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Workers, Stand Firm!

Workingmen of San Francisco: A crisis in the trades-union movement of this city has come. During the past six months there has been an enormous growth of trades organizations. Old unions have experienced unprecedented increases of membership and trades and occupations heretofore deemed impossible of organization have been gathered into powerful unions. Demand after demand from one trade after another has been made upon the bosses, and—some immediately, others after a short struggle—these demands have been granted. Success has attended the unions thus far and many thousand workingmen have been benefited by their formation.

But the bosses have suffered. It would have been far better and more profitable for them had no unions been formed and had labor continued to work under the same hard conditions as heretofore. As the labor movement has grown they have viewed it with greater and growing alarm. They have watched for some vulnerable point to begin their attack and make a breach in the solid ranks of organized labor which now is demanding more of the product of its labor than the poor bosses, contemptuously tossed to it in former times. They have watched and waited, hoping and praying that a favorable opportunity would come when, by breaking one union, they could stem the tide of organization, roll it back and crush for good the trades unions of this city.

They have chosen with much cunning. In the general good times that have been prevailing here, public opinion has not been disposed to exclaim against the demands of labor for better conditions. But as one loss after another has been met, an undercurrent of hostility has grown. Mutterings are heard that "this thing is being carried too far." To make this undercurrent open and active the bosses have waited to use some strike which would inconvenience the public and thus render them more susceptible to the insinuating and crafty attacks made on the "tyranny of trades unions."

The Restaurant strike has furnished the opportunity waited for. Nowhere are the people more vulnerable than in their stomachs. No man is more easily disgruntled than a hungry man. And it is very easy to turn his wrath against those who inconvenience him in procuring his dinner. Knowing this, the bosses have chosen the Cooks' and Waiters' Union as the first victim to be marked for sacrifice. They believe them the most easily mastered because, first, the fact that the waiters are not highly skilled labor and hence scabs are more easily procurable; and second, the closing of restaurants disgruntles the hungry patrons of the various places. Thus it comes about most logically that the Restaurant strike is a pivotal event in the struggle between the bosses and the trades unions. Against the cooks and waiters the bosses will hurl their strength. Organized labor in its own interest and by bonds of duty must respond by giving its heartiest support.

Consider a minute the mild and moderate demands of the Cooks and Waiters. Only one day's rest in seven and nine dollars a week. Are these exorbitant demands? Must men work all seven days and never get a rest or time for recreation? Must they be content always with eight or nine dollars a week? During the past two weeks scarcely a day has gone by but what news has come of fortunes made by Wall street speculators.

John D. Rockefeller's income is \$40 a minute, which is four times what Cooks and Waiters demand for six days of hard, wearing labor. During thirty minutes, which he might take for luncheon, his income would be \$1,200, or as much as a waiter would earn in thirty months. Two and one-half years of unremitting toil will only bring the waiter what in half an hour spent at the dinner table flows into the coffers of the magnate of the Standard Oil. And there are all degrees shading from Rockefeller down. Who, in the face of this, will say that \$10 a week and one day's rest in seven are exorbitant demands?

But it is not because they believe the demands unreasonable or unjust. This fight is a fight against the very principle of trades unionism. It is incumbent, therefore, on every trades unionist to give it his heartiest and most determined support. The bosses believe that the union movement is but a bubble, which, if pricked, will burst. If they can defeat the Cooks and Waiters and deny their demands, the prestige of unionism will be gone, the confidence of the workingman, now strong, will be shaken, their enthusiasm, now ardent, will cool, reaction will set in and all the labor of the past-year will be lost. Shall this be?

Now is the time for union labor to act. It is a well-known principle of warfare that victory is won by that general who strikes the heaviest blows at the earliest time. So, in this struggle, which is directly and mainly between organized labor and organized capital, if labor will make a solid, mighty demonstration of its strength and manifest that magnificent spirit of solidarity, of unity on which it must depend, and with which it cannot fail, the bosses will be forced to yield.

Stand firm, fellow-workers! Yield nothing! The cause of each is the cause of all. In helping others you are helping yourselves. Your own vital interests, the maintenance of your standard of wages, the comfort of your wives and little ones depend upon your loyalty to your fellows. Thrice cursed is that man who fails to do his duty in this struggle. He betrays his brothers; he betrays his family; he betrays himself.

Workingmen, as you hope for better lives, as you strive for the ultimate triumph of labor over the tyranny of capital, give your support in this class-struggle

WORKINGMEN, SOCIALISTS !!

If you eat in an unfair restaurant, you are traitors to your class, you are traitors to your families, you are traitors to yourselves!

If you buy bread in an unfair bakery, you are traitors to your class, you are traitors to your families, you are traitors to yourselves!

If you buy from an unfair store; if you help by word or deed the firms whose employees are on strike, you are traitors to your class, you are traitors to your families, you are traitors to yourselves!

Resolutions in Favor of the Strikers.

The Social Democratic Party of San Francisco, in mass-meeting assembled on Tuesday evening, May 7, 1901, unanimously passed the following resolutions by standing vote:

"We again affirm our unsevering devotion to the cause of the workers, and pledge our support to the laborers in their struggle for economic advancement. And, further, especially considering the efforts of the restaurant employees to reduce their hours of labor and increase their wages, the Social Democratic Party tenders its sympathy and hearty support to the restaurant employees, with the assurance that we will use every effort to assist the restaurant employees in gaining what they demand.

The Women's Label League of San Francisco, at its last meeting, unanimously passed the following resolutions:

"Whereas, The Cooks' and Waiters' Alliance of San Francisco, No. 30, an affiliated branch of organized labor, has declared a strike against the Restaurant keepers in this city, who require of their employees seven days work per week and from ten to sixteen hours per day, and who pay less than the schedule rate of wages;

"Whereas, The said Alliance has furnished to the proprietors of "fair" restaurants a display card for their windows, bearing the announcement, under the seal of the Alliance, that in such places the union rules are complied with, thus assuring the public that fair dealing is practiced therein; therefore, be it

"Resolved, By this, the Women's Label League of San Francisco, that we call upon our fellow-workers and the general public to recognize the emblems of the workers whose toil makes and provides all the necessities and luxuries of life; and that great care be exercised to select, where possible, such articles as bear the Union Labels, and particularly at this time to seek and patronize only those restaurants displaying the Union Card, testifying that it is a "Union House"; be it

"Resolved, further, That we pledge to the Cooks' and Waiters' Alliance our most earnest efforts in their behalf.

Mrs. L. M. Rosenberg, Sec'y.
Villa D. Reynolds, Pres.

to your fellows. The bosses are they who seek on every occasion to degrade and humiliate labor. On every pretext they seek to cut wages and lengthen hours. The Cooks and Waiters are your brothers. Their battle is your battle. Be true to yourselves and stand by them! Boycott the scab restaurants! Act unitedly! Strike with all your force and the victory will be won. Triumphant labor will overwhelm the miserly money-grubbers, who seek to lord it over you. Now is the time to score!

SOCIALISTS, STAND FIRM!

