages, together with some changes in factory rules. The men—that is, the wages committee from the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, to which association most of the men belong—presented a scale which was practically the same as that already in use, and no agreement was reached.

The manufacturers wanted to make out that the present state of the trade demanded the reduction, but of course the men did not believe this wishy-washy tale. After much discussion and many meetings no settlement could be effected up till Saturday the 30th June, and the mills closed down, as no scale was in operation. The men left their work quietly and did not return on Monday the 2nd July. In Pittsburgh alone about 28,500 men are affected. Since then the lie about the wretched state of the trade which did not permit the continuation of the present scale has been given direct to the capitalists, and what's more through their own action. About twenty mills, employing about 15,000 men, have signed the scale of the workers. Even Carnegie, Phipps, and Co., of which firm the hypocrite Andrew Carnegie is a member, have seen fit to bend their proud knees and cave in. The men are confident of winning their strike.

The force of events is stronger than all arguments. This is again shown by the action of members of that aristocratic organisation, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Since the strike of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy road was ended, the bad blood caused by the conflict has been manifested in various ways. Burlington scab employes, particularly engineers, have been attacked and in some instances badly beaten. One of them, Thomas Gregory, was shot at late last night at the Sixteenth street bridge, in Chicago, by an unknown man, the wounded man receiving the bullet in the face. He will live, but his sight is gone. His assailant is said to have been one of the former employes of the road and a striker. Two engineers, formerly in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, named Thomas Broderick and J. A. Bowles, were arrested on a Chicago, Burlington and Quincy train yesterday afternoon at Aurora, Ills., charged with being implicated in a conspiracy to destroy property belonging to the railroad company. They had just come from Chicago, and it is said procured dynamite there, a large quantity of which was found in their possession. Both are members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. In company with them was a man named Wilson, who was also arrested. They were placed under bonds of 5,000 dollars, and being unable to furnish the amount were sent to the Aurora Jail. A valise which one of the prisoners carried was found to contain four dynamite cartridges, each about ten inches long and an inch and a quarter square. These were fitted with a small fuse to each, and it was estimated that each contained about a pound of dynamite. The examination will be on the 13th inst.

There is more trouble brewing for Chief Arthur and the Brotherhood. A strike is threatened on the East Tennessee system. Engineer Monahan, as chairman of the Brotherhood Grievance Committee on the East Tennessee road, called upon superintendent Garrett to make a statement regarding some trivial matter. A dispute arose, and Garrett alleges Monahan struck him. The latter in consequence was promptly discharged. The officials of the road sustained the superintendent in his action, and the local Brotherhood demand the reinstatement of engineer Monahan. Chief Arthur is investigating the matter. A strike will probably be the result. The strike would affect the principal Southern lines.

## LABOUR NOTES.

It is said that Henry George is slated for a Congressional nomination in New York city.

The average yearly pay of women school-teachers in Iowa is but 212 dollars 45 cents.

There are 124 labour organisations in Brooklyn. A large proportion of them are connected with the Knights of Labour.

The Biglow Carpet Company's mills, at Clinton, Mass., employing 1,300 hands, shut down on the 3rd July on account of the scarcity of work.

At the last meeting of the Hat Finisher's International Association in New York, it was decided to recognise all men coming from Denton, England, as union men.

From Philadelphia comes the report that there is a downward tendency in wages in nearly all branches excepting building trades. The reduction will be about 10 per cent.

The Chicago Trade and Labour Assembly resolved not to drink beer for 30 days, because the brewers did not re-engage their previous employes after the strike was declared off.

The New York wholesale grocers have formed an association. The first regular meeting was held on Monday last, and the first matter to be discussed was a scheme to form a sugar trust to raise and keep raised the price of sugar, which it was contended is now sold by the retailers without profit.

For years efforts have been made to consolidate the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners in America and the United Order of American Carpenters and Joiners. A Conference was recently held and a plan of consolidation drawn up. The plan was then submitted to the various lodges of the United Order, and nearly all have voted in favour of it. The Brotherhood meets in National Convention on the 6th of August in Detroit, Michigan. Seven delegates have been chosen by the United Order to attend this Conference and to arrange matters. The United Order has thirty lodges with a membership of 5,000. Its headquarters are in New York City. The Brotherhood has a membership of 51,000, and extends all over the United States and Canada. The headquarters are in Philadelphia.

In this week's issue of the *Standard*, Henry George publishes the following comment on McGlynn's fair rent campaign: "Dr. McGlynn seems to have utterly lost his grasp upon principle, and is proposing a crazy demagogic scheme for getting city tenants to band together, refuse to pay for their houses and rooms any more than a fair building rent, and by their numbers make evictions difficult if not impossible. To say nothing of objections which would make the scheme dangerous if it were not ridiculous, what

right have tenants more than landlords to the free use of land made valuable by the whole community? It is a pity to see Dr. McGlynn thus wreck what is left of his influence for good." If a man once gets into the mud, he never will be able to stop sinking, and George used to be the little god of New York!

