

MISSOURI SOCIALIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF MISSOURI.

Volume I.

St. Louis, Mo., Saturday, November 16, 1901.

Number 44.

PRESS CONFISCATION.

A PROTEST.

Recent actions of the United States Government impel us to ask: Are we to have a Bismarckian era in this country? Is the Socialist movement of America to encounter the same governmental opposition as it did in Germany? Are its papers to be confiscated, its supporters imprisoned and its members hunted like criminals, all in the name of liberty? Already one Socialist paper, with a subscription of 50,000 has been denied the use of the mails, and now we receive notice that another with a circulation of 180,000 is to receive the same fate. "The Challenge," edited by Comrade Wilshire of New York, was becoming too prominent and the government, through the agency of the third assistant postmaster-general, has put a stop to its publication as a weekly by denying its publication through the mails at newspaper rates. The editor of the "Appeal to Reason," the most widely read and generally the best known of Socialist papers in the United States, has recently been given notice from the same source to show cause why his paper should not also be debarred. Together with this suppression of the Socialist press of the country has gone a suppression of trades union journals, notably the official organ of the United Mine Workers of America.

The excuse for this action is given in the case of "The Challenge" that it was conducted as an advertisement of the ideas of the editor—the very purpose of nearly all privately conducted papers.

In the case of the "Appeal to Reason" the postoffice department declared their subscription list to be largely free.

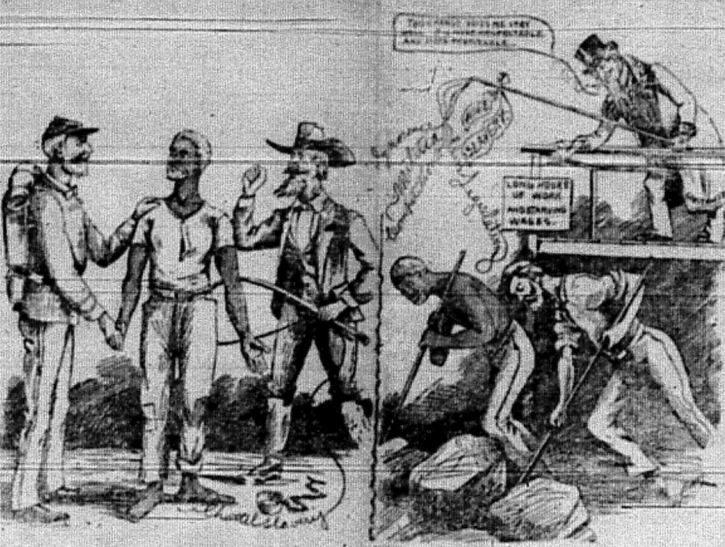
The falsity of this contention can be too plainly proven by the men

who have made the circulation of that paper what it is. They know that every subscription which they have sent in has been accompanied with the subscription price paid for by themselves, if not by the person to whom the paper was sent. The power thus wielded by the third assistant postmaster general is far more irresponsible than that of the Czar of Russia, performed as it is in the name of liberty. He can at his will debar from the mails any paper which the capitalist class of the country regard as a detriment to their interests. And it is at this point which is the most far-reaching. The capitalist class have decided that the further publication of the United Mine Workers' Journal was a hindrance to their successful exploitation of the miners of this country, and have debarred it from circulation, cutting off the international communication of the miners and greatly crippling their organization. They have viewed with alarm the growing power of the Socialist movement and have cut off its most effectual weapon.

It is doubtless but a question of time until all Socialist papers have been debarred, under various excuses.

The issue is one which must be met fearlessly, and it should be called to the attention of the working class whenever possible.

While the experience of the German comrades has shown that repression Fair management is the one making it unprofitable of Socialism, still it would be a great retarding factor and should be bitterly opposed. Comrade Wilshire has started a monthly magazine and Comrade Wayland has declared that he will continue his publication in Canada and secure his entry through the Canadian mails.



The laborer who fought for the freedom of the chattel slave, has now become with him a wage slave.

Under the system of chattel slavery the slave holder lost the ownership of the man and with the success of the abolition movement—that one form of slavery came to an end in America. But slavery was not abolished and there exists to-day a system of slavery far more onerous than the one which ceased with Lincoln's proclamation.

The basis of all slavery consists in the fact that the slave master is able, through whatever source, to command the labor of other men and appropriate as a result of that power the larger portion of the product of that labor. The slave system of to-day is known as wage-slavery.