The opportunity of all good Socialists and lovers of the cause of labor presents itself in this fight of the Cooks and Waiters. Let every one be an active rather than a passive agent, to curtail the powers of the capitalists. There is an open field. The strikers need you. A few resolutions more or less are as straws in the whirlwind compared to the work one might do as a picket. Remember that the fight of the cooks and waiters is your fight. Let the spirit of solidarity be something tangible, graspable. Let this fight be a complete revolution rather than a backdown. Our masters point the way. Together they stand, ready to extend the help necessary to maintain the strength of their advance guard. Let us do the same. We have little money, but we have ourselves. We should lend ourselves to the waiters. Let us say we are Socialists and workingmen, then let us stand in front of every unfair restaurant in town and proclaim it as such. This is our opportunity. And in it we can rebuke the P. H. McCarthys and the weaklings who would bring on a fight and then retreat. We can rebuke the poor citizens who are creatures of either McCarthy or the weakling, and we can do much to prove that our sympathy is something more than a well rounded phrase that fits our lips. We must close ranks. This fight is the fight of all workingmen. It may be the visible beginning of that irrepressible conflict between capital and labor which will mean either the entire enslavement of the working class or its complete emancipation. The struggle will ultimately resolve itself into a struggle for the possession of the government. We can help forward this. Our stand on the firing line will gain us the confidence of the workers, and if the strike is won or lost the Socialists shall gain. Every soldier is needed at the front, and though there is little glory proclaiming to the heavens that a restaurant is unfair, still that is our battlefield. If we would be considered something more than dreamers who take our conception of life from between the covers of a book, let us do our duty as pickets.

The Central Labor Union of Flint, Mich., has declared for independent political action by the working class.

The S. D. P. Local of Aberdeen, Wash., is composed of workers. Three hundred copies of the May Day "Advance" were distributed. As a result, eight new subscribers were gained so far. Rousing street meetings are held, and the whole town turns out to hear Comrade Nick. The hearts of the comrades are made glad by the cheers that greet him after each speech.

A Socialist and the Capitalist Press.

Comrade J. S. Roche is stirring things up in the South. The two daily papers of Riverside recently devoted a column each to his masterly treatment of the trust question. Comrade Roche is one of the best speakers on the Coast and where he goes attentive audiences hang on his every word. Much fruitful discussion follows his remarks and his arguments are so well developed and so pregnant of thought that even the capitalistic papers treat them with courtesy. To have the papers of such a bourgeois center as Riverside vie with each other in giving space to comments on the lectures of a Socialist, is somewhat of a compliment in these days of vilification and abuse.

The following is from the Riverside "Enterprise": "J. S. Roche of San Bernardino spoke on the corner of Eight and Main streets last evening to an attentive audience on the subject of Socialism. His address was devoted mainly to the evolution of trusts. The trust, he said, was the direct outcome of the competitive system. He traced its history from the single grocery store in a small town where the storekeeper had a monopoly. Then came competition and the elimination of profit when the business was a losing one. Ruin must necessarily ensue in the struggle to succeed.

Practically the foundation was laid over a century ago for the vast aggregations of capital and the resultant power, when the first machine for the saving of labor began to be used. Some of the workers of that day pronounced labor saving machinery a dangerous innovation. Notwithstanding the protests of the people the machine came to stay. And so of the trust; it has come to stay. The only question is as to its ownership.

"If the trusts were all to be destroyed, under the competitive system they were bound to rise again. Socialists recognize this, and hence they are not fighting the trusts so much as the system by which they are created and sustained. It is said, 'Competition is the life of trade,' and so it is, within certain limits, but when the limits are outgrown it is destructive.

"The speaker said we are confronted by a new situation and new situations demand new remedies. When we learn what the remedy is we will be able to make the trust a benefit in place of a curse.

"Forty years ago the conditions of today were foreseen by a few men who were the progenitors of modern socialism. They were hooted and jeered at, but today the principles they then advocated have a respectful hearing. The principles of these early pioneers of the movement have not changed, but people's understanding of them has changed. The fact that there is no sentiment in business explains the reason why people who are able and willing to work cannot obtain employment and why they suffer for the necessities of life with plenty all about them.

"The only way to make a change for the better, the speaker protested, is to substitute co-operation for competition. The trusts are able by the great-power they wield to manipulate things politically to suit

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In Old Missouri

By E. Val Putnam.

Socialists of St. Louis have just passed through an experience that may be of great value to the movement nationally. In the recent campaign they were opposed by a municipal ownership movement that called itself "The Public Ownership Party." The reader will readily understand how alluring was the "this-is-Socialism" argument to the new beginner when sugar-coated with so suggestive a name. It proved an obstacle which St. Louis Socialists could not surmount on short notice. We gained nearly two thousand votes in November. Many of these votes were made for us by the street-car strike. Was it to have been expected that we would be able to hold these new comers, who were boiling over with resentment against the Transit Company, when they saw before them an opportunity to elect a man pledged to bring about the public ownership of the street railways? In North and South St. Louis many a toiler still bore the scars resulting from that great conflict, and many a heart was filled with rage over the loss of the battle. These workingmen had suffered much. They had for weeks and months ridden on rude contrivances, or walked great distances to and from their work; they had looked into the muzzles of repeating riot guns; they had heard the whistling of bullets about them when they had nothing but stones with which to defend themselves; they had seen mounted minions of the law riding through crowds of innocent women and children, brutally slashing right and left; they had seen armed sons of aristocracy arrayed in swaggerish military costumes marching through the streets, frightening children and shamefully abusing their authority; they had fought long and bitterly and against great odds; and as the hope of victory died away it left in their breasts a deep desire for revenge.

And while this spirit was still rife, a man came before the public and proposed that if they would elect him mayor he would take these street railways from the Transit Company and place them under the control of the city. He had sufficient money to scatter his literature freely. He had sufficient prospects of success to draw to him a goodly number of pie hunters and also many enthusiasts, who only work when success is in sight. What more natural than that these men, who were accustomed to following "leaders," should take to this man as a means of wreaking revenge upon the Transit Company?

All the argument Socialists might advance were of no avail when once the tide had set in. These men had made up their minds and there was no turning them. All the radically inclined, except the class-conscious Socialists, were swept off their feet, and when the vote was counted it was found that thirty thousand had been recorded for the Public Ownership Party, to say nothing of the number of votes thrown away by corrupt judges and clerks. Whether the Socialists lost many votes or not is questionable. On the face of the returns it appeared that the larger portion of our November vote had gone to the Public Ownership ticket, but subsequent developments lead us to believe that, while we lost a few in the wards carried by the P. O. P., our decrease was chiefly due to a failure on the part of election officials to count our votes. As the frauds perpetrated at this election were the most flagrant ever witnessed, we place no reliance whatever on the official returns.

But aside from the influence of the strike on their local campaign, we discovered something of which we think it proper to warn our comrades in other States. It is this—that the Socialists of America will have to meet nationally in 1904 the same kind of a movement that St. Louis Socialists have met locally. The signs are so unmistakable as to leave little doubt. Both political and economic indications are that way. The middle class has not yet made its greatest political effort in this country; it will make that effort, however, in 1904. Bryan editorially supported Merriwether, the Public Ownership candidate. Altgeld spoke at his meetings. With Tom Johnson and Sam Jones in Ohio working on similar lines, it is not hard to see the outlines of a national public ownership party. And these outlines become very perceptible when one observes that the gold-bug, or conservative, element of the Democratic party is rapidly elbowing Bryan and all his kind out of the party. I say that this view of the situation has been impressed upon us Missourians (who have to be shown) very forcibly during the past few weeks, and we warn all Socialists of America to prepare for the coming conflict with a middle-class "Socialistic" movement.

What the platform of this new party will be is hard to predict in detail. One plank it will have though—the public ownership of railroads. It will probably follow the Public Ownership party of this city and hedge on nearly all the other questions for fear of scaring the "business interests." For instance, the aforesaid party started out by declaring its allegiance to public ownership of public utilities, and then, as though startled at its own audacity, in the very next sentence it says; "We are not opposed to corporations; on the contrary, we recognize their importance in the business world and favor such free switching and other privileges as will make St. Louis the greatest commercial and manufacturing center of the country." This is Bryan to a dot, and if the national platform of the new party does not contain similar drivel it will not be his fault.