The test case in Pittsfield, Mass., under the Employers' Liability Act of 1877—that of four labourers against the Hudson Iron Company for injuries received in the Company's mine in October last—resulted in a mis-trial, the jury failing to agree. The trial had been in progress a week, and has been watched with much interest both by labourers and employers.

Three of the best telegraph operators on the Bristol division of the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia Railroad, resigned on the 4th of July from the service of the road. Ten days ago Major Huger, superintendent of the road, sent out a circular to all the operators asking them if they belonged to the Order of Railroad Telegraphers. John Bruce, of Chattanooga; Mr. Billingsly, of Ooltewah, and Miss Clemmie Roberts, of Appison, replied that they were members. They were ordered to either leave the order or resign, and to-day they all tendered their resignations, which were accepted. The matter has caused a sensation in railroad circles.

Newark, N.J., July 6, 1888.

HENRY F. CHARLES.

## COME, BROTHERS, COME.

Air: "Glorious Apollo."

I.

COME, brothers, come; the host of the forsaken  
Wait for your aid as darkness for the sun;  
Not till the forts of privilege be taken  
Will all your work be sped, your warfare done;  
Win far and wide, the slumbering souls awaken,  
Singing *Fraternity, the world made one.*

II.

Long was the night, but lo, the verge is clearing,  
Bright grows the East, the bird of morning sings:  
See, 'tis the Sun of Righteousness appearing,  
Freedom and Joy and Brotherhood he brings.  
Hail, happy morn, that endeth hate and fearing!  
Sing we *Fraternity, the world made one.*

C. W. BECKETT.

## LONDON.

I WANDER through each chartered street  
Near where the chartered Thames does flow,  
And mark in every face I meet,  
Marks of weakness, marks of woe.

In every cry of every man,  
In every infan't's cry of fear,  
In every voice, in every ban,  
The mind-forged manacles I hear.

How the chimney-sweeper's cry  
Every blackening church appals:  
And the hapless soldier's sigh  
Runs in blood down palace walls.

But most through midnight streets I hear  
How the youthful harlot's curse  
Blasts the new-born infant's tear,  
And blights with plague the marriage hearse.

WM. BLAKE.

One of the firm of Bryant and May asked the *Star* interviewer whether Mrs. Besant would not be claiming presently a champagne supper for his match-making girls. A person who has not read 'Hard Times' would be apt to say, Why did not the interviewer retort, "Do you drink champagne?" But one who has read that work and enjoyed the never-to-be-forgotten Bounderby cannot keep that worthy's gold spoon and turtle soup phrase out of his head. Really it was a fatal taunt for the match-making exploiter to cast at Mrs. Besant's head. What can one say, except that he has ticketed himself a Bounderby?—W. M.

OVER-PRODUCTION.—In the year 1850, Horace Greely made an address to the New York Typographical Society at a celebration of Franklin's birthday, in which the great editor said: "I trust no one here gives heed to the mumbering of self-styled political economists about over-production and the kindred phrases with which counsel is darkened. Over-production—of what? Where? Can there be over-production of food, where so many, even in our midst, are suffering the pangs of famine? Over-production of clothing and fabrics, while our streets swarm with men, women, and children who are not half clad, and who shiver through the night beneath the clothing they have worn by day? Over-production of dwellings, when not half the families of our city have adequate and comfortable habitations, not to speak of that large class whose lodgings are utterly incompatible with decency and morality? No, friends! there is no over-production save of articles pernicious and poisonous, etc. Of whatever conduces to human sustenance, comfort, or true education, there is not and never has been too much produced, although, owing to imperfect and vicious arrangements for distribution, there may often be a glut in the warehouses of trade, while thousands greatly need and would gladly purchase if they could. What the world eminently requires is some wise adjustment, some remodeling of the social machinery, diminishing its friction, whereby every person willing to work shall assuredly have work to do, and the just reward of that work in the articles most essential to his sustenance and comfort."

## THE LABOUR STRUGGLE.

BRITAIN.

**COLLIERS' STRIKES.**—At Bolton 400 men, have come out on strike at the D'Arcy Lever Collieries to protest against deduction for dirt, a question which is creating considerable interest among colliers. The Union are supporting the men in their action.

The workmen employed at the House Coal Colliery, Ynyshir, in the Rhondda Valley, have given a month's notice in consequence of a dispute in reference to a strata of rubbish, commonly called "clod," which, it is stated, falls with the coal whilst the latter is being hewn, and causes a great deal of annoyance and extra labour to the men, who, therefore, demand extra pay.