Under the system of chattel slavery the master appropriated the product of his slave's labor by virtue of his ownership of the laborer himself. Under the system of wage-slavery the master (capitalist) is able to appropriate the product of his slave's (wage worker's) labor by virtue of his ownership of the machines, the tools with which the work is performed and without which the worker would starve.

Chattel slavery was destroyed only when the ownership of the slave was destroyed. The destruction of wage-slavery will only be accomplished with the destruction of the ownership of the machine.

This destruction can only come as a result of the combined action of the working class, and so long as the capitalist can keep his wage-slaves divided on race prejudices or any other question so much longer will his dominion continue.

Workingmen your interests are alike. Negroes, white men, Democrats, Republicans, churchmen and anti-churchmen, your differences work only to the benefit of those who reap a profit out of your toil. Your duty lies in unity of action, action as a class for the destruction of the last form of slavery.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

—A WARNING.

It is apparent to anyone who will stop to consider the question that the greatest problem before the World's Fair is the World's Fair managers' "pay." With the fact that nearly every such undertaking has proved a failure in the past, starting them in the face, we may rest assured that their main efforts will be directed toward the reduction of expenses. In other words, they will endeavor to obtain everything that goes to make up the fair as cheaply as possible.

These things can be divided into three classes: the raw material, the expense of transportation and the cost of labor power necessary in the actual construction of the buildings.

The raw material and the cost of transportation will have to be paid for at the market price, with possibly a very small reduction on account of quantity. For the reason that such negotiations will have to be made with other capitalists who, like themselves, are seeking to make it pay.

The only other element which they can buy cheaply and out of which they must make their profit, if it is to be made at all, is the labor power. Unlike the capitalist in the sale of his raw material and the arrangement for his transportation, the laborer is compelled to sell his labor power for an amount which will enable his employer, not himself, to make the profit.

And the World's Fair managers will do everything in their power to make this profit a large one, in other words, they will do everything in their power to hire their laborers as cheaply as possible.

The cheapness of this wage, unless something interferes, will be determined by the number of wage-workers seeking employment and by the ability of those wage-workers to live on the amount paid.

The only thing which can prevent these low wages will be the organized opposition of trades unions, which, through agreements, will compel the Fair Association to at least pay wages which will allow the workmen to live as human beings. It is apparent then that in order for the World's Fair management to hire its labor cheaply it must get rid of the only obstacle, the trades union.

Every action which has so far been taken indicates that they are determined on this question.

They have absolutely failed to treat with a committee of trades unionists, putting them off from time to time until any further delay must be con-

sidered as a flat refusal. They have so far had all their printing, which amounts to hundreds of thousands of pieces, done in the worst non-union houses, notwithstanding a strong protest from the printers' union; and they are now contracting for the feeding of the men employed in doing the preliminary work on the grounds with the same firm which furnished food to the strike-breakers brought into the city by the St. Louis Transit Co. last summer. But there is one other fact which overshadows all others.

Several days ago the Fair management announced through the press that plans had been made for the building of a model city adjoining the Fair site which would accommodate 25,000 persons. In this city were to live all the men employed in the construction of the Fair.

The Fair Association would establish grocery stores, dry goods stores and all other points for the sale of goods needed by the men. They would establish a regular government, police it and establish everything which goes to make a town of that size.

The entire place, it is understood, is to be surrounded by a high fence.

The workers employed on the Fair are to be divided into reliefs, each of which will work four hours and rest eight hours, one relief following the other. For what purpose is it natural to assume that this model city will be used? Is it to be expected that men living in St. Louis will leave their homes to live in a place where they will be worked and housed like so many convicts? It is plain to be seen that under these conditions the majority of the World's Fair builders will be outside men, most of whom not connected with trades unions.

The other element is the stationing of several troops of cavalry at Jefferson Barracks. It must be remembered that the United States Government has \$5,000,000 invested in this Fair, and that if there is any "labor trouble," they stand ready with their cavalry to put it down.

The working class of St. Louis has so far relied upon the "fair-mindedness" of the Fair promoters to deal with them at least honestly, it is high time that they began to look at the situation as it really is or they will find that they have waited too long. The World's Fair will have established their city for the housing of cheap workers and will use the power of the Federal government to prevent any interfering with their plans.

NOTICE.