But how to meet this new party in the political arena? It will whisper to our new converts: "Here, don't tell it, but this is Socialism, too, and besides, we've got a chance!" It will undoubtedly be the hardest proposition the Socialists have ever tackled. Of

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Communications must reach the office by Wednesday preceding the issue in which they are to appear. The first of a signed article is published does not commit the Editor to all opinions expressed therein.

Contributions and items of news concerning the labor movement are requested from our readers. Every contribution must be accompanied by the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Short communications giving reports of organization and progress of the labor movement are desired from comrades in all sections. No thing is of greater interest to readers than this feature. Our readers want it and will send it.

Last week we promised to say something more of the May-day meeting. There really is not much to say, however. The singing was good.

Have you considered, Mr. Workingman, that all these millions of dollars which are being won and lost by the Wall Street gamblers have been coined out of your sweat and blood?

Prosperity is here. The advance agent will come around again soon to look upon his handiwork. We commend to him a study of the causes which drove one man to suicide that his dead body might earn the food for his family which alive he could not win; and which drove another man to steal twenty-five cents worth of brass to get food for his family. Is this his vaunted prosperity?

Morgan's Transportation Trust continues to grow. A locomotive-building trust has just been organized.

A shipbuilders' trust is now a fact. The recent speculation in railroad stock shows that the railroad trust is almost completed.

And so the capitalists form a trust in one industry after another. The common people seem only to trust in God.

The Texans have invested \$16,000,000 in oil stocks since the Beaumont gusher gushed. The Standard Oil Company has no use for either the oil land or the oil stock. It owns 9,000 acres on the Gulf and the only accessible bay near the oil fields is included in the 9,000 acres. When oil has to be shipped the Rockefeller combine will have something to say about the price of freight, etc., and the price of stock will take a sudden tumble. The Texans will know better next time.

Say, you Cooks and Waiters, do you remember that you did not vote the Social Democratic ticket last fall? Now you are on strike. What does the city government do for you? There is a policeman in front of every boycotted restaurant. They are there to protect the bosses' property. The bosses' property is the means by which they get the income on which they live. The city employs these policemen to protect the bosses who will not discuss any of your propositions for agreement as to wages and hours. Your jobs are the means by which you get an income on which you live. Does the city take any means to protect you in your jobs? Does it in any way assist you? Is it not on the contrary, hostile? And do not its police seek to hinder your efforts and obstruct your boycott? Why is this? It is because the city government is run by a capitalist, a bosses' party. How different the case of Marseilles and Montceau-les-Mines in France. There the city councils and mayors lent their support to the strikers, voting over ten thousand francs for their aid. These cities are under the control of Socialists. The councillors and mayors are Socialists. Their action in this matter was Socialistic. Would it not be wise for you to vote the Socialist ticket next election? It won't cost you anything. And it may bring you aid in your hour of need.

THE PILGRIMAGE OF J. PIERPONT.

Now it so happened that once upon a time a certain man arose in the western world and, stretching forth his hands, grabbed everything in sight. Surfeited with his possessions and suffering from ennui, popularly known as "that tired feeling," caused by the monotony of the daily financing of new trusts, this man, whose fame was spread around the world as J. Pierpont More-gain, went abroad for pleasure and recreation. In a few days he came to an island, where many sojourned during their earthly career. In by-gone days this was the center of a spider's web of commerce, but of late it had slumped. When Pierpont arrived and viewed the land, his fancy was taken by the biggest of the Oceanic transportation lines, which carried merchandise to all the quarters of the globe. He looked at it. He liked it. So he bought it.

At this time it fell out that one Hicks-Beach, whose euphonious given name was Michael, became hard up. Hicks had the job of punting up the coin each year for the maintenance of the island's army, navy and other ornaments. During the year previous, however, the bespangled glory of the empire, whose reveille bugles in one continuous blast around the earth, announced the rising of the sun, was more than usually expensive, so that Hicksie was shy of the denario for the coming year.

An Anglo-Saxon good-fellowship had been established by this time. For the civilization and liberating of South Africa and the benevolent assimilation of Cuba and the Philippines had drawn the Western world and the tight little island into bonds of brotherly sympathy.

When, therefore, J. P. heard of the pecuniary difficulties of poor Sir H.-B. his heart was softened in compassion. He had a few millions with him for pocket change and pin money. And he went to his distressed friend. Said he: "Mike, old chappy, deuced

sorry to learn you're hard up, I'm not overflush myself, but I'm always glad to do you good—and plenty. It won't inconvenience me; just pouch this," and he slipped \$30,000,000 into his hand. "Well, so long," he continued, "they want me back to work in the new world. They have 86 new trusts for me to bank and six railroads to buy—see you later." So he hid him away to his former stamping ground.

But in after years it became known that he had surreptitiously bought in a playful mood, as one of the inhabitants put it, "the 'ole bloody hisland.'" Which accounts, say the wise men, known now as the "keen gezabas," for the quiet smile of pleasure and satisfaction, which played around his lips and made him appear not to have such a hard mug after all. Here endeth the tale of Pierpont's pilgrimage.

NOW, DEAR ANTI—, DON'T.

A woman anti-woman-suffragist "has come" to California to work against equal suffrage. Heralding her arrival is published an interview in which the lady asks, "How would you like to see frilled petticoats, lorgnettes and high-heeled shoes in the Presidential chair?" Well, we suppose the wardrobe would be a slightly more proper and decorous place of deposit for the three articles mentioned. If, however, the lady means that all there is to women are frilled petticoats, high-heeled shoes and lorgnettes, we beg to differ and raise our voice in dissent. We know better. The lady should not consider herself typical. Even Rudyard Kipling, who is certainly no "despised and despicable feminist," speaks of the ladies as being—

"A rag, a bone and a hank of hair," which is something more than petticoats. True, at certain social functions we have heard one young gentleman invite another to "swing me rag, while I swamp a schooner." But, nevertheless, our own acquaintance with women does not convince us that they are all such semi-ornamented slaves and semi-fools as some, by precept and example, would have us believe. We know that the girls carry off the prizes in the schools. We have seen them silence men in controversy. In all industrial fields they are forging steadily ahead and making their influence increasingly felt. We admit that woman's temperament and mental characteristics are in some ways different from men. But we do assert that the difference is not such as disqualifies women from understanding political issues and deciding them as justly as the majority of men now do. The puerile objection of woman's unfitness for war can be easily offset. If they can't throw a ball straight, nor swing a vigorous battle-ax, yet let us remember that men make poor needlewomen and hold babies very awkwardly. If our memory serves us correctly, the maternal slipper has claims as a factor in the regeneration of society unequalled by either sword or rifle. Taking a comprehensive view of the people, we feel justified in the statement that, whatever their limitations may be, the mothers, wives and sweethearts of the race are not such inferior, incompetent doll-slaves as to be denied a voice in the management of those affairs upon which their lives and happiness depend as much as men's. We conclude with Mark Twain's toast: "The ladies—God bless them; where would we be without them?"

LABOR'S HISTORIC MISSION.

"This country will have one of the biggest and bloodiest revolutions the world has ever seen." "If things go on the way they are going now, with trusts and unions and strikes and boycotts, there will be the biggest kind of a smash-up some day—there will be 'Hades to pay.'" Such are expressions which are commonly heard on the streets these days. Despite an undeniable and unprecedented commercial prosperity, the numerous conflicts between organizations of capitalists and workmen, the marvelous growth of trustification and the rapid increase of trades-unionism, have caused a general feeling of uneasiness and discontent. More and more definite this feeling is gradually becoming and sooner or later it must take a coherent, tangible and cognizable shape. As the interests of one class of the nation draw it more closely together and the antagonistic interests of another class forces it into combination, the individuals of each class begin to merge their ideas and sympathies more and more with that of their class. The capitalists on their part and the workmen on their part become class-conscious. They come to comprehend their mutual antagonism for each other and their bonds and claims of fellowship on the other members of their respective classes. The fact of class interests and the great importance of serving these comes into their respective consciousness and dominates their actions. Out of this is arising the real class-struggle. And when conscious effort is made by one or the other to crush the other, and to either retain or conquer the powers of government, then we may expect a clash.