There was great excitement at Ebbw Vale on account of the strike of 1,600 colliers. Three men were dismissed from the Waunlywydd pit because they refused to shift some rubbish. The matter was taken up by the rest of the colliers, who insisted on the reinstatement of the three men. In the absence of the manager the officials of the colliery refused to interfere, and 1,600 men then struck. After a few days the officials gave in and the men resumed work on Saturday. The three men were reinstated and wages are to be reconsidered.

On Wednesday a meeting of miners was held at Princes End to consider the question of allowance coal. A proposal was made by certain employers to discontinue the allowance coal, which had taken the men by surprise. It was said that in 1887 they raised in the whole of the United Kingdom about 32,000,000 tons more than in 1874, at 40 per cent. less wages, and with fewer hands.

**MASON'S STRIKE.**—The masons and labourers employed on buildings in the Heckmondwike district, struck work on the 25th ult. for an advance of wages—the former from 31s. to 33s. per week, and the latter from 21s. to 23s. A similar advance has already been obtained by the bulk of the masons working in Dewsbury.

**STEELWORKERS' STRIKE AT WORKINGTON.**—About 500 men are reported to be out of employment owing to the strike of rail-mill and steel furnacemen at West Cumberland Iron and Steel Works against the proposed reduction of 25 per cent. in wages. The Bessemer department rail-mill finishing works are stopped in consequence.

**IRONWORKERS' DISPUTE AT GREAT BRIDGE.**—Week before last we reported a meeting of iron-workers on July 2 at Great Bridge, to consider a dispute about "fours." The deputation then appointed subsequently waited upon the employers with respect to the proposal of a reduction of 6d. per ton. After a protracted discussion, in which both sides adduced arguments in favour of their claims, the masters withdrew their proposal. Consequently the men who were on notice will still continue to work and receive the 6d. per ton for making "fours."

**DOCK LABOURERS' STRIKE.**—A number of East India Dock labourers have struck for an increase of wages. These men are paid 5d. per hour, and receive in addition, in accordance with their stations, a share of the surplus over in each contract for unloading a ship. In the lower grade one share only is received, and this means one penny per hour. Latterly shares have not been so plentiful, owing to dullness of trade, and the men on strike have asked to be paid 6d. per hour, agreeing to forego all claim to shares, and this not being granted they turned out.

**ANOTHER STRIKE OF GIRLS.**—The employees of George Griffin and Co's tin box manufactory struck on the 13th on account of fines. There are fifty or sixty girls engaged at the above firm, and they have all gone out. On seeing a bill posted in the window—"Press Hands wanted"—they covered the bill with mud, and as fresh hands applied they were also pelted and hustled about. The manager sent for the police, who were hooted a good deal. They soon "dispersed the mob." The girls, however, soon returned and pelted the male employees with red ochre and flour. They need looking up and being helped to organise.

**STRIKE OF PIT LADS AT NORMANTON.**—The Don Pedro pit, Loscoe, near Normanton, had to stop work in consequence of a strike amongst the pony drivers, who demanded an advance. About 400 men were thrown out of work. Several miners compelled their lads to go to work, but two who had done this were waylaid and well kicked by the lads out on strike. On Tuesday (10th) the lads returned to work after being on strike for a week. They have not succeeded in obtaining an advance, but it is stated that shortly they are to be paid by contract, and this is regarded satisfactorily both by the lads and the miners. The 400 miners who were thrown out of employment in consequence of the strike have also resumed work.

**CABLE-CHAIN MAKERS' STRIKE.**—At a meeting of the cable-chain makers who are on strike in the Cradley Heath and surrounding districts, it was stated that some employers had offered an increase of 3d. It was, however, resolved to continue the strike until the list-price demanded was conceded. The men claim an advance of 4d. per cwt., and it is thought probable that the concession upon the part of the employers will lead to a compromise. At a large meeting of cable-chain makers belonging to the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire district at Cradley Heath on the 9th, it was stated that Hingley and Sons, and Wood, Aston, and Co., had conceded the required advance, viz., 4d. per cwt., and it was resolved that the men should resume work. It was decided to continue the strike at the factories where the employers refuse to concede the advance.

**COLLIERS' WAGES.**—A correspondent of the *Labour Tribune* puts an important point well before his comrades. He says: "At one colliery where the field price per ton has ranged from 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d., the men have been told that 2s. per ton will be the highest price paid, and that they can either work at it or leave it; while the owner of the said colliery can support a racing stud, a mansion, and other luxurious surroundings. I met a man on Saturday evening last who told me he had worked six days at another colliery, and all the money he had received from the office was £1, 12s. 6d. Out of this sum he paid his drawer 14s., and expended in powder, fuse, and tools 2s. 1d., making a total of 17s. 1d., and leaving for six days' work—and hard work too—15s. 1d., or one penny over 2s. 6d. per day. Promises had been made that a day's wage should be made up, but as these promises are apparently made only to be broken, they would be better not made at all. Fellow working-men, do not these facts show you that the masters anticipate an advance in wages and they want to pull off, bit by bit, more than a ten or fifteen per cent. would bring back? Let us try to be wise in time."

