

ST. LOUIS LABOR

VOL. VI

OFFICE: 212 SOUTH FOURTH STREET.

ST. LOUIS, MO., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1908.

PHONE: KINLOCH, CENTRAL 1577. NO. 412

1908—Merry Christmas—1908

FOR POUREN AND RUDIWITZ

St. Louis Socialist Party, in General Meeting Assembled, Protests Against Extradition of These Russian Political Refugees—Illinois Coal Miners Also Protest.

Local St. Louis Socialist Party met in general meeting last Monday evening at Druids Hall and by unanimous vote adopted the following:

Resolution in Behalf of the Russian Political Refugees, Christian Rudiwitz and Jan Pouren, Now Prisoners in the United States by Special Request of the Czar's Muscovite Government.

Whereas, The political refugees, Christian Rudiwitz and Jan Pouren, who took an active part in the heroic revolutionary struggles of the Russian people during the eventful days of 1905 and 1906, and were compelled to leave their native country when the Czar's reactionary government inaugurated its reign of terror against the people in the Baltic provinces and other parts of the Russian Empire;

Whereas, These brave Russian Revolutionists, having full confidence in the liberty-loving spirit of the American people, fled to the land of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry and Abraham Lincoln in the hope of enjoying political liberty under the Stars and Stripes;

Whereas, The Russian Czar's secret service men and bloodhounds followed these political refugees to America, and here, with the help of well-paid agents and high-salaried lawyers, succeeded in having Rudiwitz and Pouren arrested and have since made every imaginable effort to get these men back to Russia and deliver them to the Muscovite Cossacks and hangmen;

Whereas, These Russian refugees are not guilty of any other crime than having taken a leading part in the revolution against the most brutal despotism the world has ever known; therefore, we appeal to the liberty-loving men and women of this community to join with us in the protest against the extradition of said Christian Rudiwitz and Jan Pouren, and that we also appeal to President Theodore Roosevelt to protect these brave sons of Russia against any further attempts to deliver them into the murderous claws of the Russian bear;

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to President Roosevelt, to the Department of State, to United States Senators Warner and Stone, and to Congressmen Bartholdt, Caulfield and Coudrey;

Resolved, That the Socialist Party of St. Louis enters its emphatic protest against the existing extradition treaty between the United States and the Czar's despotic government, and that we call upon every American citizen who believes in liberty, justice and fair play for the common people of all the nations to insist that said treaty be speedily annulled.

Illinois Mine Workers in Defense of Rudiwitz.

To the Editor of St. Louis Labor: Dear Sir—Please publish the following:

Whereas, The Russian government is now seeking the extradition of Ansluff Rudiwitz, a Russian political refugee, be it

Resolved, By the Beckemeyer Local No. 2619, U. M. W. of A., at its regular meeting, Dec. 18, 1908, that the surrendering of political refugees to the barbarous Russian government would be an extinguishable blot upon the fair name of our country and contrary to its traditions.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM FULTON, Rec. Sec.
Beckeville, Ill., Dec. 18, 1908.

X-RAYS

By John M. Work.

It is to be hoped that the Democratic party will have sense enough to know that it is dead.

The workingmen of a number of other countries have already discovered that it is a bad mistake to make political alliances with the old parties. As soon as they began to elect Socialists, the old parties began to tumble over themselves to grant concessions.

If the workingmen who voted for Bryan last fall had voted the Socialist ticket and boosted the Socialist vote up to a million or two, the Republicans and Democrats would have been scared into abolishing the injunction abuse and granting numerous other concessions.

It is too late to do that now, but it is the duty of every workman to join the Socialist party organization at once and get ready to do it next time.

To do good is the only real success there is in the world. All else is sham, pretense and unreality. It does not matter what money or position a man gains, unless the world is better and humanity higher for his having lived, he has been a flat failure.

Says Thomas Carlyle, "If the great cause of man, and man's work in God's earth, got no furtherance from the Arabian Calif, then no matter how many scimeters he drew, how many gold piasters he pocketed, and what uproar and blaring he made in this world—he was but a loud-sounding inanity and futility; at bottom he was not at all."

A tombstone in an English churchyard bears the following inscription:

"Reader, I've left a world to you,
In which I had a world to do;
Fretting and sweating to get rich,
Just such another fool as you."

They say that we Socialists intrude our views upon other people. Well, maybe we do sometimes, but we just can't help it. We know we are right and we know the other fellow is asleep, so we feel it to be our duty to wake him up and put him on the right track.

When the stolid lover, Christian, in Cyrano De Bergerac, proposed to Roxanna, he merely blurted out, "I love you." The girl waited patiently for the rest, but when it did not come she tapped her dainty foot impatiently and said, "Yes, that's the theme, but—embroider it."

A passionate lover does not need to be told to embroider it. He can't help doing so. It is only the cold, half-hearted lover who has to be told.

The Socialist is passionately in love with Socialism. He can not help trying to spread the truth. He is so full of it that if it did

CHRISTMAS

By HARVEY P. MOYER.

On that long expected morn to a world benight forlorn,
In a lowly manger born, came Christ the Son of God;
Vain did selfish powers assail, naught could Hate and Death prevail,
Angels watched the Holy Grail of Love and Brotherhood, Holy Brotherhood.

Childhood pure and sweet He knew, youth's rich promise blessed
He, too,
Manhood's power over all proved true, the incarnate son of God;
Let the Christ anew be born, let all be sons of God;
Taught how sin and wrong to quell, want and fear and gloom dispel,
Taught all evil to repel thro' Love and Brotherhood, Christian Brotherhood.

This belated Christmas morn, world with strife and sorrow torn,
Let the Christ anew be born, let all be sons of God;
Then all war and woe shall cease, wronged and troubled find release,
All in comfort, joy and peace, in Love and Brotherhood, Loving Brotherhood.

Howard Lindsay Expelled From Socialist Party By Unanimous Vote

St. Louis, Dec. 22, 1908.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to inform the Socialists throughout this city and state and the Socialist press, especially the Appeal to Reason and the Chicago Daily Socialist, also National Secretary J. Mahlon Barnes, that

Howard E. Lindsay,

alias

Howard Lindsay,

or Dr. Howard Lindsay, was expelled by Local St. Louis, Socialist Party, at a special general meeting held at Druids Hall Monday evening, December 21, 1908.

The expulsion of said Howard E. Lindsay, alias Howard Lindsay, was recommended by the Trial Committee, which had been elected by Local St. Louis at a former general meeting, to investigate the Lindsay affair.

The motion to expel Lindsay was adopted by a unanimous vote.

A detailed official statement by Local St. Louis will be published in next week's St. Louis Labor.

OTTO KAEMMERER.

Secretary Socialist Party, St. Louis, Mo.

not find some outlet he would surely explode. When you find a Socialist who never says anything about Socialism, takes little interest in the movement, seldom attends a meeting, and rarely takes a hand in the propaganda work, you can be sure that he is not much of a Socialist. He is like the stolid, half-hearted lover in the play.

Now that the industrial conditions are ripe for Socialism, it has been noticed everywhere that, other things being equal, the results at election time are almost in exact proportion to the amount of efficient effort put forth by the party membership.

There are lots of good ways of making Socialists. The systematic, house-to-house distribution of Socialist literature is one of the best methods of propaganda yet devised.

In places where these distributions have been made regularly, it has been discovered that the people get so they want the literature. They get so they look after it. They get so they miss it when for any reason it does not come. The results on election day show its good work. It makes it far easier to get people to subscribe for Socialist papers. And let me tell you that the day when the Socialists carry the United States will be the day when there is a Socialist paper going into a majority of the alleged homes in the United States.

These literature distributions should be made at regular intervals. The city or town should be districted and each district assigned to a comrade, to be covered by him or her with letter-carrier precision at each distribution.

A single distribution will do some good, but not much. It is the follow-up system that counts.

Every successful advertiser will tell you that it is persistent advertising that brings results. The same idea applies here. The distributions should be made at regular intervals. Then they will reach the spot.

At each distribution the literature should be placed in every house or apartment in town.

Don't toss it up on the lawn.
That would be a waste of time, money and effort.