Without doubt it is to the interest of the working class to have peace. Violence and destruction are for it unnecessary and injurious. With manhood suffrage it should be possible for it to conquer the public powers and install representatives pledged to its interests in all the public offices. This done, the revolution, the complete change of laws and institutions necessary to settling the working class in complete and unshakable power, may be accomplished peaceably. The only real danger of violence and bloodshed comes from the selfish desires and inhuman actions of the capitalists who, seeking to retain the power and wealth which they now enjoy regardless of the misery of the people, will employ armies to hold by force of military enterprise the dominions from which the votes of the people have legally ousted them. The employment of Pinkerton thugs by Carnegie, of militia by the Railroad Managers' Association, and of Federal troops by Steunenberg of Idaho, are foretastes of what might happen in this direction, once the people move. Nevertheless, it is impossible to believe that such methods could secure the continued dominance of the capitalist class. All the forces of industrial and social evolution are behind the working class, pushing it irresistibly forward. This is what is meant by the historic mission of the working class. The nature of the people and the conditions by which they are surrounded are such that the working class must organize—must struggle with the capitalist class, must overcome it, and to reap the fruits of their victory, must inaugurate the Co-operative Commonwealth.

Dry goods and department store trust is being formed with \$20,000,000 capital.

IN THE Industrial Arena

BY JOS. J. NJEL.

Wage workers, who belong to any trade that is not yet organized should send their names and addresses to the "Labor Editor." These names will be classified into their respective trades and as soon as enough are obtained of any occupation a meeting will be called and a union organized. All unions organized through the medium of "Advance" will be affiliated with the Labor Council and the American Federation of Labor. Address all communications to "Labor Editor ADVANCE," 34 Murphy Building.

Events are rapidly tending toward the point of culmination in the strike of the cooks and waiters. After seven days of sincere effort about two hundred and seventy-five restaurants have conceded the demands of the Union. The large places down town, that depend for patronage upon professional and semi-professional men, refuse to act honorably in the matter. Every artifice known to the exploiters of labor is indulged in to sway that chaos of ignorance and superstition, public opinion, to the side of the Restaurant Keepers' Association. The gentleman with the long, sanctimonious face, who believes that suffering is necessary to develop character, at the head of this combination, rushes into print on the slightest pretext to show the utter hideousness of workmen having an organization for the betterment of their condition. And he sheds copious tears over the fate of the man who refuses to join the Union. It harrows up his theosophical soul and otherwise injures his Karma, to imagine this person as other than a free agent. He is so anxious about the freedom of this man of straw that he is willing to enslave all the men of flesh and blood in the city to preserve it. Right there is the crucial point. The average man thinks, if he thinks at all, that the demand for recognition of the union is unnecessary and more than the ethics of the situation will allow. "People should be free; above all they should be free." And he forgets that no one is really free who must work twelve or fourteen hours for just enough to keep him in clean collars. He also forgets, this average man who works with his hands and thinks with his feet, that these smooth hypocrites comprising the Restaurant Keepers' Association, have had ample opportunity to treat their men decently, which they failed to take advantage of. And further, that it is only because the Union is in existence that better treatment is even discussed. There is infinitely greater freedom in being the member of an organization that compels the restaurant keepers to give shorter hours and more pay, than be free according to the conception of freedom possessed by these restaurant keepers and be a drudge, that cannot have a spare hour in the whole length of the year in which to think or read.

But despite these self-evident truths, "the man on the street" may be moved to bestow his sympathy on the Restaurant Keepers' Association. President McKinley is coming and "the man on the street," together with Irving M. Scott & Co., are against disgracing the city by having a strike in progress while the "first gentleman" of the country is visiting us. So to that end the Scotts have contributed to break the strike. Reports differ about the amount placed at the disposal of the Restaurant Keepers' Association. Some say it was \$100,000; others, more conservative and perhaps more truthful, place the figure at \$50,000. If it were \$10,000 or merely \$1,000, the spirit in any case would be the same. It is evident that organized labor will be fought. The "builders" of the "Oregon" feel insecure as long as workmen can enter a fight with the least hope of success; and, remote as it may seem, a successful strike so widely advertised as this one of the cooks and waiters, would put heart into the mechanics of the Union Iron Works.

There is a unity of action among the merchants and manufacturers so obvious that a unity of insight becomes more than a suspicion. The central association keeps in touch with the association of the different lines of business, and where a breach occurs in the breastworks they pour in wealth and the prestige that follows a name. There is not a man in these associations who is not pledged to fight every encroachment of labor. They contribute enough to guarantee the merchant or merchants making the fight against loss. And in exceptional cases they can give the sum of \$50,000 weekly.

In the light of these facts it is with a certain amount of reluctance that we have to admit that capital and labor are not brothers. We were deceived about this matter of brotherhood. It sounded so well, too, when we first heard it, and our leaders were so vehement in their denunciations of the men who doubted its truth. Another fiction that is going the rounds and meeting with quite as firm adherents as the brotherhood fiction is, that labor does not need to depend upon the government, nor ask it to do anything. If this were true, considerable might be saved trying to get unconstitutional bills passed in the legislatures, and the sight of some of its firmest champions going to the Mayor and asking him to intervene in the cooks and waiters trouble might be spared us. Perhaps Messrs. Rosenberg and Pierce feel in their hearts that the fiction, "Workingmen want nothing to do with the government and should ask nothing from it," is only a fiction. It sounds big, this phrase, and the ears of the groundlings are split by it; but really, being of this age and time, as they undoubtedly are, and having to do with men and things, it is a serious reflection on their wisdom—that is, if they still adhere to the idiom, which seems impossible after this visit to the mayor. If workingmen ever expect to be more than mere drudges, wearing out their lives at the beck and call of a master, they must take a most serious interest in everything that pertains to government. They must, in fact, become the government. This brings us to the point of culmination. Through this visit to the mayor a truce may be inaugurated, to hold good till after President McKinley has left the city. A temporary peace is a doubtful peace. Nor should it be considered, especially if the workers take the first step toward its establishment. It is suggestive of weakness and is a tactic of the most absurd kind. There is only one rule of conduct: Hesitate to fight; fight hard.

The visit of Mr. McKinley is a distinct advantage to the strikers. If the presidential party were tied up here for a few weeks, or if the whole program for his entertainment were disarranged, a wholesome respect

for organized labor might be developed by the local merchants, and possibly a peace that meant something brought about. Then, the mere exhibition of backbone at the present moment might compel advances from the employers' association. When in a fight one must beat himself so that his enemy may have respect for him. There can be no respect where the overtures of a temporary peace without honor comes from a side that is thrusting advantages fortune has dropped into its lap, away from it. This is a war we are engaged in, fellow trades-unionists, not a love feast. Every coigne of vantage must be held till it is wrested from us by main force or strategy. To give up an advantageous position is playing into the hands of the enemy. And to patch up a temporary peace till the Presidential party leaves the city, is spiking one of the best guns we have in our battery. There is another consideration that must be brought home to the workmen engaged in this fight, and that is the nature of the politicians who will have occasion to be freely advertised in this peace that is not peace. They are capitalistic to the core. Every action and every word would be used to beguile the workers into security with an eye for future use. The vote of the striker unable to look beneath the surface is a vote worth playing for.