**COLLIERY STRIKE AT PONTYPRIDD.**—An adjourned delegate meeting of the Rhondda District Miners' Association was held on Saturday week, when the dispute, in consequence of which 600 men have been on strike for the last eight weeks, was again considered. At last meeting the question of

whether the Albion Company's offer of open arbitration be accepted was referred to the collieries for re-consideration. When the question was now put to the vote it was found that 4,900 men were in favour of arbitration, dissentients 4,000. The offer was therefore declared accepted, and arbitrator chosen. Six delegates voted against a motion that pending the arbitrator's award the Albion men should be allowed to resume work, while 14 voted in favour. It was therefore agreed that the men resume work soon as agreement is drawn up between W. Abraham, M.P. (Mabon), on behalf of the district, and the Company, under which the latter, if award be against them, refund the difference in price for working the two seams from date of resumption of work. A resolution was passed that the arbitrators should not delay their award longer than two months. W. Abraham, M.P., the district agent, was authorised to proceed against certain colliery officials who are alleged to have dismissed without legal notice some of the Albion men who had been employed by them.

**MAIL CART DRIVERS' WAGES.**—Replying to a letter in the *Postal Service Gazette* (quoted in this column of No. 130), "A Poor Driver" says:—"As regards the wages of the men employed as mail cart drivers, I beg to state that the wages never were £1 to £1 15s. per week, for the highest of all was £1 7s. per week, and now there is only one driver receiving that amount, and the others receive £1 to £1 5s. per week. That is the nominal sum for working 15 to 16 hours per day, and out in all weathers; and if a poor driver feels inclined to do any extra duty, such as Sunday work, he would receive the great sum of 3d. per hour, besides putting up with all kinds of insults from his superiors, as they are connected with the Post Office. Now, as regards the clothing, we receive one suit per year, and they are a disgrace to the Department before half that time is expired. We have to give our old ones up on receiving the new ones, instead of being allowed to retain them for repairing purposes, so that is one privilege we are deprived of. The public look on these situations as being first-class, but they never have seen anything in black and white to tell them different, therefore they have been shut out of it all. Fancy a man with a wife and two or three children, or perhaps more, only getting £1 per week, and having to pay 5s. 6d. per week rent out of it, how much is there left for him to support his family?"

**ANTI-SWEATING CIRCULAR.**—The London Tailors and Machinists Society are sending a circular on sweating to London and provincial master tailors. As the report of the Lords' Sweating Committee will not be published for some time, the society thinks that in the interval something might be done to better the condition of the workmen. Masters are therefore asked—(1st) To open workshops to be under your direct control, and pay your workers by your own cashier. Hours of labour to be eight per day. (2nd) That each worker be allowed a space for work of no less than 250 cubic feet; that ventilating shafts be fixed to each workshop. (3rd) That the workers be allowed to make their own rules respecting fines, with your approval; such fines to be distributed as the workers direct. (4th) That every man and woman employed in your firm to be a member of a trade society. (5th) That any workman known to defraud the public by bad workmanship to be dealt with by a committee of workmen selected by the workers in your firm every six months. The Marylebone branch of the Amalgamated Society resolved on the 11th that the enquiry into sweating ought to be "extended to the West-end, as there is ample justification for such extension." The Chester tailors having held a meeting about sweating, waited on a representative employer, and the reply being unsatisfactory are meditating a strike.

**DARLSTON NUT AND BOLT STRIKE.**—The notice given for restoration of 1881 list, less 5 per cent., expired on Saturday, and 200 operatives turned out on strike. The action of these men has had a good effect on those in receipt of full price, and to-day all the principal works are standing, only those being in full swing where the list is given in its fullness. The feeling amongst the men is one of remarkable unanimity in favour of the assertion of their rights, and not a few have made considerable sacrifices in order to support those upon whom the success of the agitation depends. There are now only four factories working at the full price. As early as half-past five on Monday morning about 100 men assembled near the London Oak and Phoenix Works to ascertain if the workmen would return to their labours at less than the list price. A couple of police officers were present, but the men behaved themselves right nobly, and these functionaries were of no avail. The employees who turned up at six o'clock threw in their lot with those on strike, and their numbers were augmented by those who came after breakfast. Meanwhile other contingents had been stationed at other works, and their efforts were also successful. The result was that a procession was formed to the Cross Guns, New Street, where a mass meeting was held. The large room was crowded, many of the operatives being unable to gain admission.