Put it in the mail box or behind the screen, or under the door, or in any place where it will be sure to be found and where the wind will not carry it away.

The literature should be carefully selected. It may consist of papers, leaflets or pamphlets. These can be secured in large quantities at very low rates. When there is a local occurrence on which a good Socialist broadside can be written, it should be utilized if possible, either in leaflet form or as an article in a Socialist paper, and the leaflet or paper used for the next distribution.

Give them something that will take hold.
Give them something that will soak in.

Give them something that will whet their appetites and cause them to want to make a more extended investigation of the subject.

Each piece of literature should, in addition to the other matter, have stamped upon it a notice of the time and place of the regular meetings of the local or branch. If possible it should also contain an advertisement of Socialist papers and books, with addresses and prices.

It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of these distributions. They accomplish two very desirable results:

They make new Socialists.
They put old Socialists to work.

You Can Do It.

Buy of firms that advertise in Labor and tell them why. It will assist in maintaining our paper.

From Serfdom To Prosperity

Organized Labor Has Won Its Fight for Better Things in All Parts of the World—Fewer Hours and Fewer Strikes --Better Pay and Better Conditions Now.--
By Winfield R. Gaylord, Socialist Member of Wisconsin State Senate.

The trade union arose along with the factory and the modern machine process. Its necessity and its value depend upon two principal facts: (1) One man or a few men out of job can be used to beat down the wages of all the rest who are at work; and (2) the men who work can drive a better bargain with the employer for the sale of their labor if they act together than they can if they act separately. This has resulted in the system of collective bargaining and trade agreements.

Through collective bargaining they aim (1) to raise wages; (2) to shorten the hours of labor; (3) to improve the conditions of labor.

In addition to this they aim, of course, at the general welfare of their members, and the larger security of life and culture, sometimes extending the range of their services as far as the various kinds of life, sickness, accident and out-of-work insurance.

But the main battle of the unions is with reference to the wages, hours and conditions of labor.

The trade unions have succeeded largely in their aims. It can not be denied that for the greater number of those for whose benefit they are directly organized they have "made good."

In the United States during 25 years (1881 to 1905) out of strikes involving 181,407 establishments, 47.94 per cent have been successful, 15.28 per cent have partly succeeded, and only 36.78 per cent failed. That does not spell failure for the trade unions in the matter of strikes. Sixty nine per cent of these strikes were called by labor organizations, and of these only 35 per cent failed entirely, 49 per cent succeeding and 15 per cent partly succeeding.

In Illinois 52.56 per cent of the establishments in which strikes took place show the success of the strike, and 11.75 per cent show a partial success.

In England, Sidney Web indorses the statement of Sir Robert Giffen to the effect that from 1837 to 1897 in almost all trades wages have risen from 50 to 100 per cent.

In the straight battles for an increase in wages the union men of the United States have lost in only 31.36 per cent of the shops involved.

The city of Washington was built by men who got no more than 50 cents a day. The average rate of wages all over the country at the beginning of the last century was \$950 a year with board and perhaps lodging.

In 1850 the average factory wages were \$247 a year; in 1890, \$446. All of which goes to show that during this period the trade unions have "made good" in their own field in the matter of wages.

In the United States, during 25 years, in the straight fight for the reduction of hours, the fight has been lost in only 39 per cent of the places involved.

The eight-hour day is generally observed among 25 trades in all, 14 of which are in the building trades.

The anthracite miners have the nine-hour day, as have also the machinists, molders and pattern makers.

Twenty-two unions report to the American Federation of Labor that they have secured reductions of working hours during the year ended May, 1907.

In 1779 the bricklayers of New Jersey worked 14 hours and were housed worse than pigs.

At Great Falls, N. H., in 1844, factory girls worked from 5 a. m. to 7 p. m., with 15 minutes for breakfast and 30 minutes for dinner, for \$1.25 to \$2 a week. They now have the 58-hour week for all.

The trades unions have also "made good" in their fight for a reduction in the hours of labor.

They have reduced the number of strikes and the suffering attendant upon the struggles between employers and workmen.

They have agitated for the improvement of factory conditions by law, and effective labor legislation has been proposed and fought through in most of the states.

They have reduced the dangers of employment. It is stated on the authority of one of the leading mine workers that the horrible accidents in coal mines in this country have all occurred in "scab" mines.

England furnishes a well-known illustration of the improvement in the conditions of labor, accomplished in large part by means of the trade unions.

The army of the unemployed in the 40s of the last century seemed to threaten to engulf the whole social order of Great Britain. Since that time the piling up of wealth has gone on at a rate unheard of before that and it still increases. But the proletariat of England is distinctly not getting worse off.

Engels, comparing the conditions of the English working class in 1892 with their condition in 1833, says: "A permanent improvement can be recognized for two 'protected' portions only of the working class. Firstly, the factory hands; secondly, the great trade unions."

Von Nostiz recently said of the working class of England: "The best proof of the material rise of the lower classes is the decrease in mortality." He goes on to show that "the average length of life for men has increased about two years, and that for women has increased about three and a half years."

Von Nostiz also shows the decrease in pauperism as follows: 63-1000 of the population received aid in 1849; 43-1000 of the population received aid in 1872; 26-1000 of the population received aid in 1892. And during this time the expense for paupers was much heavier than before the poor law of 1834.

The decrease in serious crimes is shown by Von Nostiz to be from about 750 for every 100,000 inhabitants between 1872 and 1876 to about 500 for every 100,000 inhabitants between 1892 and 1896.

A decrease in mortality, pauperism and crime does not show an increasing degradation of the working people. They have gained in strength, and to this end the trade unions have helped.

Mrs. Webb, in her well-known treatise on the trade union movement, says: "The combination of the entire working class in one union of co-operative societies on the one hand and of a federation of trades unions on the other hand would actually give the power in the state to the workman."

Which is to say that the growth of the effective power of the trade unions is nothing else but a state within a state, growing up and disputing the control of the means of production under the present condition.

CONTRACTORS WILL FIGHT.

Men Who Are Reaping the Golden Shekels at Expense of Prisoners and State Plan a Campaign.

The St. Louis labor unions, especially the Central Trades & Labor Union, are urgently requested to pay special attention to the following communication:

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 20.—It is generally understood in Jefferson City that the contractors who have the convicts leased from the state of Missouri at 33 cents, 40 cents, 50 cents and 60 cents per day have raised a big fund to defeat Organized Labor's fight to abolish the present system of leasing convicts. These contractors do not seem to have a high opinion of the members of the Missouri legislature, for the statement has been made that the contractors have advocated employing several members of the legislature to handle their case for them.

While in Jefferson City last week Charles W. Fear, secretary of the legislative committee of the Missouri Federation of Labor, was informed that the contractors were planning a big campaign. Already men are out over the state quietly working among the country members and telling them any change will add to their taxes, as well as "letting the poor prisoners lie idle." Another lie being circulated is that the present system is beneficial to the prisoners instead of the contractors.

The members of the legislative committee request central bodies and all local unions of the state to hold mass meetings to condemn the present system of leasing convicts in Missouri and also request all ministers and public speakers to condemn the system.

ONE THOUSAND IN PEONAGE PEN AT ARGO.

St. Louis Company Involved in Government Charges.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—A 15-foot stockade in which more than 1,000 workmen are alleged to be kept in peonage at Argo, Ill., within 15 miles of Chicago, under guard of armed sentries, was discovered by United States District Attorney Sims and Assistant District Attorney Legg. Six of the prisoners, who have escaped from the place, told of one man being shot in an effort to escape, and of scores of others who, it is charged, are dying as the result of exposure to which they were subjected and the unsanitary condition in which they were compelled to live. Preparations for a grand jury investigation was at once begun and thirty subpoenas for witnesses were issued. Officers of the Corn Products Refining Co., a \$170,000,000 corporation, owned by the Standard Oil Co., Lake Construction Co. and the Pattee-Truitt Commissary Co. of St. Louis, are charged by the government's informants with responsibility for the conditions. Indictments on a charge of peonage will be asked against those responsible for the imprisonment of the men.

BREWERY WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION ELECTS OFFICERS.