But yesterday, it seems, there was a man upon whom a few of the third-rate leaders in the labor movement looked with kindly eye and hoped to imitate if circumstances would adjust themselves to the imitation, who has earned for himself in this strike of the cooks and waiters the disgust of all decent people. His name is P. H. McCarthy. He is a ward heeler of the most vulgar and annoying kind. He bellows forth on every occasion that politics in the union would be ruinous, and yet through politics in the union he puts money in his purse. He is only a type. All these leaders who wish politics banished from the union are only anxious that a certain kind of politics may be banished. But to the specific act that brands P. H. and his clique as perverts. They have come out in the public press and repudiated the cooks and waiters strike and aligned themselves with the conservative and peace-loving element, who wish only that workmen should be content. The only thing that would keep this man from ordering the Pinkertons to fire on the strikers at Homestead or Duquesne is lack of opportunity. He was unfortunate in the selection of parents. The instincts of an exploiter and an enemy of labor are all his. He thinks only of himself and his standing with the local politicians. The sooner organized labor puts a permanent quietus on him the better. He is almost as much of a menace to the progress of the labor movement as the weaklings who insist on war, then wish to retreat at the first sound of strife. They are both an insult to the spirit of solidarity in particular, and to the whole labor movement in general.

The machinists have missed a golden opportunity. Their strike will come about May 21st. And there will be a strike, just as sure as the trust issues the orders. The nine-hour day is not particularly objectionable. It is the feeling of security and strength the members of the union would have after the victory that annoys the Irving M. Scotts. The idea is to crush out all fight as soon as convenient and march forward to the position of a few supreme masters and a country of degraded slaves. This could not be stayed by bringing on the strike a few days earlier, but the launching of the "Ohio," that huge engine of war, is to be a feature of President McKinley's visit, and if the strike were inaugurated the 15th, instead of the 21st, the warship could hang on the davits and the whole contingent of capitalistic mountebanks be disappointed. It is barely possible that a compromise would be made and the nine-hour contract signed if the machinists took advantage of the opportunity presented. The bluff and bluster, the brave hurrahs and the emotions of patriotism that surge through the crowd, are absolutely necessary to the stability of the present government. Sentiment keeps one-half of the population in subjection, guns the other half. And without the sentiment of the first half the second half is weakened. The capitalists know this. Every demonstration is evidence of it. The launching of the "Ohio" is a case in point and possibly, for the moral effect on the whole nation, a victory could be wrung from the Scotts, which means a victory for machinists all over the Coast. Opportunity has a tuft of hair in front and a bald spot on the back of the head. Unless one grasps the hair, opportunity will go by and one's fingers will glance from off the smooth surface that remains. The machinists should consider this.

A beautiful habit the capitalists have, of making the workmen pay both directly and indirectly for their amusements, is evidenced by the action of the Union Iron Works management in anticipation of President McKinley's visit. Not content with robbing the men of nine-tenths of what they produce, the management has issued an order that every man employed will have one day's pay deducted from his wages, to make a suitable present for McKinley. And the hypocrisy of the thing projects when the men are told that the honor the President does them in accepting the present is sufficient to warrant the sacrifice of a month's wages. The donation is compulsory. There might be a few dull clowns in the shops who would give freely ten or fifteen cents (about the donation Mr. McKinley deserves) to buy a few cigars for the President if he really needed them; but that any sane man should give a full day's pay to this servant of the capitalist class is beyond belief. It is a hold-up more dishonorable than any indulged in by Black Bart or Deadwood Dick. These latter knights of the dime novel would scorn to roll a boulder on top of a man's legs and compel him to give up the few farthings he had saved to feed his family. The only parallel to this game of the Scotts—who, by the way, are a considerable factor in the new \$65,000,000 shipbuilding trust—is to be found in the act of the sneaking cur, who hides in an alley till his victim passes, then rushes forth and strikes him unaware with a piece of gas pipe.

Now the four bill-posting combines of the country are about to hold a conference in Buffalo with a view to organizing a trust.

A New York daily says the billionaire trust will soon absorb enough additional corporations to bring the capital up to \$1,416,000.

GRAND BALL

Given by the

Socialist Band

of San Francisco

The TEMPLE, 117 Turk st

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1901

The proceeds of this ball are to be used for the benefit and improvement of the Socialist Band, with the end in view of having a well equipped and thoroughly trained band to aid in forwarding the cause of socialism.

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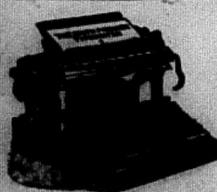
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Dividends On Your Regular Household Expenses

The San Francisco Rochdale Company (co-operative), incorporated September 22, 1900, is doing a general grocery business at 1818 Market street. This company is purely co-operative and at the same time thoroughly business in all its dealings. Its members can only hold one membership share and have but one vote, thus making all equal

They sell goods at regular prices, and return all profits to members in proportion to purchases, after deducting a fair rate of interest in proportion to investment. A family who trades \$300 in a year and receives a dividend of 12 per cent, or \$36 on an investment of six dollars, in the San Francisco Rochdale Company, has certainly made a good business investment—besides fostering co-operation. Dividends have been returned as high as fifteen per cent on six months' business in some Rochdale companies in this State. W. C. Ellis, the manager of the company, is thoroughly acquainted with the grocery business. They carry a full line of fancy and staple groceries, and will be pleased to furnish full information about the business and its officers

TWO PROPOSITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION.

The following are the two propositions submitted by the Municipal Program Committee in the form finally arrived at. They are printed here for the benefit of San Francisco comrades who may discuss them before final decision as to initiating them, and for the benefit of others that they may know what we are thinking of doing in the Pacific Coast metropolis.

TO THE BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO:

We, the undersigned voters and electors of the City and County of San Francisco, equal in number to more than fifteen per centum of all the votes cast at the last preceding general election in said city and county of San Francisco, do hereby petition, ask and demand from you that the following ordinance be submitted to a vote of the electors of the City and County of San Francisco at the next election, to be held therein, to-wit, on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in the year 1901.

This petition is made under and by authority of Section 20 of Chapter one of Article two of the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco, and the undersigned petitioners hereby ask and demand your compliance with the requirements of said law.

The said ordinance is follows: "An Ordinance Providing for the Employment of the Unemployed Residents of the City and County of San Francisco.

Be it Ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Sec. 1. Whenever any person over the age of twenty-one years, who shall be an elector of the city and county of San Francisco and shall have resided therein for two consecutive years immediately preceding his application for employment as herein provided for, shall apply to the Board of Public Works of the city and county of San Francisco for employment, it shall be the duty of said Board of Public Works to provide employment upon the public works, streets or parks for each and all such persons so applying for employment, and each and all such persons shall be employed by said Board of Public Works at some useful or productive employment upon the public works, streets or parks during good conduct or until they shall voluntarily cease such employment. If any such person be discharged on the ground of his bad conduct he may appeal to the Board of Civil Service Commissioners to hear and determine the question and the decision of such Board of Civil Service Commissioners shall be final, and if favorable to the employee, and shall be restored to employment, but if unfavorable, he shall not again be entitled to public employment except by consent of the Board of Public Works. Each person so employed shall receive as wages or compensation for such service not less than the minimum standard of wages fixed by the charter of the city and county of San Francisco, and if any such person so seeking employment be employed by the said Board of Public Works at any recognized trade or skilled labor, then such person so employed shall receive as wages or compensation the prevailing rate of trades union wages in the occupation or trade in which he may be so employed by said Board of Public Works.

"Sec. 2. A working day for any such person so employed shall consist of eight hours and no more.