The members of the PUBLIC FUND AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION are hereby notified that the meeting for the election of directors of the Association will be held at Wall-halla Hall, 10th and Franklin Avenue, Thursday Afternoon, November 28th, at 3 o'clock. All delegates from unions must bring their CREDENTIALS with them.

Louis Kober,
Delegate from C.T. & L.U.

NOTICE.

The Nebraska anti-trust law has recently been declared unconstitutional. Good! Smash the trusts.

Rival bread baking corporations propose to wage-war on each other in New York City by ruining the business of smaller bakeries, then combining and dividing the spoils. Any difference between this bread war and other wars? Means "dough" for the capitalist class.

The police are breaking the strike of negro roastsabouts at New Orleans by arresting and fining the negro strikers as vagrants, and making them work out the fines at unloading the vessels. The negro roastsabouts voted for a full dinner pail and the capitalist government will see that they get it (and no more)—even if it takes the police.

Sentence Confirmed. American Slavery.

Capitalist Justice.

The papers of Wednesday morning announce that the Missouri Supreme Court has placed the final seal on the condemnation of the lives of Maurice Brennan and James Northway, victims of the great street car strike of last summer. Brennan and Northway were employees of the Transit Co. and when the demand came for higher wages and better conditions they walked out with their comrades on strike. The struggle was a long one. The Transit Co. was sorely pressed and they resorted to desperate means to break the strike. Men were imported to take the places of the strikers, the aid of the city government was obtained and armed policemen were stationed on the cars and along the route those "duty" it was to kill or wound those who attempted to stop them. But this did not suffice and the struggle still dragged on. Then it was that they imported a man named Gra Havitt who was employed purposely to dynamite the cars in order to discredit the strikers.

He was furnished with all the necessary means by the company and his deceptions began to reflect on the men themselves who were entirely innocent of the matter. Finally Havitt was caught, but the matter was hushed up and he was sent out of town without a charge being preferred against him. Then it was that the services of the posse comitatus were brought into play, whose bloody work on Washington avenue is too well known to need recital. Against this opposition the men began to lose and by the means of a false trick the company induced the men to return to work again, but failed absolutely to keep their agreement.

The strike was again called, but it lacked the vigor of the first walk-out and a final conspiracy on the part of the company ended their resistance.

The thing needed was to attach the blame of dynamiting on the strikers. Chief of Police Campbell and company doctor Brokaw turned the trick. They had some dynamite placed in the houses of Brennan and Northway, had a charge of dynamite discharged in the cable slot of the Olive street line and almost before it was over arrested Brennan and Northway, fastened the crime on them and had one convicted for ten years, the other for twenty, notwithstanding their protests of innocence.

The St. Louis Central Trades and Labor Union and the State Federation of Labor denounced their conviction and did all in their power to secure their liberation. They were ignored.

There is one great lesson which this joint action of the Republican city administration and the Democratic State administration should teach to members of the working class. Capitalism is without politics when it comes to a war with labor, and all parties which uphold the capitalist system are alike in this, that they will furnish every power of government at their command to aid the capitalist class.

The working class should be as class conscious as their masters and unite for the election of the only party which opposes capitalism and therefore the only party which will support them in their struggles against the capitalist class, namely, the Socialist Party.

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MISSOURI SOCIALIST living in the 10th Ward should attend the reorganization meeting at Schlaprizzi's Hall, Broadway and Keokuk Street, Wednesday Evening, November 20 at 8 p. m. The 10th Ward can and will be thoroughly organized and we want every subscriber to this paper to help do the work. If you don't do it, no one else will.

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Roosevelt and Hanna.

—A CONFERENCE.

Roosevelt and Hanna have had a conference. They talked over the "problems" now confronting the nation and the press dispatches announce that they have "agreed on everything except the trusts."

Senator Hanna has declared himself as being in favor of trusts as he is quoted. He says, "They are the natural result of present conditions. Without them we would never have been able to acquire our immense foreign trade and without their continuance we cannot hope to hold it." Mr. Roosevelt, on the other hand has declared that trusts must go and I intend to deal strongly with them in my message to Congress.

It is not open to speculation. We are not assured that Hanna means what he says, but can we as surely depend on Roosevelt?

If capitalist politics is anything it is a game, the principal portion of which consists in fooling the working class; that is, the fellow who has the vote. Another great element is the ability to stay with the class which makes capitalist elections possible, namely, the capitalist class.