At the recent convention of the above named craft, held in New York City, it was decided to hold its next gathering at Chicago during September, 1909. A referendum vote was taken on the election of international officers. There were forty thousand votes cast and the result was as follows: Adam Huebner of Chicago, international secretary-treasurer; Louis Kemper of Union Hill N. J., international corresponding secretary; Joseph Proebstle of Houston, Texas, financial recording secretary; Gustave Mostler of Indianapolis, editor; A. J. Kugler of Newark, N. J., organizer; Ed F. Ward of Boston, Mass., first district executive board officers; John Sullivan of New York City, second district; Peter Schafer of Philadelphia, third district; Fridolin Maier of Detroit, Mich., fourth district; Joseph Obergfell of Indianapolis, fifth district; Joseph Fessner of St. Louis, sixth district; Ottomar Edler of New Orleans, seventh district; Emil Muri of San Francisco, eighth district; John Corcoran of Toronto, Canada, ninth district. Members of executive board quorum, John Hollerback, Albert Colnot, Philip Basler and Charles Stahl.

MUSICIANS' UNION ELECTS OFFICIALS.

The Men Who Will Serve for the Ensuing Year.

The results of the election of officers for 1909 of the M. M. B. A., Local No. 2, A. F. of M., were as follows: President, Owen Miller; vice-president, Clarence Beaty; recording secretary, D. K. Howell; financial secretary, Thos. H. Sims; Treasurer, Jos. Bergan; trustees, H. J. Falkenhainer, chairman, August Genthert, Jara Vrana; executive board, Fred G. Schmidt, chairman, I. N. Gavin, W. E. F. Roebke, Louis Lebbe, H. Brockaert; sergeant-at-arms, Gus Schwendener; delegates to the Central Trades & Labor Union, Thos. H. Sims, Otto Ostendorf, Owen Miller; alternates, F. C. Schmidt, Aug. Genthert, C. Beaty, V. Travato, J. H. Foelsing; delegates to East St. Louis C. T. & L. U., Thos. M. Carter and Frank Holten; delegates to Missouri State Federation of Labor, Adolph (Pat) Kolb.

GENERAL STRIKE OF GLASS WORKERS EXPECTED.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 23.—The demand for an increase of 25 per cent in their wages, with a flat rate, will be enforced by the National Window Glass Workers by such methods as the situation may warrant, is the position taken tonight by President A. L. Faulkner of that organization. The officers of the union are sanguine, despite the statements by various manufacturers that they will close their plants; that they have the advantage. President Faulkner says he has received no direct answers from the manufacturers, who have been notified of the new rate, which will go into effect so far as the glass workers are concerned at midnight tonight.

IN BEHALF OF PRESTON AND SMITH.

The Carson City News of Carson City, Nevada, has the following to say of the arrival of Charles H. Moyer in the capital of the sage brush state: "Charles Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, arrived in this city and is registered at the Arlington. When approached by a reporter he refused to discuss the nature of his visit, but as William Burns, the organization of the Federation for this district, will soon arrive, and in company with Moyer will visit the state prison, it is reasonable to presume that the visit has to do with the future welfare of Preston and Smith. It will be remembered that the two men were sent up from Goldfield for the murder of Silva, a restaurant keeper of that place, during the strike of two years ago. Since that time the Federation has tried to secure the release of these two men, but so far without success."

ASCHENBROEDEL CLUB ELECTION.

The results of the election of the Aschenbroedel Club, held Dec. 18, were as follows: Board of Directors—Thos. H. Sims, Owen Miller, Otto Ostendorf, D. K. Howell, H. J. Falkenhainer, W. A. Rau, F. C. Smith, Robert Ruhl, Louis Schick, Jr., David Bittner, John Kiburz, Jos. Bergman, Emil Vollrath, Louis Kielsmeier, Fred P. Beck, Fred Schillinger, Carl A. Tholl, Henry Broeckaert and W. E. F. Roebke.

COAL COMPANIES TO REDUCE WAGES.

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 23.—The Standard Coal Co., the Paint Creek Colliery Co., together with all the smaller coal operators on Paint Creek, Kanawha County, have announced that they will post notices of a reduction in wages, and it was stated at miners' headquarters that a strike would be called. More than 1,500 men are affected.

THREE HUNDRED GLASS WORKERS GO ON STRIKE.

Clarksburg, W. Va., Dec. 20.—Three hundred employes of the Tuna Glass Co. went on strike. The glass workers asked for an increase of 25 per cent in wages.

ST. LOUIS SOCIALIST MUNICIPAL TICKET

Elections: April, 1909

Mayor—Frank L. Robinson, Printer.
Comptroller—Phil. H. Mueller, Cigar Maker.
Auditor—W. R. Bowden, Railway Clerk.
Treasurer—Joseph Glader, Brewery Worker.
Collector—Hubert Morrison, Electrician.
Register—W. W. Baker, Printer.
Marshal—Ed. H. Heilman, Cigar Maker.
Inspector of Weights and Measures—F. F. Brinker, Carpenter.
President Board of Public Improvements—Ed. Ottesky, Designer.

President Board of Assessors—J. K. Savage, Merchant.
President City Council—Chris. Rocker, Cigar Maker.
Members City Council—Carl Kilwinski, cabinet maker; William H. Worman, printer; L. F. Rosenkranz, tanner; O. E. Nulson, electrician; Gus Eckhoff, carpenter; Henry Huebner, modeler.

Members of House of Delegates, by Wards—First, Christ. Reuther, molder; 2d, A. C. Rapp, furniture worker; 3d, Lawrence Ryan, watchman; 4th, left to the Executive Board; 5th, William Kreckler, baker; 6th, T. E. Delmore, teamster; 7th, Frank Heuer, pattern maker; 8th, Nicholas Becker, carpenter; 9th, William M. Brandt, cigar manufacturer; Tenth, G. A. Hoehn, editor; 11th, William Klages, bottler; 12th, Jacob Dorner, carpenter; 13th, William Crouch, cigar maker; 14th, T. C. Stephens, undertaker; 15th, Carl Yahlem, dentist; 16th, Jacob Wunsch, laborer; 17th, Wm. L. Bachman, merchant; 18th, Henry Schwartz, cigar maker; 19th, C. F. Zautner, insurance agent; 20th, Fred Werner, carriage blacksmith; 21st, L. E. Hildebrand, manager; 22d, left to Executive Board; 23d, Otto Pauls, clerk; 24th, Fred Wedel, carpenter; 25th, H. Siroky, tailor; 26th, E. J. Hilliard, clerk; 27th, Otto Kaemmerer, garment cutter; 28th, T. F. McLaughlin, merchant.

Board of Education—Long term; Emil Simon, physician; L. G. Pope, lawyer; Otto Vierling, physician; Joseph Barrett, journalist. Short term: Mrs. Evaline Hunstock, ladies' tailor; John Barshal, artist.

St. Louis Socialist Municipal Platform

St. Louis, December 13, 1908.

The Committee on Platform, elected by the Socialist Party Executive Board, November 9, 1908, begs leave to submit the following report for your kind consideration and action thereon:

CITY CHARTER REVISION In view of the fact that our present City Charter has become antiquated and contains many serious obstacles to a healthy growth and progress of our municipality; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Socialist Party demands the immediate revision of said charter in conformity with the city's urgent needs;

Resolved, that we favor the election of thirteen freeholders, in accordance with the provisions of our State Constitution, who shall at once proceed with said charter revision work.

MUNICIPAL FREE BRIDGE Whereas, the citizens of St. Louis, in June, 1906, by a referendum vote, decided in favor of a municipal free bridge;

Whereas, for the last two years every possible effort has been made by powerful corporation interests to prevent the people of this community from carrying out the plan of building said free bridge; therefore be it

Resolved, by the Socialist Party in Convention assembled, to call upon the citizens of St. Louis to insist that said municipal free bridge must be finished and opened for public use not later than January 1, 1911.

MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT The Socialist Party insists on the immediate establishment of a system of municipal stations for producing light, heat and power for public and private use, to be managed and operated on the same basis as our municipal water works system. The Municipal Assembly shall not grant any more new franchises to private corporations for light, heat or power purposes; neither shall the present franchises held by private corporations or individuals be extended.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL EXTENSION Whereas, the St. Louis Industrial School is badly in need of new building, school and other facilities for the safety and welfare of the children whose misfortune it is to become inmates of said institution;

Whereas, not only are the buildings of said Industrial School inadequate, but the present location of the institution is such that the much needed improvements cannot be satisfactorily carried out;

Resolved, that the Socialist Party proposes the removal of said Industrial School to some favorably located, healthful grounds in St. Louis County, upon which the so-called cottage or group system of buildings can be successfully established.

MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL REFORM For years it has been recognized that the system of management and control of our City Hospital and Dispensary service is exceedingly faulty and objectionable. The safety of the health and lives of the city's sick depends on the chance of political fortune, which is inhumane. We must guarantee to the sick poor the best possible care under every and all conditions; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Socialist Party insists on the following reforms: (1) Separation of the Health Department from the Hospital Department; (2) Vesting of control over the hospitals in a Board of Trustees, similar to the School Board and elected by the people; (3) Provision for an executive superintendent; (4) Provision for a medical staff of experienced physicians, appointed by the Board of Trustees for a term of years; (5) Provision for an interne body of physicians, to be chosen on the basis of competitive examination conducted by the staff. Such internes shall be responsible to and under the guidance of the medical staff.

MUNICIPAL PROGRAMME.

- Municipal ownership of street railway service.
- Municipal home rule.
- Public toilet stations.
- More public bath houses.
- Rigid pure food inspection.
- Abolition of grade crossings.
- More small public parks and play grounds.
- A warm meal to be served at public schools during noon recess.
- Establishment of municipal lodging stations for the unemployed.
- Municipal ice plant in connection with City Water Department.
- Municipal employment bureaus; private employment agencies to be prohibited.
- Free medical inspection of all children attending all public and private schools.
- Free legal advice and service to wage workers in suits for wages and against mortgage sharks.
- City Forestry Department to have charge of planting of and caring for shade trees along residence streets.
- Residence building permits to be granted only on condition that dwellings be provided with bath and toilet facilities.
- Abolition of contract system in public works; eight hours workday under Union conditions, and civil service for all municipal employes.
- While the street cars are still operated by private corporations we insist on the enforcement of these rules: No seats, no fare; cars must be kept in good sanitary condition, well heated and ventilated; eight hours to constitute a day's work for all street railway employes.
- In order to relieve the serious condition of the thousands of unemployed in this community, we urge the inauguration and pushing of such public works as have already been decided upon or as may be undertaken, thus enabling these unfortunate wage workers to properly sustain themselves and those dependent on them.

RESOLUTION.

We reiterate our allegiance to the Socialist Party of the United States and endorse its platform. We appeal to the working class, and to all who are in sympathy with the principles above enunciated, to join in this great movement for economic and social freedom.

THE COMMITTEE.

Now Is the Time for Democratic and Republican Union Men to read Benson's pamphlet, "What Help Can Any Workingman Expect from Taft or Bryan?" The election excitement is over, and while waiting for the advent of prosperity you may take this little dose of brain food.

Read Up On Socialism and the Labor Problem. Get Some pamphlets and books at the Labor Book Department. From the A B C pamphlets to the scientific works of Marx and Engels, anything you want.

Proceedings of the National Convention of the Socialist Party, 1908.

Contains a complete stenographic report of the proceedings of the entire session. It presents the entire argument upon every question that was discussed. It is handsomely and durably bound and contains a complete alphabetical index. Fifty cents per copy; no reduction in quantities.

Local St. Louis Has a Few More Campaign Printing Bills to pay. Comrades in the ward clubs and friends outside will please take notice. Our modest city secretary-treasurer, at "No. 212," will gratefully receipt for any contribution. The quicker the better. We are on the eve of another campaign.

TO OUR READERS.

Patronize our advertisers and notify them that you saw their ad in St. Louis Labor.

Our Book Department

Books On

Socialism, Labor, Science and Nature

Author.	Title.	Cloth.
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BAX	The Religion of Socialism	1 00
BEBEL	Woman and Socialism	1 00
BELLAMY	Looking Backward, a novel, paper, 50c.	1 00
BELI-AMY	Equality, a novel, paper, 50c.	1 25
BEALS	The Rebel at Large	50
BENHAM	The Paris Commune, paper, 25c.	75
BLATCHFORD	God and My Neighbor	1 00
BLATCHFORD	Britain for the British	50
BLATCHFORD	Merric England, paper, 10c.	50
BOELSCHE	The Evolution of Man	50
BOELSCHE	Triumph of Life	50
BOUDIN	The Theoretical System of Karl Marx	1 00
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STUDIES IN SOCIALISM

THE MISSION of the WORKING CLASS

By REV. CHAS. H. VAIL.

III.

The laboring class need clearly to understand that this outcry against the trust does not imply a betterment of labor conditions. It does not mean the independence of the laborer. The tools of production today are social, and can only be operated by co-operative labor. This fact precludes the possibility of individual ownership of the tools by the laborers. To destroy the trust, then, does not mean that the laborers can become owners of the tools necessary to their labor; it only means that these instruments of production can be owned by small combinations of capital. The laboring class would still be absolutely dependent upon the owners of the instruments of production. The only difference is, that if the program of trust smashing was carried out the number of fleecers of labor would be larger than under the trust program. But, pray tell, what benefit is that to the laborers? Is anyone so foolish as to contend that labor is better off by increasing the number of exploiters? Laborers, be not deceived. The worst set of exploiters on the face of the earth is the small capitalists, and the smaller their field of operation the larger the profit they must extract from labor. We have been through this stage of industry and have learned from experience that the laborer has nothing to hope from the small capitalist more than the large. We demand the abolition of the whole exploiting system and the turning of all parasites, whether large or small, into useful production. The plea of the middle class for its retention is futile. The force behind economic evolution has otherwise decreed.

The class-conscious laborers, then, are not interested in the preservation of the middle class, with its absurd principle of industrial competition. That competition is injurious is evident from the fact that it is being supplanted by the principle of combination. Capitalists have recognized the advantage of production on a large scale. They have found out by experience that associated capital is the only way to effect economic production. Surely no one with economic sense desires to go back to the era of competitive supremacy. No more absurd and wasteful system could be devised. The principle is absurd in theory and false in fact. It postulates conditions which exist nowhere but in the fertile imagination of its advocates. It assumes that all have an equal opportunity, the proletariat with the millionaire. The theory of free competition under present conditions is a farce. Freedom of competition is simply freedom of the strong to fleece the weak, and the cunning to ensnare the innocent. Who wishes to again reinstate in full power this vicious principle, the very essence of which is antagonism? It necessarily begets cruelty, injustice, cunning, oppression and selfishness. It violates the law of love and sacrifices manhood to material wealth. Its mottoes are: "Each man for himself and the devil take the hindmost;" "In union there is weakness;" "Antagonism is more productive than co-operation;" "A house divided against itself shall stand." It postulates that a country where every man tries to get the better of his fellows will be happier and more successful than a country where each man tries to help his fellows.

No, friends, we do not care to perpetuate the present planless, wasteful system of industry. We propose to substitute the economic principle of combination for the wasteful principle of competition. The principle of combination is sound and ought to be extended to the whole social order. As production and distribution on a large scale are more economic they ought to survive. The only safety to society, however, is in its adoption by the whole people. When the trust, which is an embodiment of the principle of combination, is socialized, then the evils which arise from private ownership will disappear, leaving only the benefits that result from co-operation.

We recognize that the ultimate goal of capitalist evolution is the trustification of every department of production and distribution, so that the greatest possible product may be realized from the least expenditure of economic forces. The difference between a capitalist trust and a public trust lies in the department of distribution, and capacity of the people to consume the product of their labor at cost. The capitalist trust is Socialism in production, but individualism in distribution. We want Socialism in both production and distribution.