### SETTLEMENT OF THE MATCHMAKERS' STRIKE.

On Tuesday 17th a deputation from the London Trades' Council, accompanied by the girls' Strike Committee, had an interview with the directors of Bryant and May. After a long discussion, the following terms were agreed upon for submission to a meeting of the strikers, who were awaiting the result in Charrington's Hall:—(1) Abolition of all fines; (2) abolition of all deductions for paint, brushes, stamps, etc.; (3) restitution of "pennies" if the girls do their own racking, or payment by piecework of boys employed to do it—(the result of this latter will be more than equal to the penny); (4) the packers to have their threepence; (5) all grievances to be taken straight to the managing directors without the intervention of the foremen. The firm further said that they would as soon as possible provide a break-fast-room, so that the girls will not be obliged to eat in the room where they work, and also expressed a strong wish that the girls would organise themselves into a union, so that further disputes may be officially laid before the firm. These conditions were submitted to the meeting at Charrington's Hall by the Strike Committee, and the girls unanimously decided to agree to them, the payment of boy helpers by piecework being accepted as a full equivalent for their pennies. The wax-workers returned to their work on Wednesday and the wooden match-workers on Thursday. All the girls and boys to be taken back, no distinction being made as to ringleaders.

The following letter was sent to the newspapers of Wednesday: "The satisfactory settlement of the matchmakers' strike does not relieve us from the necessity of providing support for the girls on Saturday next. They can only receive one day's wages this week, and we desire to make up what will be lacking. The girls have behaved admirably, and deserve public support. They turned out against intolerable grievances, they have not created any disturbances, they are returning to work the moment their grievances are redressed. Any money left over after paying them on Saturday will form the nucleus of their union fund. . . . Subscriptions can be sent to us at the subjoined address.—ANNIE BESANT; HERBERT BURROWS. Office of the *Link*, 34 Bouverie Street, E.C."

**COTTON TRADE.**—Last week end the operative spinners in Bolton received the 5 per cent. advance agreed to by the employers at their Manchester meeting, but one firm at Tyldesley has refused the advance and the men are on strike. The card and blowing room hands have not been as fortunate as the spinners, more than one firm having declined to give the advance to the whole of their hands. At Shipton Mill none of the cardroom hands got the advance agreed upon, and at several other mills only a portion of the workpeople got it. A special general meeting of the Card and Blowing-room Operatives' Association was held at the Spinners' Institute on the 11th, to consider the matter. It was reported that the matter was likely to be amicably settled. At Blackburn on the 9th the weavers of Moss Street Mill struck in consequence of excessive infusion of steam in weaving shed. Over 700 looms are stopped through the strike. At Huddersfield on the 5th about eleven o'clock, the cardroom hands of Waterside and Bridge Mills ceased work on account of the firm not granting the 10 per cent. to the strippers, grinders, and blowing-room, as paid at Oldham, Hyde, and other places. After they had stopped their machinery, a telegram was sent to London to the boss, and a reply came to close the firm until further notice. Work was resumed on the 11th, amicable terms having been made and the advance conceded. At Barrowfield the strike of spinners which took place on the 3rd still continues. It is stated that men have seen the employer, who promised to investigate the matter, but up to the time of writing nothing has been arranged. At Macclesfield the weavers at the Lower Heyes Mill, to the number of 540, tendered their notice on the 11th, to leave work in a fortnight if the advance of 5 per cent. was not given. The directors afterwards affixed a notice that those who wanted to work could do so, and that those who wish to leave their employ may carry out their wish, all contracts being broken.

**Window-Tax repealed.**—In 1688 was repealed the Hearth Tax. Some seven or eight years later a rather large sum had to be made up to make good the miserable state to which the coin of the kingdom had come by clipping and sweating. To defray this re-coinage charge, in 1696 was imposed the Window Tax, certainly one of the meanest and wickedest taxes ever conceived. Every inhabited house except cottages—i.e., houses not paying to church and poor rates, a very small exemption—was charged: Less than 10 windows, 2s.; from 10 to 20, 2s. and 4s. additional—i.e., 6s.; 20 or more, 2s. and 8s. additional—i.e., 10s. After the union of England and Scotland these sums were increased. In 1803 great increase was made. In 1815 about £2,000,000 was raised by this tax on air and light. Well might Shelley write in scorn of the commercialism under which "all things are sold: the very light of heaven is venal." In 1829 the yield was £1,163,760. In 1840 the duty was raised 10 per cent. In 1845, 1848 a strong agitation was raised against the duty, but it was not until July 1851, under Sir Chas. Wood (afterwards Lord Halifax) that the final repeal was made—14 and 15 Vict. ch. 36, July 24, 1851, removing the Window Tax and granting the Inhabited House Duty in lieu thereof. This will be more fully dealt with shortly.—T. S.