It was therefore highly necessary, that Hanna and Roosevelt have a conference and that Hanna should talk as he did. In order to reassure the capitalist class, and that Roosevelt should talk as he did in order to "soothe" the working class and keep them in a good humor until the next election by occupying their time with promises of trust smashing. Now that we have had the voice of the administration, let us see what we have heard Hanna's message of reassurance to the capitalist class. Roosevelt's declaration of deliverance to the working class, let us ask ourselves which one is right. Is the product of present conditions, and can Roosevelt smash them? Certainly it is a self-evident truth that both cannot be right. If the trust

is a natural outcome then it is impossible to smash them as long as you leave the conditions which brought them into existence.

The Socialist is called upon to decide, and he declares with Hanna that the trusts are the "natural product of existing conditions." But he denies that because they are natural that it signifies their continuance.

Business of all sorts yields greater profits under monopoly than under competition. The invention of labor-saving machinery and the use of the natural forces of steam and electricity make it impossible to carry on production as profitably under the old style method of hand production as under the new method of the factory system with huge machines driven by the powers of nature.

The capitalist class engage in business for profit, and they naturally make use of those things which will bring them greatest returns.

They thus grew from the hand method of production to the factory system and easily developed into monopoly or the trust. If we were to destroy the trust of today and leave our present system of capitalism intact, that is production for profit, there would still remain the causes which brought us to our present condition, and it is an old-truth which declares that like causes produce like effects. We would simply go through the same cycle.

But the trust, which is the perfected expression of the capitalist system, must be dealt with. It is a question which is up for solution. We have seen that it is impossible to destroy them and their effects, so long as we leave intact that which caused them, production for profit, we must then in abolishing them abolish their cause with them. We must abolish production for profit and substitute production for use. We must destroy capitalism and substitute socialism.

Warring Meriwetherites.

A DEFUNCT MOVEMENT.

The Meriwetherites are fighting again. Thursday morning's papers announce in their headlines "Meriwether Ousted from the Meeting."

This marks one more epoch in the utter destruction of the Public Ownership Party conceived as it was in individual ambition and bolstered up on the promise of "pie."

This middle class party which polled 25,000 of the working class vote of this city at the spring election has crumbled to pieces and the only energy which it displays is in the warring of its factions. Both sides are struggling for control of the party organization. Meriwether and his "committee" are seeking to dominate its movements, while Dr. Chambers and his "committee" are endeavoring to offset him. Both sides are using the worst of political tricks to get control and "billingsgate" is the order of the day. While this disgraceful battle is being waged between the "leaders," the men who were fooled into voting their ticket are doing a little thinking and their best men are already coming to the ranks of the Socialist Party, which

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Secretary.

Market reports announce that it will be but a short time until beef will become a luxury of the rich. J

Missouri Socialist

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EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
Communications must reach the office by Monday evening preceding the issue in which they are to appear.

Does not commit Missouri Socialist to any position expressed therein.
Contributions and items of news concerning the labor movement are welcomed 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.

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NOTICE.

If the number on your label is 44 your subscription has expired.

STATE ORGANIZATION.

The following resolution passed by the state committee at its last meeting will explain for any change in the style of the paper. The scribbling is now conducted by the business manager who asks for indulgence on shortcomings.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body that the Secretary-Treasurer be instructed to devote as much of his time as possible to the duties of his office and that the editing of Missouri Socialist be conducted according to the mutual agreement of the editor and business manager.

The reason for this action lies in the necessity for organization in the state. The experiences of the last mayoralty campaign have taught the comrades in this city the necessity for prompt and vigorous action between elections even more vigorous than in the heat of the campaign itself.

SUCCESS AND THE COLLEGE MAN.

One of the items which forms the burden of a great many articles now appearing in the capitalist publications of the country is that of "Success and the college man," and much good paper and printer's ink is being wasted on the subject. The "success" referred to is merely the accumulation of wealth.

This faculty requires several characteristics which are not possessed by all and it is only those who do possess them who will succeed.

The great fact in commercial success is the ability to purchase cheap and sell dear and this requires the further ability to take advantage of everything which will bring this maxim to its fullest meaning.

articles on the... dividends... Youdon railroad... twenty-five per cent has been ordered on a capital stock of \$5000... they declared... The company was formed by a syndicate of Chicago capitalists... who of course get the dividends... Wonder how much of the work was done by the Chicago capitalists... Did they ever make any grades... out any tunnels... or lay any track? Did they ever load a car or fire an engine? If not why do they receive the dividends? O, they own the road, says some one. Well, how comes that, if they didn't build it and don't run it, how can they claim to either own it or be entitled to the dividends?