"Sec. 3. The Board of Supervisors shall, in the annual tax levy, provide for the raising of a sum of money sufficient to meet the expenses which may be incurred by reason of the employment of such persons and to carry the provisions of this ordinance into full force and effect.

"Sec. 4. Any member of the said Board of Public Works, who shall refuse or neglect to aid and assist in carrying out the provisions of this ordinance in providing employment for the unemployed in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, and shall forfeit his office as a commissioner of such Board of Public Works, and such conviction shall of itself work such forfeiture of office."

Wherefore, your undersigned petitioners ask, request and demand the Board of Election Commissioners of the city and county of San Francisco to submit the foregoing proposed ordinance to a vote of the electors of the city and county of San Francisco at the next election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November, 1901.

To the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco:

We, the undersigned voters and electors of the City and County of San Francisco, equal in number to more than fifteen per centum of all the votes cast at the last preceding general election in said City and County of San Francisco, present this petition to the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, and represent and set forth:

1. That the signers of this petition favor the construction of a permanent municipal building, to be known as the "Palace of the People," which shall not only embrace all the features of a Library Building, but also those of a "Labor Temple" and "Maison de Peuple," as hereinafter described.

And the undersigned petitioners ask and demand: 2. That a building shall be constructed upon the one hundred vara lot at the southeast corner of Market and Fifth streets in said City and County of San Francisco, which lot is now the property of the City and County of San Francisco.

3. That the said building shall be of steel frame and fireproof construction, not less than twelve stories in height, and shall be used as a Library Building to contain the Free Public Library, now the property of the City and County of San Francisco and the Free Reading Room.

4. That such building, in addition to containing the Free Public Library and Reading Room, shall contain Chess Rooms, Bowling Alleys and similar Amusements, to be free to the public.

Also, and as an important feature thereof, it shall contain a large Public Auditorium and Concert Hall, capable of seating comfortably not less than five thousand (5,000) persons, suitable to the accommodation of National Political Conventions, Grand Operas, Concerts and Performances.

Also, it shall contain Assembly Halls, Lecture

Halls and Headquarters for the free use of Labor, Industrial and Scientific Societies, Trades Union Organizations and Political Parties, or Political Organizations of recognized legal standing.

Also, to contain rooms for mining, agricultural, industrial and commercial exhibits and museums.

Also, to contain such other accommodations for such other uses as may be of Public Utility or of advantage or benefit to the public.

5. And the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco is asked and requested by the undersigned to prepare for submission to the people, the voters and electors of the City and County of San Francisco a proposition for the construction and acquisition of such utility and permanent municipal building, or to proceed at once without the submission of propositions to pass an ordinance declaring the determination of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco to acquire the same as provided in Sections 3 and 6 of Article XII of the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco.

6. That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco procure, through the City Engineer of the City and County of San Francisco plans and estimates of the actual cost of construction of the said permanent municipal building.

7. That serial bonds, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, be issued by the City and County of San Francisco to an amount of three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000.00), payable in forty years, in such lawful money of the United States of America as the said Board of Supervisors may decide, for the purpose of securing funds for the payment of the cost of construction of said building and that such bonds be sold in the manner prescribed by law and by the proceeds of the sale of such bonds be paid into the treasury of the City and County of San Francisco to the credit of such "Public Building Fund" for the construction and erection of the said "Palace of the People."

8. That the Board of Public Works of the City and County of San Francisco shall have charge, superintendence and control, under such ordinances as may, from time to time, be adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, of the superintendence of the construction of said building under plans duly approved by the proper department and officers of the government of the City and County of San Francisco, and also of the repair and maintenance of said building, which shall be conducted for the purposes heretofore set forth, and for the benefit, accommodation and utility of the public and especially of the Working Class.

Report of the State Organizer.

Stockton, May 3, 1901.

On Sunday morning, April 22nd, I started on my first trip and lecturing tour through the Golden State of California.

At 9:30 a. m. I set out for Vallejo. I reached there only to find that all the addresses of comrades I had with me were wrong. After a search of several hours I met Comrade A. Newman who went with me to the home of Comrade Rump, where I was warmly received and had dinner. No arrangements had been made for a meeting and being tired and out of sorts, I took the stage for Benicia.

Benicia, April 23.—Here I met Comrade Wm. Gnauck, who is an enthusiastic socialist, and had made all arrangements for an open air meeting. At the meeting there was a fair and attentive audience, but they seemed very much afraid of socialism and kept as much in the shadow as possible.

Dixon, April 24.—Here I met Comrades G. D. Van Pelt, C. C. Donoho, B. F. Swenson and others. We held an open air meeting from an immense band wagon. There was an attentive audience, but just as in Benicia they were very timid. At the close of the meeting I organized Dixon Local of the S. D. P. with 7 members. G. D. Van Pelt was elected organizer and as far as I am able to judge all the members are first rate socialists and hard workers for the cause.

Williams, April 25th.—Here I met Comrade G. R. Gilmore and his amiable wife, who generously gave me the hospitality of their home. He and Comrade Clark worked like trojans for a successful meeting. Comrade Clark got up a transparency with four sides and sent out 2 boys, one with the dinner bell of the Hotel, to round them up. Comrade Gilmore got a large piece of old lumber and fixed it up with a pedestal, then saturated it with crude coal oil, and there was a grand bon fire. Notwithstanding all these efforts the meeting was not large, but was a good one, very orderly and attentive.

Colusa, April 26th.—Here Comrade Wolff and several others had secured a hall and had printed and circulated the following handbill: "Tonight—Free lecture in New Armory Hall, Colusa, by Scott Anderson. Subject in which all are interested. All are invited, especially ladies." On the handbill there is no mention whatever of the subject. I think that was decidedly a mistake. The subject was named in the local papers, however. At 8 o'clock there was a count of votes to see who had bought the most votes to be elected (?) Maid of Honor to the queen of the Sacramento festival, and our audience went there; so the attendance was small.

College City, April 27th.—Here I met Comrade M. Eddy and had so far the best meeting of my trip. The meeting was held in the College Chapel, and considering the size of the town, was quite large and representative.

Woodland, April 28th.—Here I met Comrade Geo. C. Jefferson who seems to be almost alone in the work; he is a very superior man and a hard worker for socialism. He explained that my chance of a meeting was but slim, as I had run up against a dog show, and in Woodland a man show was not in it with a dog show. I made the effort, however, and had an audience of about fifty.

Sacramento, April 29th.—Arriving at the Capital City, I proceeded to the home of Comrade W. F. Lockwood. I found that the comrade had made herculean exertions to get up a large meeting in Pythian Hall. Unfortunately the rain fell in torrents all day and in consequence spoiled the meeting. Some 150 attended, however, and I thought the meeting a big success. H. Gaylord Wilshire, of Los Angeles was present and spoke for about half an hour. I remained in Sacramento Monday, the rain prevented any meeting. Tuesday, rained again. On Wednesday, I called a meeting by postal card when 14 attended—13 signed the constitution and were duly enrolled as Local Sacramento. Comrade Lockwood was elected organizer and I think they have a very fine Local. Each member by resolution pledged himself to bring another at their next meeting, May 8th. I Stockton, May 2nd.—Stockton is better situated for open air meetings than any place I have seen in California. In the square in front of the Hall of Justice 5000 people could assemble and find plenty of room. I am here for a week. My first meeting was an excellent one, and the outlook is fine. The city election takes place on May 21st. Our comrades could only manage to get 6 candidates on the ticket, but they are going to work hard for them.

Scott Anderson.

Trusts, having about covered the earth, are now going up in the air. A \$20,000,000 skyscraper trust has been organized in New York, which will save ten per cent to builders. It is perhaps needless to say that Rockefeller cash is behind the deal, and that the small three and four-story buildings will be doing business soon.