The capitalist class, as represented by the Republican party, endeavors to uphold the trust and its private ownership in order to maintain its own supremacy. Senator Hanna has pointed out the inevitableness of the concentration of industry and the advantages which flow from increased production and economy. But such statements are one sided, and endeavor to cover up the pathway of blood, the bitterness and failures than have attended its growth. The middle class, on the other hand, as represented by the Democratic party, chooses to see only the evils, overlooking the great power that concentration brings and the enormous economy effected by unified industry. It remains for the Socialist, untrammelled by the interests of the other classes and parties, to clearly point out both the good and evil of concentration, and show how the evil can be eliminated and the good retained. We note with satisfaction the progress which has gone hand in hand with the development of industry, but we clearly see that we have now reached the point where the system of private ownership of the trust blocks the way to further progress. We see that the only salvation is in pushing the evolution on to its logical consummation—public ownership. We reject the Democratic middle class policy of destroying the trust and so throwing civilization backward. We would preserve it and improve it and open it to all. Socialism, then, welcomes the trust not as a finality, but as a step toward Socialism, and the quicker the constructive work of these great combines work out their destructive counterpart in failure and crises, the quicker the final consummation of the industrial evolution will be effected.

The trust is systematizing and unifying industry and preparing the way for the Co-operative Commonwealth. Any industry organized into a trust is eminently ripe for appropriation by the community. It is useless to say that such an enterprise can not be managed by the state, when it is being managed by a band of capitalists. The board of directors—who usually do not own the capital invested—can as readily be made responsible to the whole people as to the shareholders. The directors in charge at the time can be retained if thought advisable, simply making them responsible to all the people. Socialism is thus seen to be practicable, inevitable, and to rest upon a solid economic foundation.

Now, what are the causes at work that will lead to the consummation? In order to answer this question, we need to understand the causes that have led to the social revolutions in the past. A clear understanding of these causes will reveal the mission of the modern proletariat or working class.

In every age there is a dominant ruling class which shapes and controls the social and industrial organization in its own interests. At first the interests of this class are in accord with the advance of society, but the time comes when their interests are at variance with social progress. The economic development which produces this contrast between the interests of the ruling class and the social interests also develops a class whose interests are contrary to the rul-

ing class and more in accord with the social development. A contest is sure to follow between these conflicting classes, and in the course of time the class more in accord with the changed conditions is bound to triumph. It is simply the new wine breaking the old bottles. When this transformation occurs it may be termed either evolution or revolution. Revolution, however, is but a form of evolution, and is generally the last step in a period of slow growth and preparation.

The final step, whether peaceful or violent, which interchanges the relations between ruling and subject class, is the inauguration of a new stage. This step, however, can not take place until economic conditions are ripe for it.

Let me illustrate this principle by again appealing to history. In the middle ages the ruling class was the landed nobility. This nobility determined the character and form of all social institutions. It also determined the character and form of economic servitude. The whole social system rested upon a form of land ownership. This particular form called serfdom attached the laborers to the soil as serfs. But the servitude would have been nearly as great had the laborers not been directly attached to the soil, for land, being the principal factor in production, its ownership would have carried with it the ownership of those who must have access to the land or starve.

In this period the landed nobility ruled supreme; and looked with contempt upon all laborers and traders. In the course of time the towns grew into cities, trade and commerce developed, and the small tools of production became gigantic machines. These new implements became the dominant factor in production, thus giving into the hands of their owners the means of overthrowing the landed aristocracy.

The mercantile class, which was despised in its infancy, displaced the nobility and became the ruling class because their interests were more in accord with the economic development. The landed nobility little realized in their supremacy that the class which they despised would work their overthrow. By their contempt and ill treatment of the mercantile class they were sowing the seed of revolt which was sure to lead to their own destruction.

The old nobility fulfilled its mission and disappeared. Feudalism gave way to capitalism. Its overthrow was caused by the very class which they despised. History is again repeating itself.

The capitalist class today, like its predecessors, shapes and controls the social and industrial organization in its own interests. Legislation; customs, religion, morals, education, public opinion, etc., are all regulated by capitalistic supremacy.

At first the interests of this class were in accord with social progress and well-being, but that time has long since passed. The interests of society and the interests of capitalist producers are now antagonistic. Society wants a large product, but capitalist producers want high values, and values depend upon a limited supply. Were there a sufficient quantity of any product to satisfy all demands, such would cease to have value. Cotton is an illustration of this divergence between class interests and the general interests. Society, of course, wants a large supply of this useful product, but the producers have been trying for some time to devise means to diminish the crop. This is the purpose of every combination, to regulate production and limit the supply to the commercial demand. The result of the present wage and profit system is to artificially limit the consumption by destroying the purchasing power of the masses. The interests of the ruling class, then, are antagonistic to the social interests. Progress and well-being are now blocked by this antagonism which inheres in the present system of wealth production and distribution. We can never hope for the abolition of poverty under such a system. Although modern machinery places at our command the possibility of almost unlimited wealth production, still as long as these instruments are in the hands of private or corporate firms they will only be used for private profit. Poverty in the midst of unbounded wealth is a disgrace to civilization. Were the means of production socially owned, production would be carried on for the purpose of satisfying human needs and would continue until all the needs of the people were met.

But is there any evidence that this ruling class, whose interests have become so opposed to progress, will ever be supplanted? Yes. This very economic development which produced this contrast between the social and capitalist interests has also developed a class whose interests are contrary to the ruling class and more in accord with social progress and well-being. This class is the proletariat, the class of wage and slavery workers. By proletariat is meant those who are deprived of property in the instruments of production. The interests of the capitalist and working class are diametrically opposed. When the laborer and capitalist were united in the same person, as in individual production, there was a most complete harmony. But when these functions are separated, as in modern industry, there is nothing but discord.

Let us pause for a moment and make this matter plain. The wealth produced by labor is divided into two portions. One portion goes to labor in the form of wages, the other is divided into rent, interest and profits and is pocketed by non-producers. It is because the capitalist has monopolized the instruments of production that he is able to appropriate a portion of labor's product. All leading industries are joint stock concerns, and a capitalist may hold stock in a score of such industries. He purchases, say, \$10,000 worth of stock in each of these industries, of which, perhaps, he knows nothing. His broker has told him that they are paying investments and that is all he cares. He never goes to the factories or even to the towns in which they are located. He simply takes his stock and locks it up in his safe and at the end of the year he draws his dividends. But where do these dividends come from? The answer is not difficult to find. Take a cotton factory as an illustration. Here, say, 1,000 men have worked for a year and have produced a certain amount of cotton cloth. This is transported to the market and exchanged for money. From the money received for the product there is first deducted the cost of raw materials and the wear and tear of machinery. The balance is divided into about two equal portions, one of which is given to the laborers in the form of wages and the other is called profits and divided among the capitalists as dividends. Now, as the product produced is divided into two portions, it is axiomatic that it can not be so divided as to increase the share of both. If the laborer produces \$6 worth of wealth a day and the capitalist keeps \$3 there is only \$3 left. But if on the other hand the laborer can secure \$5 there is but \$1 left for the capitalist, and if, perchance, the laborer could keep all the wealth he creates there would be none left for the capitalist, and he would have to go to work.

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THOMAS McGRADY'S LAST WILL.

This Is What His Pamphlet On "The Catholic Church and Socialism" May Justly Be Called.



One of the best (if not THE best!) pamphlets written by Rev. Thomas McGrady is "The Catholic Church and Socialism." It is an eye-opener. It is his last will, if we may call it so, for it was written in July 1907, only a few months before his death. It is a presentation of facts, free of any tendency of ill feeling or abuse. Hundreds of thousands of copies of this valuable little pamphlet should be circulated. It is equally instructive to Socialists and non-Socialists. The pamphlet contains an introductory comment by Comrade Eugene V. Debs, and introductory notes by the editor of The Arena, who first published the article in July, 1907.

It was when Comrade Debs had just handed the copy of his comment to the printer, to be set up for this edition of the pamphlet, that he received the sad news of the sudden death of the brave comrade and friend Thomas McGrady. This makes the little pamphlet only more valuable.

The retail price of the pamphlet "The Catholic Church and Socialism" is advertised as 10 cents; but we have made special arrangements whereby we are in a position to sell it for 5 cents a copy, and mail it to any address, postage prepaid. Read it! It is good! Labor Book Department, 212 S. Fourth St., St. Louis, Mo.

Convention Proceedings.