We were always under the opinion that a man had to work for what he got in this world, and here it seems that you won't get anything if you do work.

IN VOLUNTARY SERVITUDE.

With the establishment of our present government, and the enactment of the constitution our fathers had hoped and many of them declared that involuntary servitude had been abolished, yet an incident which recently happened in New Orleans proves how badly they were mistaken.

The dock laborers of that city, employed in unloading the vessels struck recently for higher wages and for a time crippled the further progress of work. The ship owners appealed to the city government, complaining that the strike was ruining their business, in other words that their profits were being endangered.

The city government, as all capitalist governments will do, immediately came to their assistance, had the negro laborers arrested as vagrants and to make them work out their fines placed them to unloading the very vessels from which they had struck.

AMERICA'S SUPREMACY.

The recent marvelous development of America's foreign trade has brought forth a great deal of comment from the capitalist class of America and Europe, and all kinds of reasons have been advanced for it.

The real reason has been stated by Sir Christopher Furness, the greatest of England's steel and ship manufacturers.

America in recent years in whatever market her manufacturers have entered has been successful because they have presented the cheapest and much the best product. The reason advanced by Mr. Furness is that, "while in America the price of labor is higher, the product per man is so much greater that labor really costs less in the United States."

Here is a declaration coming from one of the richest capitalists in the world, who during his whole life has bought raw material and labor power, and sold their product in the market at a profit. He has declared that America's profit is the result of her cheap labor, thus confirming the oft repeated argument of the Socialists, that profit is the result of labor, and that large profits depend upon small wages. In this declaration of Mr. Furness is also contained the whole gist of the capitalist system.

ed and the working class of America who are seeing the product of their labor shipped to foreign shores when they and their fellows see themselves in the saddest need of them, will not receive the full enjoyment of the wealth thus created until Socialism has been established.

President Roosevelt's Thanksgiving proclamation is couched in the usual monotonous clap-trap about "liberty, peace and plenty," "material prosperity," and "intellectual and spiritual uplifting."

The idea of "liberty" in a nation of wage-slaves! Peace and plenty, when one cannot have plenty without disturbing the peace. The capitalist class should be thankful for liberty of exploitation; the peace maintained by force; the plenty without labor; and the material prosperity at the cost of "the millions" adversity. The "intellectual and spiritual uplifting" thus derived, obtains its inspiration from rent, interest and profits. Whenever the working class enjoy liberty, peace and plenty, which they can have only under Socialism (when the full product of labor will be the laborer's just recompense), it will not be necessary to remind the workers to be thankful by issuing a presidential proclamation.

The following head lines recently found in a New York paper should set every workingman to thinking: "STOP WORK IN MILLIONAIRE'S ROW."

After which a short article told us Andrew Carnegie, J. Pierpont Morgan and several other millionaires were being "greatly inconvenienced" because workers had refused to continue with the repairs on their "winter homes," unless they were granted more pay. "That is queer a millionaire at the mercy of workmen? Surely he could get his repairs attended to without the help of those dirty creatures."

One would have thought that they could easily have sent a few of their machines in the front parlor and the work would have been accomplished. They surely don't need workmen to run them?

No, that can't be possible. Surely these capitalist papers don't claim that labor produces wealth. We thought that capital employed labor. Queer.

Hettie Green.

A Capitalist.

Dispatches from Chicago announce that Hettie Green, the richest woman in America, was publicly censured in the police court of that city Monday morning. It seems that Mrs. Green owns a tenement house in that city, and as one of that class of society who does not work, she must run her tenement house for profit. One of the things which would have reduced those profits, and which of course she would rightfully oppose, would be any expenditure for repairs. And this formed the basis of the censure, although he remarked Mrs. Green was not in the court room when the censure was administered, else the "censure" might have been a "suggestion."

Dennis O'Leary was one of those miserable creatures which our criminal society condemns to a tenement house life, and he and his wife and eight little children had lived for several weeks in Mrs. Green's tenement. They lived in two rooms; there was no glass in the windows, no water, no plumbing, no sanitary arrangements and no fire. When O'Leary complained of the condition of the place Mrs. Green's "agent" told him that if he would repair it they would allow him six months' rent free. This was impossible on his meager wages and things dragged on from bad to worse until the police were compelled to take the children to the hospital.