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7th and WASHINGTON STS. OAKLAND, CAL.

LOCAL OAKLAND, of the Social Democratic Party, holds regular weekly lectures every Thursday evening, 8 p. m., at Becker's Hall, 918 W. Washington St. Admission free. Address correspondence to J. GEORGE SMITH, 212 Hearst Bld'g., San Francisco.

LOCAL ALAMEDA, of the Social Democratic Party, holds regular free public lectures every second Sunday evening at Foresters' Hall, cor. Park street and Santa Clara ave. Educational meetings for members every Friday evening at 2424 Central ave. room 8. Address communications, J. C. STAMER, 2061 Encinal Ave.

LOCAL SAN FRANCISCO, Social Democratic Party, holds regular weekly lectures every Thursday evening, 8 p. m., at the Academy of Sciences Hall, 89 Market street. Meetings begin at 8 o'clock. Open discussion follows each lecture. Questions answered; free platform; public invited. Admission free.

THE SOCIALIST DEBATING CLUB holds regular Sunday evening meetings at Pythian Castle, 900 Market street, beginning at 7:30. Object: To educate and develop class consciousness. Socialists to champion the cause of the working class. Vocal and instrumental music, etc. Questions answered. Public invited. Admission free.

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

Comrades: Since making my last report, the first S. D. P. Local was organized in Rhode Island at Providence with 26 charter members. More are expected to follow.

I have been trying for several months to get a complete list of our party membership and have repeatedly requested the Comrades through the party press to give me this necessary information. Some have complied but many have not, so I again bring this matter to the attention of those who have been negligent and request prompt action.

I have also repeatedly requested the state committees to make complete returns for Int. Del. stamps and again urge the secretaries to promptly close their accounts.

Then there is the matter of assessment levied by the N. E. C. The sum raised from this source is being used entirely to pay off the party indebtedness and I urge the secretaries of all Locals that have not yet remitted, to bring this matter before them at the next meeting and see to it that the amount due the N. E. C. is paid. Comrades, do your duty as secretaries and see to it that your Local pays its obligation at once.

The attention of the Locals is again called to the open air meetings of which you have all been informed directly, through circular letter. Many Locals have as yet not made known their desires regarding this effective method of propaganda and I trust that all are interested enough in the cause to participate in this work of education and advance the interest of the people for socialism. Therefore, Comrade secretaries, advise the Nat'l Sec'y at once if your Local wishes to be included in the open air circuits, as we have all the speakers ready to begin work just as soon as enough Locals agree to participate, so as to warrant the tours being a success.

Comrades, do not neglect to attend to all the above matters for by attending you lighten the work of the Nat'l Secretary and at the same time are helping the S. D. P. to carry on the work intended for it to do. Wm. Butcher Nat'l Sec'y

GENERAL PARTY MEETING.

Meeting called to order at 8:40 p. m. by Organizer Noel. Comrade Appel was elected chairman and Comrade Benham secretary pro tem.

Moved that the financial secretary be authorized to accept dues and furnish stamps to delinquent members. Carried. Comrades Johnson, De Ville and Gafvert were appointed to examine cards of members.

Organizer Noel reported regarding proposed Howard street headquarters, that he had consulted agents for the place and found that no proper repairs would be made. Chairs could not be purchased for less than 55 cents each in lots of 100. The organizer further reported that the German Free Thought society was seeking new headquarters and it was thought that a saving might be made by combining with said society in securing headquarters.

Organizer reported the May day meeting a partial fiasco. The Saturday night meeting at 5th and Market was a success. Probably 1200 persons present. The Organizer advised that owing to lack of propaganda in Sunday evening meetings, all efforts should be concentrated on the street work.

By a vote of 24 to 0, the Board of Directors of Advance was ordered to meet hereafter not less often than once a month instead of weekly.

Moved that the consideration of amendments regarding reorganization of city into 3 districts be taken up.

Moved that whole business of propositions be laid on table. Point of order raised that propositions must be voted on when referred to party by 2 district branches. Point sustained by chair.

An appeal was taken and chair was not sustained. Motion to lay whole business of 3 district proposition on table was carried.

Amendment to constitution submitted by Cosley, who moved its adoption. Seconded.

Article II, Sec. 6 to be amended to read: Senatorial districts shall meet in joint session at least once a month for the transaction of all party business. All provisions of the constitution in conflict with this provision are hereby repealed. Moved that financial secretary of county committee be authorized to receive dues in absence of district secretaries.

Moved that moneys in treasuries of the districts be turned into the party's general treasury. Carried.

Moved that the representation of Senatorial District clubs be reduced from 4 to 2 delegates and 2 alternates from each district. Motion lost.

Moved that the first Wednesday of each month be selected for a joint meeting. Carried. The joint meeting will be held in Labor Bureau in hall usually occupied by central committee.

Moved that members be taken in at joint meetings. Carried. Resolutions of sympathy for restaurant workers in their strike were adopted and ordered printed in Advance. Adjourned at 11:30 p. m. Respectfully submitted, G. B. Benham, Sec'y.

A School of Socialism.

If you wish to understand Socialism or to be able to work for it, you should take this course of lessons by correspondence. Sets of the printed lessons can be obtained for the use of local classes. If you can take these lessons either in a local class or by correspondence you can do effective work for Socialism afterward. For full particulars address, with stamp, Walter Thomas Mills, 3962 Langley ave., Chicago, Ill

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Correspondence.

Mr. Editor:

The following answer to an opponent of Socialism, and a supporter of the existing conditions of robbery, was refused space in our local paper; perhaps for no other reason than to leave the impression that Socialism was "knocked into a cocked hat," without giving me an opportunity to expose the fallacious arguments of my opponent. To show how absurd the gentleman's arguments appear, we will use his own words in the form of questions and then answer them, as follows:

R. S. Calhoun: Is not the rich man's right to accumulate property as sacred as H. H. Miner's?

Yes, sir. The rich man has the right to construct wagon roads, paralleling our public highways, and to erect toll gates every ten miles, and proceed to skin R. S. Calhoun and others who believe in private ownership of public utilities. It seems strange to me that so many people who enjoy the socialized thoroughfares will not stop and think what a benefit it would prove to socialize all public utilities.

R. S. Calhoun: "Don't you as well as others of greater notoriety teach the 'division of property'?" In fact, I know you do."

Let us see what others of greater worth have taught and do teach on this subject. The ethics of Socialism is identical with Christianity. (Encyclopedia Britannica.) Your charge one of my former communications as being "nothing but skeptical rant." In the light of the above definition I would like to know where you stand. "The abolition of that individual action on which modern society stands, and the substitution of regulated system of co-operative action." (Imperial Dictionary.) "A theory of society that advocates a more precise, orderly and harmonious arrangement of the social relations of mankind than that which has hitherto prevailed." (Webster.) "A science of reconstructing society on an entirely new basis, by substituting the principle of association for that of competition in every human branch of industry." (Worcester's Dictionary.) "Any theory or system of local organization which would abolish entirely, or in a great part, the individual effort and competition on which modern society rests, and substitute co-operation." (Century Dictionary.) "A theory of polity that aims to secure the reconstruction of society, increase of wealth, and a more equal distribution of the products of labor through the public collective ownership of labor and capital. Its motto is, 'Every one according to his deeds.'" (Standard Dictionary.) "Is simply applied Christianity; the Golden Rule applied to every day life." (Prof. Ely.) "What the Socialist desires is that the corporation of humanity shall control all production." (Frances E. Willard) Yes, sir, I am willing to be classed in this kind of company, and these authorities show conclusively your ignorance as to what Socialist and Socialism teaches, or you certainly were in collusion with the editor of the Le Grand "Advance," to have my answer cut, so others would not know that your argument was false, even if you knew better. In the eight of the authorities I have quoted any one making the arguments, and charging the Socialists with the teaching of the "division of property" is simply an assertion that brings the party making it close to the door of the home for feeble-minded.