**Murder of Jane M'Crea.**—No single event contributed so much to the unrelenting defiance of the American republicans to the power of the British crown as this atrocious tragedy. Every circumstance tended to heap ignominy upon Lord North and his bull-headed agents. Burke had thundered at Westminster with all his crushing eloquence against the employment of the barbarous red-skins in the odious coercion war. This employment had made the otherwise lukewarm farming colonists throw in their powerful support with the commercial rebels of the American ports. To heap ignominy upon the stupid ministry in London, it was a beautiful and offensive girl, sweetheart of one of their own friends, a young American Tory officer, who fell a victim to the indiscriminate bloodthirsty brutality of the Indian allies of royalty.—L. W.

REVOLUTIONARY CALENDAR.

WEEK ENDING JULY 28, 1888.

22	Sun.	1789. Foulon hanged, with grass in his mouth. 1848. Habeas Corpus Act suspended in Ireland. 1852. Battle of Six Mile Cross. 1877. Burning and sacking of Pennsylvania R. R. at Pittsburgh. 1885. Police attack on a Socialist funeral at Frankfurt.
23	Mon.	1795. Trial of Henry Yorke (or Redhead) for conspiracy. 1803. Rising in Dublin. 1866. Hyde Park railings pulled down. 1870. General Council of International Working Men's Association issue manifesto on the war.
24	Tues.	1821. Trial of Carline's sister for publishing Paine. 1836. Armand Carrel died. 1851. Window-tax repealed.
25	Wed.	1792. Coblenz manifesto of the Allies against French Revolution. 1793. Wm. Winterbotham tried for seditious words. 1794. André Chenier guillotined. 1826. The Decembrists, K. F. Rileeff, S. T. Mouravieff-Apostol, M. P. Bestuyeff-Rubin, and P. A. Kakhovski, hanged. 1844. Brothers Bandiera shot. 1877. General Treppoff flogs a political prisoner, for which he is afterwards shot by Vera Zassulich.
26	Thur.	1792. Quarrel between Jacobins and Girondins. 1794. Robespierre's last oration to the Convention, denouncing the stockjobbers. 1869. Irish Church Disestablishment Bill passed.
27	Fri.	1777. Murder of Jane M'Crea. 1794. Fall of Robespierre (9th Thermidor). 1830. Second Revolution in France begins.
28	Sat.	1794. W. M. Byrne hung. 1835. Fieschi's attempt on Louis Philippe. 1884. 250 arrests at Warsaw.

**Hyde Park Railings.**—Monday July 23, 1866, is one of the most peculiar days in the whole of our Calendar. It can claim to be a day to be kindly remembered by both democrat and aristocrat. As stated a few weeks back, at the period in question there were in the ranks of the active agitators a few with some grit; the grit has all been washed out since, and very little else but mud remains with such as are alive to-day. Having called a meeting, the conveners were not to be bluffed off by Dicky Mayne. About four o'clock the clans began to gather at the usual centres. At five o'clock the park gates were closed and locked, the authorities having first allowed—with fine display of tactics—a large number of people to gather inside. About seven o'clock Beales and others of the committee arrived at the Marble Arch entrance and made formal demand for admission, which was refused; whereupon they returned to their cabs and proceeded to Trafalgar Square, which had been advertised as the alternative meeting place. Having, however, arrived in force outside the park, and many not caring to emulate the brave old Duke of York, who led his men up the hill and then down again, the processionists tried a rush or two, which were beaten back by police staves or by the horses of the mounted men. 1,600 police were of little avail for keeping from the railing people along two sides of the park, and very soon was seen the effect of having allowed a lot of people to assemble inside, for the word went along outside that a meeting was being held; the outsiders of course wanted to see if this were true, crowded up to the railings, climbed on the coping, hanging on man behind man, and naturally these iron railings, like all English iron railings, only a fraud of protection and a sham of strength, first quivered and then fell. In Bayswater Road was the first breach; but having made one, others soon followed, and soon about a mile of railing was prone on the ground, and Ruskin's ideas of iron railing was justified, for in throwing this stuff over revolutionists have the advantage of removing a barrier and providing themselves with weapons—if of fair quality, such as, say, round Kennington Park, long and wrought to good point, not to be despised. The commotion spread from the Park to the Square, and down Parliament Street to the House; and Walpole wept and Downing Street fumed, but English native good sense—or slavish respect for Law'n'Order—soon asserted its power and the storm passed. Next night there was a somewhat warm debate in Parliament, when John Stuart Mill, Ayrton, and one or two others spoke out for the right of public meeting, which—Toryism being somewhat scared by the shadow of Revolution—has been fairly well respected for twenty years. J. S. Mill in the debate dared the Government to act on the advice of the Tory scribes and prohibit all open-air speaking: "I promise them that they will have to encounter an opposition of a very different kind, and from different persons, to any they have yet encountered"; and one wonders if he would back up Cunningham Graham or Conybeare in Trafalgar Square to-day, which in that day was the very place suggested as more suitable than the Park. As quite in the natural order of things, the broken heads and arms of the masses were ultimately exploited for the benefit of the classes; for the falling down of the railings along Park Lane was taken advantage of to very considerably widen that thoroughfare, and what had been a lane became a wide handsome road, to my lords' great gain.—T. S.