Horrible recital for a so-called Christian and civilized country, and yet such things as these only happen in "civilized" countries. But why Mrs. Green should have been censured it is impossible to declare. She is only a capitalist and capitalists live on profits. Where else shall they get it save from the labor of the working class? All capitalists do likewise and some are even more exacting than she.

We have no time to waste in condemnation of individual capitalists so long as the capitalist system, which breeds them, exists. We must censure and destroy the system which allows one class in society to own that upon which all depend, if we are ever to rid ourselves of its natural products if we are ever to see an end to such unfortunate creatures as Dennis O'Leary and his miserable family, and to such men and such women as Hettie Green.

Both are alike the products of our system and both will disappear when its baneful influences are no more.

Socialist Arrested.

Porto Rican Capitalism.

The press dispatches of Nov. 42 announce the arrest of Comrade Santiago Iglesias of Porto Rico, who was recently sent to the island by the American Federation of Labor to organize the workmen of that country. From his dispatch to President Campers it would seem that he was arrested without a warrant, without any charges being preferred against him and thrown into prison to await the pleasure of the capitalist judges of the island who no doubt are anxious to mete out "justice" to him if for no other reason than that he has already made himself too conspicuous in the struggle of his fellow workmen for freedom.

prisonment will be continued indefinitely. The capitalist class of Porto Rico can accomplish it.

The workmen of that country and of this will soon learn that our so-called liberty is merely the liberty of the capitalist class to rob the workers and that whenever that liberty is infringed the workman who has had the courage to protest against it will be dealt with as an outlaw.

In the island of Porto Rico the capitalist class has been in undisputed possession of that liberty. With the American invasion and the destruction of the Spanish power the weary wage slaves of that country, who had long looked on America as the home of liberty, naturally supposed that they were to share in the anticipated blessings. Their expectations were only too rudely shattered. They learned only too forcibly that America, as all other countries, was ruled and governed by and in the interest of the capitalist class. The Porto Rican workmen had hoped for better wages and better conditions, they were not forthcoming and they struck in many instances.

The military government branded them as rebels, arrested their leaders and broke up their strike at the point of the bayonet. Among those arrested was Comrade Iglesias. He was held for months without any charge being placed against him and treated only as outraged and endangered personal interest could treat him. The full details of his imprisonment were never learned.

Is the thing to be repeated? Are we to again witness such scenes? The power of the civil governor of Porto Rico is equalled only by the irresponsible rule of the capitalist judges of our own country, who can place any workman in jail without a trial by jury, governed only by the dictates of the capitalist class. They are both features of the class struggle which are more clearly proving the argument of the Socialists and show the spirit with which the working class will one day have to deal before they have succeeded in achieving their emancipation.

Grover Cleveland.

A Friend of Labor.

Ex-President Cleveland has once more come to the fore. This time as a friend of labor. He describes the relation of capitalist and laborer as a "national co-partnership," and in commenting upon the class struggle between the parties to this fancied partnership he says: "The situation proves that somewhere there are members of our partnership—in American citizenship who set in violation of partnership duty, and I am sure that I venture nothing in making the assertion that the only remedy for this situation must be found in a return to the observances of the law of American co-operation."

Well said, Grover. Of course it's a partnership, for the capitalist, and you are right in your remedy, so far as the capitalist class is concerned. That is plain to be seen, in order for the capitalist to continue his partnership, he must impress his co-partner with the duties of the relation.

You are also very safe in the proposing of your simple remedy. So long as you preach about the duties of the working class there is no danger of incurring the wrath of the capitalist; it is only when you speak of their rights that the trouble begins. Whether fortunately or unfortunately it is this latter position which is taken by the Socialist we ask the working class if they ever heard of a partnership where one member of the firm performed all the work, made all the wealth, while the other member enjoyed it?