R. S. Calhoun: "Give an example of two kinds of monopoly?" The post office is a complete monopoly of the mail-carrying business. The Standard Oil Company is a private monopoly which makes the people divide up and hand over to that gigantic concern their property to the amount of forty millions a year. Now, who is dividing up? Is it the postoffice monopoly, which is a social institution, or the Standard Oil Company, which is a private monopoly? Does the post office take any more from the people than absolutely necessary to pay operating expenses? Illuminating oil can be produced and delivered for three cents a gallon; and every cent charged above this amount is robbery, pure and simple. Yes, you are forced to divide your property, legally of course, with all private monopolies. You who are outside the lines of Socialism are the ones who are supporting the system of "dividing up" other people's property, not the Socialist, as my comparison of public and private monopoly plainly shows to those who will stop and do a little thinking. There are many who will take advantage to accumulate property to such an extent as to become a detriment to the masses—the producers. When such conditions are evident and do prevail, it is the duty of the government—the people—to alter or abolish the same and establish one in accordance with justice by fostering a system of government that will prevent organized capital from taxing the necessities of life. This can be done by the government building and operating all public utilities at cost; then, and not until then, will the people be able to enjoy life and liberty. You may say these privileges of equality are already guaranteed. Let us see. The editor of the Le Grand "Advance" has a standing "ad." for the railroad company; the railroad company gives him a pass anywhere over its roads in the state for advertising its business. This all looks shady to me, and should the Le Grand "Advance" commence advocating public ownership of the railroads, do you suppose that railroad "ad." would stay in his paper, or there would be any more passes issued to Mr. Editor? Well, not hardly. Now, if the government owned the railroad there would be no more necessity for advertising its business than the advertising of the postal business. Don't you know, if these little crossroads editors could advertise the postal business and get their papers and letters carried for nothing, they would do it? Well, they are always ready to criticize the postal business; but did you ever hear them criticizing the railroad? Oh, dear, no! That characteristic pass, bought by an "ad.," closes their mouths. That is what you are pleased to call a free press? And one of my articles comes along and asks for space, and is lopped off in the waste basket. That is what you are pleased to call free speech. H. H. Miner.

Le Grand, Cal.

All readers of "Advance" can obtain the famous Labor Song, "Ninety and Nine," by sending 11 cents in stamps to S. Seiler, 2257 Mission street, San Francisco. When ordering the song mention this paper; if you don't you will have to pay the regular price of 25 cents. This is your chance. It lasts as long as the first edition of the song is not exhausted.

In Old Missouri.

(Continued from Page 1.)

course, our speakers and our press will teach the class struggle, will show the middle class nature of the new movement, etc. We have plenty of arguments, and all sound enough to convert any man if you can get his ear. But there is the rub. The science of propaganda is the art of getting a man to listen to and understand your arguments. But let a man once become infatuated with this "public ownership" movement of the middle class and you will not get his ear until you dig him out of the slodrift sometime after election. From all of which I conclude that there is only one thing for us to do—get the voter's attention long before 1904. Talk to him now and begin to show him that there is a difference between government ownership for "business reasons" and collective ownership for the benefit of workingmen. To do this successfully, organization is absolutely essential. We must begin now and perfect an organization of which we can be proud. We must be able to reach every sympathizer personally and to see the new party. Had we been thoroughly organized in St. Louis (which was rendered impossible by the division of our party last April, the long street car strike which suspended all meetings and the two campaigns in close succession), we would have been able to meet the Public Ownership Party in its infancy and have successfully coped with it. As it is, we have learned a lesson which we repeat to all our comrades—"Organize, organize, organize!"

You have asked me to write about old Missouri and I have written you concerning what I think is the most significant event not only in Missouri, but also in the whole country. In closing, let me say that the Socialists of St. Louis are not in the least dismayed. They have understood the situation and have done the best that could be done with the resources at their command. They are not discouraged because they know that the Socialist sentiment is twice as strong as it was. The field is ripe for the harvest. Thirty thousand voters have broken away from the two old parties and these men are ready to hear something more radical (for defeat always makes men more radical). The Public Ownership Party publishes a weekly organ and threatens to go into the state elections, but it is already beginning to wane, and if the Socialists build up their organization as they are planning the gains they make in the next election will astonish the enemy.

A SOCIALIST AND THE CAPITALIST PRESS.

their own interests. It is not so much a question of brains, but the monopolization of the means of existence by which they rule.

"No one can say," said Mr. Roche, that Anna Gould or the Count Castellane have any great ability, or that they do anything for the vast amount of money they are spending. The modern capitalist does not work; he hires somebody else to do the work and to supervise his business. Mr. Schwab, who gets a million dollars for managing the steel trust, is hired by Morgan and his associates. When it is asked how Socialists are going to run trusts owned by the people, they say that the people can just as well hire Mr. Schwab as Pierpont Morgan."

"The trusts are rapidly abridging the number of the employed and men are asking for the right to labor. The number of unemployed is getting greater, but business is business and sentiment cuts no figure where business considerations interfere. As a matter of fact the sacred rights of private property are of far more importance than individual right. Socialists are not at war with individuals, but conditions, and they expect great changes in the near future."

CITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The minutes of the regular business meeting of C. C. C., April 8th, Comrade Dunne in the chair, are as follows:

Two applications for membership were accepted. Bills were ordered paid to J. J. Noel for editorial work, organizing and postal cards, \$22; for advertising May-day celebration, \$9.50; for hall rent, \$5. A motion was carried that money needed to purchase publications be drawn.

Financial Secretary reported receipts of the two weeks, ending May 7th, as \$138.81.

A motion was carried that we co-operate with Free Thought Society in securing headquarters.

The chairman for Thursday is Comrade King, Jr.; for Sunday, Comrade Flemming.

The resignation of Comrade Anna Strunsky from the office of Secretary was accepted, and Comrade J. J. Noel was elected Secretary pro tem, pending election by a quorum.

Respectfully submitted, ANNA STRUNSKY, Sec. C. C. C.

THE WORKER.

Beginning with its special May Day issue, the paper heretofore known as "The People," and published at 184 William street, New York, in the interests of the Social Democratic Party, appears under the new title of "The Worker." The change was considered advisable because of the confusion arising from the fact that there is another paper, "The People," published, which devotes itself to bitter attacks upon the S. D. P. and upon the labor movement in general.

The editorial position of "The Worker" will continue unchanged in advocating the principles of Socialism and the S. D. P. and holding fraternal relations with the Trade Union movement.

J. A. Wayland is issuing a pamphlet for farmers. It contains half-tone engravings of the new huge 50-horse-power traction engines, with driving-wheels 60 inches in diameter and flanges 60 inches in width, drawing over the field sixteen 10-inch plows, four 6-foot barrows, and a press drill to match, plowing, harrowing, and seeding from 45 to 75 acres at one operation each day. This machine explains why the vast crop of California, covering millions of acres, can be planted and cultivated at one-tenth the labor cost required in other portions of the country. It explains why wheat can be raised at 3 1/2 cents a bushel, and why the small, unsocialistic, unprogressive, reactionary farmers are being driven into tenantry or off the land and into the city.

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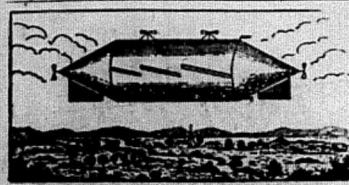
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