SOCIALISM IN THE MIDLANDS.

On Sunday last, July 15th, the Socialists of Nottingham, Sheffield, and Chesterfield met for a picnic at Ambergate, where the little Amber runs into the lovely Derwent, a place beautiful in spite of its railway junction, and surrounded by hills and woods which made one long to wander in them. But on Sunday only the more hardy comrades ventured to explore a little of the district, for St. Swithin sent us his very worst weather—evidently sharing the common objection to Socialists—and we were forced to take our chief pleasure indoors, in the meeting of so many comrades from the three centres. All our parties were smaller than they would have been had the morning been fine, but we mustered about fifty in spite of it, and spent a very enjoyable time together at a country inn. We joined in singing many of the 'Chants of Labour,' which went very well, the tunes being taken up capitably considering so few of the comrades had heard them before. I think it will be found when the songs get sung more at our meetings that the tunes have on the whole been very happily chosen, and the singing of them will, I feel sure, greatly help to create that unity of feeling which is so much wanted among us.

In our pleasure we did not forget the more serious struggle going on in London. Some account was given of the match-girls' strike, and the following resolution was passed and forwarded to Annie Besant, together with £2 1s. 6d. collected amongst the comrades: "That the Socialists of Nottingham, Sheffield, and Chesterfield gathered at Ambergate desire to express their profound sympathy with the match-girls now on strike in London, and will do all in their power to help them to compel the Bryant and May Company to accede to their moderate demands. They also protest against the sweating system generally as now existing, and ask the people to support the Socialist party in their endeavour to introduce a new social system, in which such abominations as are now being revealed shall be impossible."

After tea we all returned home cheered by the meeting of comrades, and hoping for better weather for our gathering next year—for we intend to make it an annual institution. R. U.

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.

**Socialist League Propaganda.**—H. Samuels, 1s. Help is earnestly asked from all friends and sympathisers to extend the educational work of the Socialist League. Printed forms for collections can be obtained from the Secretary on application.

**Strike Committee.**—Collected in Regent's Park, Sunday July 8th, 4s. 6d. J. LANE, Treasurer.

"COMMONWEAL" PRINTING FUND.

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

REPORTS.

**CLERKENWELL.**—On Sunday, July 15, the members of this branch and their friends met to open our new meeting-room. A substantial tea, speeches, songs, recitations, and then the Marseillaise, ended a very pleasant gathering.—B.

**HYDE PARK.**—In spite of the inclement weather, a meeting was held on Sunday afternoon in this park to protest against the imprisonment of Dillon and the murder of Mandeville. Some members of our League (with the large banner) joined the procession on Clerkenwell Green and marched to the Park, where, with our comrades of the S.D.F., speeches of protest were made by Culwick, Parker, and Henderson, the pouring rain breaking up the meeting prematurely.

**BRADFORD.**—Sunday 15th, Paylor (of Leeds) lectured at Laycock's Temperance Hotel. Considerable interest is evinced in these lectures, which we intend to continue till the debating society commence its winter course and require the room.—P. B.

**NORWICH.**—Good meeting at Yarmouth by Poynts and Mowbray. On Sunday large meeting in Market Place by Mowbray. In evening another, when Mowbray gave an address on "The Old Nobility." After meeting members adjourned to hall and held a social meeting. Very good sale of *Commonweal* and good collections.

**WALSALL.**—At Bilston Liberal Club on Friday, Sanders delivered a second address, followed by open discussion, when our teetotal friends undertook to supply more than Socialism without even troubling to deal with economics at all. We shall have a branch here shortly, as several good men have already joined. Sanders received his expenses, and has handed same over towards a Socialist club in Walsall. On Saturday, usual outdoor meeting addressed by Sanders, Tarn, and Burns (of S.D.F., Birmingham). Literature sold well, and 7s. 3d. collected for the Bryant and May Strike Fund.—H. S.

LECTURE DIARY.

LONDON.