The stenographic report of the last national convention is now printed and ready for distribution. This is a document that every Socialist will want. It contains the entire argument made upon all questions that came before the convention and is of great value for reference purposes. The book is handsomely and durably bound and contains a complete alphabetical index. The price is 50c per copy; no reduction in quantities. Order direct from J. Mahlon Barnes, 180 Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

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THE EDITOR OF LABOR welcomes and appreciates any recommendation or co-operation from any comrade or sympathizer tending to improve our paper, both as to its contents and its appearance.

SOCIALIST VOTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

1888	2,000
1896	36,000
1900	122,000
1904	408,000
1908	448,471

SOCIALIST VOTE OF THE WORLD.

1867	30,000
1877	494,000
1887	931,000
1893	2,585,000
1898	4,515,000
1903	6,825,000
1906	over 7,000,000

300,000 MURDERED

Within the last ten years, from 1898 to 1908, over 300,000 wage workers lost their lives by accidents in the United States.

These figures are not based on guesswork, but on official reports issued in "Bulletin No. 78 of the Bureau of Labor," by the Department of Commerce and Labor in Washington, D. C.

According to a report of the department excerpts of which we published in last week's St. Louis Labor, there were 35,000 workmen killed in accidents within a single year. This official statement justifies us to fix the number of workmen killed within the last ten years at the minimum of 300,000.

This means that Uncle Sam's industrial profit mills killed more human beings within a decade than were killed during the last forty years on all the battlefields of war.

Yet we are a civilized nation, the most highly civilized on earth!

We are a most pious Christian nation, too, for we build more churches, employ more priests and preachers, send more missionaries to "heathen countries" and send more hard cash dollars to the Vatican than any other nation!

Why, ye Socialist cranks shut up! How dare you advocate a change in our great economic system of capitalist society? Can't you see how benevolently American Capitalism takes care of our wage workers who patriotically vote the Dem. and Rep. tickets at every election!

Can't you see how they manage to make angels out of the wage workers at the rate of 35,000 a year! How they crush the workers' lives out, then send their bodies to Potter's field and their souls to heaven or to hell!

Now, don't call this sarcasm! It is simply giving you a few plain, simple facts.

Wake up, ye slaves! Wake up!

"VICTORY IN 1912"

We remember, some years ago, when the Socialist party had but a few hundred members, a certain Socialist publication offered "Eight Years' Subscription Cards" for sale under the motto, "Socialism in 1908." We then objected to that kind of clairvoyant propaganda. The party was in its infancy, hence childish methods were excusable, at least to some extent.

Since those days our party work has grown into a movement, and as such it must accept the full responsibility for everything done in its name or under its auspices. We must call a halt to the old-time sky-pilot agitation, if we ever expect to make the Socialist party what it should be, and what it must be in order to fulfill its mission as the political party of the working class. Now, mind you, we do not care a continental of what somebody may claim the Socialist party to be, but we do care a great deal of what it is doing in its everyday work. Resolutions may be passed, platforms adopted, and they may read fine and look nice on paper. Theoretically we may be all right, and it might require an expert lawyer to find even the least flaw in our position, i. e., theoretically speaking. But in practice, in our everyday work, we may not always be right, may not always do our duty, may sometimes, perhaps often, disregard the resolutions and platforms and fail to redeem our pledges. Immediately after last November's election an eastern Socialist publication issued a circular to the Socialists throughout the land urging the formation of "1912 Victory Clubs."

Victory for what? Socialist victory? Publisher's victory? Gold Mine Stock Speculation victory?

Certainly not victory for the real Socialist party and Labor movement! The publisher who proposes the "1912 Victory Club" shows so little interest for the labor movement that for several years his publication carried some of the rottenest Citizens' Industrial Alliance advertisements ever printed in any alleged labor or reform sheet. And he did so in spite of the many protests made by Socialist locals and labor unions. Like the old-time Anarchists of the "Propaganda of the Deed" in Europe, under the Bismarckian era, this American Socialist publisher sticks to the motto: "The end

justifies the means!" In other words: "It is all for the good of Socialism, hence any old thing is justified."

We repeat here and now that we don't want any of this kind of Socialist propaganda, and we shall fight this fakeism so long as one drop of blood circulates in our veins:

This same "1912 Victory Club" publisher instructed his two lawyers to threaten with damage suits, and worse, the German Socialist daily, the "New York Volkszeitung," because said paper had the courage to come out openly and fearlessly and criticize the clairvoyant and Gold Mine propaganda methods. The "Volkszeitung" is not one of those papers that can be bulldozed into silence; for thirty years it has been fighting the battles of Socialism and Organized Labor, and it will continue to do so.

We notice that some of our Western organizers and lecturers have already taken up the "Victory in 1912" idea and display this magic wand on their literature. The comrades everywhere should discourage this kind of work. It is detrimental to a healthy growth of the Socialist movement.

We have reached the most critical stage in the development of our party movement, where theory and practice must be brought into harmony and accord. It is not a question of four years' wind-jamming and "Victory in 1912," but a question of class struggle today, tomorrow and the day after tomorrow, and every day in the year. It is a question of keeping in closest touch with the militant labor movement, of participating in the everyday struggles of the organized working class, etc. While thus taking part in these struggles we become acquainted with the conditions and needs of the working class, and this will enable us to intelligently extend our work to the political field.

The Socialist party is not a sect, with a political patent medicine or ointment for any and all ills and woes. As a Socialist movement we are part of the general labor movement, and must accept our proper share of duties and responsibilities in this great Proletarian class struggle which is going on every day in the year.

It is struggle today, struggle and victory tomorrow! The battle is on today, we want victory today, victory for our suffering brothers in shop and mine. The struggle will be on in 1912, no doubt, but today we live, today we struggle, today we must protect ourselves our wives and children, our fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers against the encroachments of Capitalism.

Socialism is our hope. It is the sun of life for the working class. It is the salvation of humanity, for it teaches the rights and duties of mankind and brings the poorest of the poor to a realization of real manhood and womanhood.

But we do not want any of the patent-medicine Socialism which tells us, orthodox priest-like, that there is no help for us today, that there is no use trying and that not until a full quantum of their carefully bottled-up and beautifully labeled patent medicine was taken would there be any relief.

IT IS SO SIMPLE

Socialism is a system of human society, based on the common ownership of the means of production and the carrying on of the work of production by all for the benefit of all. In other words, Socialism means that railways, the shipping, the mines, the factories and all such things as are necessary for the production of the necessities and comforts of life should be social property, so that all these things should be used by the whole people to produce the goods that the whole of the people require.

That is no Utopian dream, but the necessary outcome of the development of society. It used to be supposed that anything like the collective carrying on of an enterprise was impossible because the personal supervision and control of the owner was necessary to the success of any such enterprise. But we see today that the greatest undertakings are those which are owned by joint stock companies, in which the personal supervision of the proprietors is quite impossible and in which the business is managed and carried on by paid officials, who might just as well be paid by the community to carry on the enterprise in the interest of the general body of the people as be paid by a few wealthy men to carry it on for their profit.

Today goods are not produced to satisfy human needs; they are simply produced to provide profit, for the class who owns these means of production. It is only for the sake of this profit that the property owning class owns these means of production. As a consequence, we have shoddy and adulterated goods produced. Also, as this profit is simply the difference between the value of the work which the working people do and the amount they receive in wages, the actual producers never receive the equivalent of what they produce, and therefore are never able to buy it back again. It happens, therefore, that, as the machinery of production increases and workmen are able to turn out more goods, they are thrown out of work, and they, with their wives and children, are in want and misery, not because there is any scarcity of things they need, but because there is more of them than those who produce them can buy.

Under the present system, therefore, the very increase of wealth is too often a curse to the wealth producers, simply because those who produce have no ownership in the means of production, and no control over the wealth produced.

Under Socialism, as the means of production would belong to the whole people, the whole people would have control of the things produced. Every increase of wealth then would benefit the whole community. Under the present system increased wealth means increased penury and suffering for the many. Under Socialism increased production would mean more leisure, more wealth, more means of enjoying life, more opportunities for recreation for everybody.