Yet that is the position of the wage worker. His whole life is spent in toil, for which he receives as compensation merely an animal existence. The capitalist class, on the other hand, without the expenditure of any labor, live on the luxury of the land and preach the duties of the working class. In the last 50 years in this country the fertile brain of the American workman has brought into being vast machines with the aid of which we are able to produce the wealth of the world with only a fraction of the labor formerly required. But have they benefited the condition of the working class? Do the producers of all wealth enjoy any larger share of it as a consequence? The question is only too forcibly answered in the great army of the unemployed, in the miserable and squalid condition of our tenement districts, in the ever growing uncertainty of employment of the more fortunate of the wage workers. If these things exist, there must be a reason for it and it is this reason which demands a declaration for the rights of the working class.

These great machines, together with the forces of nature, steam and electricity, now form the sole mode of production. Hand production is now impossible and without access to the machine the working class must become tramps or criminals.

While these machines are themselves the product of labor they are owned, under our present system, by a single class in society, which use them and which hires the working class in the production of wealth for the profit which their operation will yield. With the power which this ownership places in the hands of the capitalist class, they are enabled to force the workers into the "partnership" of which Cleveland speaks. The only hope for the future of the working class lies in the destruction of this very "partnership," which cannot help but be a forced one, between workers and drones, and the establishment of a voluntary relation where the drones will be eliminated and the working class, the ownership and operation of the collective machinery of production will enjoy the full product which their labor brings forth.

ELECTION NEWS.

Election returns are still coming in slowly, but what meager reports have come to us show a very substantial gain at every point. The report from New York is not yet complete, but it is estimated at 10,300, a gain of nearly 1,000.

The news from Omaha, Nebraska, is very encouraging. Their vote has increased almost 100 per cent. Douglas county, where Omaha is situated, returned 535 votes, as against 265 one year ago. This large increase is very largely attributed to the efforts of Comrade Bernard McCaffery, who is very well known to St. Louis.

Comrade McCaffery went to Omaha last spring and has been a tireless worker ever since his arrival. This gratifying increase in votes is a very acceptable reward.

The increase in South Omaha was even more gratifying. Last year the highest vote was 31, this year it was increased to 161.

FLORENCE, NEB. 29 votes; last year 0.
ALBRIGHT, Neb. 41 votes; last year 0.

BUFFALO COUNTY, 79 votes; last year 32.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
George H. Wrenn, candidate for governor, received 569 votes, being a very handsome increase.

COVINGTON, KY.
Comrade Lavannier writes that the Socialist ticket polled 278 votes in the city of Covington and 353 in Kenton county, as against 180 in the city at last fall's election and 240 in the county.

READING, PA., polled 279 votes for the Socialist ticket, an increase of 20 over last year.
YORK, PA.—176 votes were cast in this city for the Socialist ticket. De Leon received 20 votes. In 1906 De Leon received 124 votes for President and Maloney 12.

YONKERS, N. Y.—The Socialist Party vote has not yet been received. De Leon, however, lost two-thirds of his vote, receiving only 106 as against 273 in 1909.

SCHUYLERVILLE, N. Y.—The Socialist vote at this place, while small, was nearly doubled, receiving 7 votes as against 4 votes in 1909.

HALEDON, N. J.—The vote for the Socialist Party at this place was 10. De Leon 21.

NORTH HALEDON, N. J.—Comrade Vall for Governor received 21 votes. De Leon 6.

The Socialists have every cause to feel good over these returns. They indicate an increase which will be greatly augmented by 1902.

The Union Label.

A Defense.

The request at the end of this article is taken from a recent issue of "The Worker." It is a forceful argument in support of union labels, and it certainly should make it clear to all that it is when purchasing commodities that everyone can help determine for or against organized labor. You have the opportunity to help the workers maintain their right to organization, to fixing hours and wages, etc., every time you purchase a hat, shoes, or cigars. If you evade the opportunity you are as guilty of betraying your fellow-workers as though you deliberately took the place of a striker. The only difference between the two crimes would be that you might not be caught in buying non-union articles even though it indirectly determined that "scabs," not union men, should work. It may not be long till the first will be as despicable as open scabbery. The bold scab owes no allegiance by virtue of a solemn pledge; the union man who buys non-union goods does and his transgression is the most inexcusable.