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

**Clerkenwell.**—Hall of the Socialist League, 13 Farringdon Rd., E.C.

**Fulham.**—8 Effie Road, Walham Green. Sunday at 8 p.m.

**Hackney.**—The next meeting of members will be held at 26 Cawley Road, Victoria Park, Sunday July 29, at 4 p.m. Enquiries, communications, etc., to E. Lefevre, Secretary, 28 Percy Terrace, Victoria Rd., Hackney Wick.

**Hammersmith.**—Kelmescott House, Upper Mall, W. Sunday July 22, at 8 p.m., Graham Wallis (Fabian Society), "Some Facts in the History of Wages."

**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 meeting at Ossulton Street. All members are asked to attend at Ossulton Street at 8 o'clock. After Sweating Demonstration at Hyde Park next Sunday, tea will be provided at Autonomie Club at 7 p.m., followed by revolutionary play in German.—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 Leman 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. McCluskey, Millar Street, Secy.

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

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

**Edinburgh** (Scottish Land and Labour League).—In Oddfellows' Hall, Thursdays at 8 p.m., meetings for Discussion. Letters and communications to 35 George IV. Bridge.

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

**Gallatoun and Dysart** (Scottish Section: Fife).—Meet every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Gallatoun 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.

**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.

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

**Norwich.**—Members' Meeting will be held on Mondays at 8.30, instead of Tuesdays, owing to a debate being held in Gordon Hall on Tuesdays. Tuesday, at 8, a Debate will commence between C. W. Mowbray and Mr. Scarles of this city—subject, "Socialism and Politics," to be opened by Mr. Scarles; all seats free. Wednesday, at 8.30, Dramatic Class. Saturday, 8 until 10.30, Co-operative Clothing Association.

**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 22.

11 ... Acton Green ..... The Branch  
 11.30...Latimer Road Station.....The Branch  
 11.30...Mitcham Fair Green.....The Branch  
 11.30...Regent's Park .....Parker & Mrs. Schack  
 11.30...Walham Green .....Fulham Branch  
 3.30...Hyde Park .....Anti-Sweating Demonstration  
 7 ...Clerkenwell Green .....The Branch  
 7 ...Weltje Road, opposite Ravenscourt Park  
 .....Hammersmith Branch

Tuesday.  
 8.30...Fulham—opposite Liberal Club.....Fulham Bh.  
 Friday.  
 7.30...Euston Rd.—North St. .... N. London Beh.

EAST END.

SUNDAY 22.

Mile-end Waste 11 ...Hicks & Brooks.  
 "Salmon and Ball" ... 11 ...Bethnal Green Bh.  
 Leman Street, Shadwell 11 ...Samuels, Rochman  
 Gibraltar Walk, Bethnal 7 ...Cores, Charles,  
 Green Road, and Lane.  
 Well Street, Hackney... 11.45...M'nwaring, Cores.  
 Kingsland Green ... 11.30...Nicoll & Diggins.  
 Victoria Park ... 3.15...M'nwaring, Charles  
 Triangle, Hackney Road 8 ...Cores, Charles,  
 Lane.  
 Lea Bridge Road ... 11.30...Lane & Charles.  
 Stamford Hill ... 7.30...M'nwaring, Nicoll.

WEDNESDAY.

Broadway, London Fields 8.30...Bird, Cores, Davis.

THURSDAY.

Packington St., Essex Road 8.30...Kitz, Nicoll,  
 Marsh, and Cores.

FRIDAY.

Philpot St., Commercial Rd. 8.30...Lane, Charles,  
 Cores, M'nwaring

SATURDAY.

Mile-end Waste ... 8 ...Lane, Mainwaring,  
 Parker & Wess.

PROVINCES.

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

**Glasgow.**—Sunday: Jaft's Square, at 12.30; 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: Market Place, at 3 and 7.30. Wymondham, Sunday at 11 a.m. North Walsham, Sunday at 11 a.m. St. Faiths, Sunday at 11.30. Crostwick Common, Sunday at 3. Thorpe, Monday at 8 p.m. Yarmouth, opposite Town Hall, Thursday at 7.30. St Catharine's Plain, Friday at 8.15 p.m.

**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 July 21st, at 7 Henniker Mews, Callow Street, Fulham Road, S.W., a discussion will take place on Joyne's 'Catechism.'

**NORWICH.**—On August 12th and 13th a great Socialist Demonstration will be held. Speakers: William Morris, Annie Besant, C. J. Faulkner, Mrs. Schack, S. Mainwaring, W. Ogden (Oxford Branch), Herbert Burrows, C. W. Mowbray, and others.

**EAST-END PROPAGANDA.**—A meeting of all interested in the Socialist propaganda in the East-end of London will be held at the Berner Street International Club, Commercial Road, E., on Saturday evening at 9.30. It is hoped all our friends living in the district will make a special effort to attend and arrange for the procession and other matters connected with the Anti-Sweating Demonstration on Sunday, in addition to our other business.

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