By the discoveries of science, the inventions of genius, the application of industry, man has acquired such power over nature that he can now produce wealth of all kinds as plentifully as water. There is no sound reason why poverty and want should exist anywhere on this earth. All that is needed is to establish a more equitable method of distributing the wealth already produced in such profusion. That is what Socialism proposes to do. The work of production is organized, socialized; it is necessary to socialize distribution as well.

What is to be done to supplant the present system by Socialism; to substitute fraternal co-operation for the cutthroat competition of today? The first thing necessary is to organize the workers into a class-conscious party; that is, a party recognizing that as a class the workers are enslaved through the possession of the means of production by another class; recognizing, too, that between these two classes there is an antagonism of interest, a perpetual struggle,

a constant class war, which must go on until the workers become possessed of political power, and use that power to become masters of the whole material means of production. When that has been achieved the war of classes will be at an end, because the division of mankind into classes will have disappeared, the emancipation of the working class will have been accomplished and Socialism will be here.—Socialist Standard.

Editorial Observations

Over One Hundred Thousand Straight Socialist Votes More in 1908 than in 1904. We are coming! Taft's increase was but about 15,000—he is going!

An Increase of at Least 100,000 Straight Socialist Votes Over the 1904 elections isn't so bad after all. The straight Socialist vote in 1904 was below 340,000.

If Wm. Taft Is the Avowed and Irreconcilable Enemy of Organized Labor that he was advertised to be by the A. F. of L. Executive Board during the recent Bryan campaign, what business has President Sam Gompers after the election to wine and dine with the gentleman at the Civic Federation banquet?

A Cablegram From St. Petersburg Tells Us of Exciting Debates in the Duma. The same day we are informed from Constantinople that the Turkish Parliament had convened. These news items have a queer sound, coming from the capitals of the Czar and of the Sultan. Parliaments in St. Petersburg and Constantinople! Despotism and Absolutism are losing their grip on this earthly pancake of ours.

The American Asphalt Trust Is Straining Every Nerve to Make a revolution in Venezuela, because President Castro refuses to become the willing tool of the concern. It is said that this trust has the sympathy of people about the White House. When Mexican wage workers join a Liberal Political Party movement to check the reign of terror of President Porfirio Diaz, the White House sympathy is against the revolution. The old story!

Andrew Carnegie Announced That the Steel Trust Does Not need any more protection; it is strong enough to protect itself. This is plain talk. The machinery of government was used to protect Carnegie's interests until the trust was strong enough to whip the world in the international steel market. The Homestead strike of 1892 was sufficient notification that the high protective tariff was no longer needed for Carnegie, Schwab & Co.

One of the Pioneer Labor Leaders of America Has Quit His Job for good. We read in the Cleveland Citizen: Patrick McBryde, first secretary of the United Mine Workers of America and secretary of the Ohio Operators' Association; died at Bridgeport, O., last Saturday of pneumonia. He was 60 years of age and one of the best-known men in the mining business as he was in the labor movement a few years ago. The body was shipped to Columbus, O., for burial.

"It is Said That Prominent Capitalists of the Country Are Seriously considering the proposition of raising a sufficient fund to send the unemployed men of the large eastern cities, principally, to the western states, there to find that which seemingly evaded them in the older communities—work."—St. Louis Star. Why not consider a proposition of loading the unemployed on board an old ship, take them out on the Atlantic and drown them? This would be the cheapest and quickest way. Out in the western states the unfortunate wage slaves will have to undergo the slow process of starvation. Out here we have all the unemployed we can handle. Our workhouses are overcrowded, our police stations can not hold all the victims during cold nights, and our charity stations and soup-houses can not harmonize the supply with the demand. Capitalism, thou art a jewel!

President Sam Gompers of the A. F. of L. was O. K. Before Nov. 3, while writing Bryan editorials by the yard, issuing proclamations and making speeches. But since he failed to land William Jennings in the White House the Democratic machine organs are mad at him. Here is the manner in which the St. Louis Post-Dispatch goes after Mr. Gompers: "If old Sam Gompers had an idea that Mr. Taft intended to run him out of the country he had his mind set at rest in New York the other evening when the President-elect told him that everything that happened during the recent campaign 'is wiped out and now is as if it never was.' Sam enjoys loafing around the throne, and at this rate it will not be long before he will have a calling acquaintance at the White House once more." This "roast," coming from one of the leading Bryan-Gompers campaign organs, must have a rather burnt taste for our friend Samuel.

Another Decision Against Union Labor Is Reported from Newark, N. J., under date of Dec. 21: A decision far-reaching in its effect was given by Judge Lintott in the Second District Court when he held that a labor union had no right to interfere with the employment of a non-union man. Anthony S. Ruddy, a plumber, living at 28 Tillinghast street, through his counsel, Samuel Press, sued the United Association of Journeymen Plumbers, Gasfitters, Steamfitters and Steamfitters' Helpers of the United States and Canada, Local No. 24, and William Ryan, the organization's business agent, for damages in \$500 because, he alleged, he had lost his job twice, once being discharged by William Jacob, in April, 1907, and again by F. J. Sturn & Co. because of Ryan's activity in behalf of the union. The defendants claimed that Ryan was within his legal rights and that he had simply refused to allow union plumbers to work with Ruddy because he was not a member of the organization. The court awarded Ruddy \$250.

Dan Keefe Gets the Political Pie, But Not Without Plenty of red pepper thrown over it by the labor press. The Nashville Labor Journal says: "Wonder if Daniel J. Keefe feels sufficiently rewarded for his political 'influence' in behalf of Teddy's successful candidate? Some men are so small that a mess of pottage o'erwhelms them. Daniel of old was thrust into the lions' den by the evildoers because he would not do their bidding, and the glorious result of this escapade was an astonishing humiliation for those who pretended friendship for him. This modern Daniel has been thrust into the political lions' den by the evildoers because he could be by them induced to forsake his real friends, but it must not be expected that this latter-day Daniel will be as fortunate as his namesake of ancient times, whose life was spared by the locking of the lions' jaws. It can be scarcely more than a question of time until the 1908 Daniel will be devoured and then spewed out by his pretended friends. Not many true-blue trade unionists would like to undertake the job

Latest News From the Field of Organized Labor

assumed by the once honored and respected Daniel J. Keefe—that is, under the same circumstances."

For the Last Fifteen Months the Industrial Depression Has kept millions of men, women and children of this country in a poverty-stricken, half-starved condition. On the other hand the annual report of the Department of Agriculture shows that the value of farm products in the United States during the year ending with June last broke all records. It was four per cent larger than the product of 1907; that of 1907 was eleven per cent larger than for 1906; that of 1906 seven per cent larger than in 1905; that of 1905 nearly three per cent larger than in 1904; that of 1904 five per cent larger than in 1903. Thus there was a continuous increase during these years, so that the value of the agricultural products of the country was 32 per cent greater in 1908 than it had been five years before, and about 70 per cent greater than it had been ten years before. Hunger, want and general misery in the midst of plenty! Commenting on this economic contradiction the N. Y. Evening Call says: Let no workman be deceived. Let no honest man of any class be deceived. The masters of bread are not themselves deceived. They understand the game; they are the deceivers. The problem before the working class is not, How to produce enough to provide for all? It is, How to get for the producers that which they produce? The problem of expanding production will take care of itself. There is not the slightest probability that in any thinkably near future there will be any difficulty in producing enough to feed and clothe and house the world and supply all its needs. If that problem should present itself a hundred or a thousand years hence, the men and women of that day will have to solve it. It is not our problem now. The problem of labor and poverty is a problem of distribution, not of production.

The World of Labor

"In Union There Is Strength! United We Stand; Divided We Fall!"

VALUE OF A UNION CARD.

An Object Lesson to Those Who Fail to Do Their Duty.

It is in times of adversity when the true value of a paid-up union card shows up at its full worth.

Just as a reminder we will mention two occurrences at Labor Temple recently. Two miners came in from Hartschorn, Okla. They could not speak a word of English, but they had their union cards paid up. After taking up much time, an interpreter was found and the wants of the men learned. They were seeking employment, and employment was found within an hour. Had these men come to town without a union card they would have had no certain place to go in search of work and there would have been no special heed paid to their wants.