But on the other hand, the existence of union label products should be advertised in a practical manner. I would say in a class-conscious manner. The advertising of union goods to the dealer is wasting the printer's time in a foolish manner. The dealer is in business for profit, not "sentimental" union principles handicap him in his grab for profits. A retailer has a full stock of shoes on his shelves; they are all non-union made. Will he heed an advertisement telling him that he should write for a list of union shoe factories? His great fear will be that a growing demand for the union article will leave his non-union products to grow old and unsaleable. He will fight the union label; not openly, but by all the mean contemptible tricks which the bourgeoisie can invent to protect their profits. Therefore I would criticize the "P. S." of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union at the bottom of their request as a wasted appeal. It is obvious to anyone that the consumer can not go to the shoe factory for his shoes, then why talk to him about the list of union factories? The consumer needs to know those stores which in his city are selling union shoes. Until the consumer has been furnished the opportunity of employing union labor by advertising to him the union label products, and where to obtain same, he is not alone to blame.

Socialists should help forward the "union labels." No propaganda will bear greater results in the ultimate. The organization of the working class by means of the label inducement has more meat in it for the coming triumph of Socialism than appear upon the surface. The presence of the label upon manufactured articles is increasing the sales of such manufacturers as are employing only union labor. Thoroughly organized sections, like mining districts, will buy only union products. To successfully compete, all who supply such markets, will need the label on their products. This they can only get by increasing the number of the organized workers. The propagation of Socialist principles among an unorganized working class mob is being demonstrated as a puerile undertaking in the experience of the union-smashing Socialist Labor Party. At each recurring election its vote grows beautifully less, while the young Socialist Party, by its scientific tactics in the trades union movement has, during its brief period of activity, entirely eclipsed this injudicious and ill-advised contemporary. Any effort by Socialists which will more completely organize labor is good propaganda and an investment which will return compounded to the cause of Socialism when the next stage in union labor progress is reached. When the inducement in increased sales has persuaded a large number of manufacturers to

acquire the union label, then it will be competition between union factories, while at present it is competition between non-union factories. And as certain as night follows day, so will worse conditions to labor follow. One of two developments will take place; the factories will, upon finding that the status is no longer a "trade winner," cast the die of the dictation which unionism in the factory involves, or there will by the time be a combination of manufacturers—a "trust"—who will undertake not only to discard, but to destroy unions in their respective industries. In the light of the recent experience of several industries, its natural result, latter will take place. The hardships labor will be far greater than before, and disorganization will set in, unless Socialists are present who by their past conduct in labor's battles have proven fit advisers and have earned the confidence of the labor host. If the Socialist has done this, he will have the opportunity of carrying the multitude on to class-conscious political action. If he has "barked at the moon" while other Socialists were engaging in the real life all about them, going into the battles and trials, experiments and hardships of their fellows, yet always with a definite purpose and future goal; then such Socialists will find when the final break-up occurs, that the surging, swelling mass of toilers will rush in a mighty torrent toward their deliverance and the critics who choose to remain on the edge rather than get into the center of the toilers' struggle. Consideration of the present interests of the

working class and harmonizing the with the workers' future interest is the key to right Socialist tactics. The immediate reason why union labels and all other devices which tend to gather toilers into the union organizations should be supported and furthered by the Socialist, is that already pointed out; it is being demonstrated each succeeding election, that Socialist propaganda carried on among the labor mobs is retrogressive when crystallized into votes, while that carried on among the labor organization is progressive, increasing from 1898 to 1900 at the astounding rate of 1015 per cent, or over ten times. This shows the immediate results only; it is the future which will prove to us the wisdom of the present tactics of the Socialist Party. When the inevitable destruction of the present purely economic labor organizations becomes apparent to the mass of toilers it will need but a presentation of facts to achieve the change to the advanced form of organization, the political organization of the workers. To-day, they oppose politics because it has a disorganizing effect; while to ignore politics enables the uniting of more persons than would be possible if a certain political party were recognized. For this reason the political organization known as the Socialist Party don't need and DOES NOT SEEK RECOGNITION from organized labor. To-morrow, when the ruins of pure economic organizations have demonstrated the futility of deliverance by that means—political organization will be resorted to. When we all come to discern that the masters no longer depend on their economic power to fight unions, WHEN ALL SEE THAT IT IS THE POWERS OF GOVERNMENT with the attributes, like the injunction and militia, or police force which they employ against labor then will the economic organization, in spite of a handful of at present misguided leaders, become political. At that crucial period the value of the Socialists in the trades unions will be fully realized. Push the labels—push the economic organization of the workers, the sooner this sort of organization reaches its pinnacle, the sooner it will realize its economic weakness and the value of political strength. Fellow Unionists! When a capitalist refuses to employ union labor, labor organizations are very indignant, and the capitalist