Another instance was a wounded painter, just off the road. He had been injured in traveling, was without money and a total stranger. But he had a paid-up union card, and the union men around in the building gave him sufficient to supply his immediate wants and told him where to find the business agent of his local union. Had he not possessed a union card he would have received no special attention.

No man is a stranger in any part of this country, or in the old world, who has a paid-up union card. Be he sick he is cared for; if it is work he is seeking, work will be found if possible. Should he die, he will not go to a pauper's grave.

Last week another instance of a union card being beneficial was shown in Labor Temple. A young German just from the old country dropped into the Temple. He could not make his wants known and his card was not one any person was familiar with, except that it was known to be a union card. He was cared for, a stranger in a strange land.—Union Banner.

CONTRACT LABOR LAW VIOLATED.

How Dishonest Employers Break the Laws of the Land.

We believe if it could be positively known to what extent the foreign labor law is being violated by the manufacturing and mining interests of this country there would be startling revelations, says The Bulletin of the Clothing Trades. But the secrecy with which inducements are offered to labor in Europe to immigrate to America are so well guarded that it is only occasionally that the violations of the law come to light. One indication as to the extent to which it is carried on has just been disclosed by the unlawful arrangement that has been ascertained to have existed between the Firth Carpet Co. of Firthcliffe, N. Y., and 53 of its employees. It is a satisfaction to know that as a consequence of the exposure of the Firth Carpet Co. its contract laborers and their dependents are to be deported by order of the Department of Commerce and Labor. The department claims in its statement that the books of the company show that from 1902 to 1908 over \$4,410 had been advanced to aliens to enable them to migrate to Firthcliffe.

This case and those of many others are now under consideration by the Department of Justice and it is to be hoped that not only a fine will be imposed, but that a severe jail sentence for some of the violators will be inflicted. The carpet manufacturers are among those who demand a high tariff for the production of their product and they should in all decency uphold the American standard of living and American labor in consideration of governmental favor. But many of these employers want protection for their product and free trade in the securing of labor. They are not only dishonest; they are contemptible.

UNION MEN TO BLAME.

They Neglect Their Duty by Pocketing Union Wages and Buying Scab Goods.

"If every member of a trades union in Pittsburg would only do his full duty toward every other union man in the matter of aiding him to securing employment and in all other ways, Pittsburg union men could build the most magnificent labor temple on the face of the earth and pay for it out of the amount they are now paying for salaries to business representatives, who would not be needed if each one did his duty."

The "Iron City Trades Journal" takes up the foregoing paragraph and adds: This statement was made the other day by a local representative of one of the largest international organizations in this country. And he was right. You have a small, struggling union of broom makers in this city. You have a large broom shop in the Western penitentiary. Every home in Pittsburg has one or more brooms in it. Just look at your own broom now before you forget it. Penitentiary made? I thought so; 90 per cent of the brooms sold in Pittsburg have that serious defect. Fine labor temple you will get built if you patronize convicts instead of union labor. Pittsburg ought to be the best city in this country for the sale of union products. But it isn't. It is one of the worst. And it is the fault of no one but the union men of this city. The retail merchant is not the one to be blamed. He will get red overcoats with green linings for you if you insist on having them. He will get union-made goods for you, too, but you must insist on having them, and not be put off with any cock-and-bull story he feels like giving you. One member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters is responsible for the fact that one

of our retail merchants is carrying a union-made line this season which he did not have a year ago. He is building your labor temple. Just get out and view the sweatshops of this city. You are responsible for them; you maintain them. Aren't you proud of them? Just as long as you desire them to continue in business you will have them with you. And when you want them closed you can do it quicker and more effectually than the entire factory inspection department of Pennsylvania can.

You are proud of the Iron City, and justly so. You have cause to be proud of your great industries, but don't forget that unless the balance of the people of this great land are prosperous enough to purchase your products your great industrial hives will be as silent as the desert. You are entitled to your pride in the colossal fortunes of your people—pride in the palaces of Pittsburg and its environs. Temper your pride with a thought of the starving poor of Pittsburg and a thought of your wretched hovels.

DAN KEEFE'S \$10,000 PLUM.

Why Dan Is Neither Better Nor Worse Than the Rest of His Ex-Colleagues.

Daniel J. Keefe will soon enjoy a Federal plum valued at \$10,000 per annum. Some of the labor journals are intimating that Keefe will not enjoy the price of his treason on account of a "stricken conscience." Men of his ilk are not burdened with a conscience, and Keefe will carry "a smile that will not come off." He will continue to wear his diamonds and mingle with politicians, and when he has outlived his usefulness with the Republican party that gave him "the mess of pottage," another Keefe will again become a traitor to the labor movement, to bask in the sunlight of a Federal job. The American Federation of Labor should not be too stinging in its criticisms of Roosevelt. Has not imperial Teddy scanned the executive council of the American Federation of Labor and selected that valiant "labor leader," Daniel J. Keefe, as Commissioner of Immigration? Not a word was ever uttered against the loyalty of Keefe until he disobeyed the political dictum that Bryan should be hailed as the Moses of the labor movement of America. It has not yet been demonstrated that fealty to Taft and the Republican party was any more treasonable to labor than fealty to Bryan and the Democratic party.—Miners' Magazine.

PENSION FOR MINERS.

Plan to Provide Relief to Widows and Orphans.

A pension fund for the benefit of disabled miners, to be maintained partly by the miners and operators and of which the state will be the trustee, will be proposed to the next legislature of Indiana. Notices of the proposed creation of the fund and the methods of its establishment have been sent to secretaries of the various local unions of the United Mine Workers, and a number of favorable replies have been received.

James Epperson, state mine inspector, originated the idea, and he will see that the measure is presented to the legislature. The purpose of the fund, as set down in the notices, is to provide relief to the wives or the dependents of men who are killed or permanently or seriously injured in accidents in or about the mines of the state and also for the relief of aged mine employees.

The plan for the creation and the maintenance of the fund is to assess a tax of a stated number of mills for each ton of coal mined, this tax to be paid by the operators, and a small per cent tax on each dollar earned by the employees. This money, according to the plans, will be paid into the state treasury and warrants issued in the regular way to persons who are entitled to relief.

The distribution of the benefits is proposed as follows: "Where an employe is killed or fatally injured, the wife or dependents of the deceased shall be paid a given sum immediately; where an employe is permanently disabled from performing manual labor, he shall be given a given sum; where an employe suffers the loss of a limb or otherwise sustains injury resulting partial permanent disability, he shall also be paid a given sum, and where an employe sustains broken bones, cuts, bruises, etc., disabling him from work, he shall, after a given time, be paid a weekly sum until he is able to resume his work."

The law will provide that in each case the benefits will be paid without question as to the negligence of the injured employe.

ENGLAND IN DESPAIR.

Millions of the Sons and Daughters of Labor on the Verge of Starvation.

Two million five hundred thousand men are out of work in Great Britain. Three million five hundred thousand others dependent upon them—and the entire six millions on the verge of starvation. Four hundred and fifty thousand people sleeping in the streets of London every night through the bitterest weather of the year! Briefly this describes the terror that stalks by day and night in England today.

For years past the few in England have been getting richer and richer and their standard of luxury gone higher and higher, but all this time employment has been decreasing and poverty has become rampant to an extent hitherto unknown.

At the present moment all England is wondering what is going to happen before this winter ends. Are all these millions of people to starve in the streets, or will they take the law into their own hands and seize by force the food which they are otherwise unable to get?

The blight of this terrible poverty has brought England to a crisis. Something has to be done at once. Something entirely revolutionary to what has every been attempted before. The day has gone by when ears and eyes can be shut to the terrible scenes occurring every day.

Salvation Army officials are the best authorities on these conditions. In London alone they say 1,000,000 men—one-sixth of the entire population—are out of work or working for a fifth of their usual wages. At a conservative estimate, another two millions who depend upon them are more or less starving.

Wherever one goes one can not escape these pitiable creatures. Walk along the Thames embankment—the finest thoroughfare in Europe—any night and thousands and thousands of them are to be seen. There they lie on the cold stones, huddled up against one another for warmth with the lucky few holding tightly to the old newspaper which they have been able to secure as a blanket.

Go to any of the bridges or to any archway and the same sight is to be seen. Lucky are those who are allowed to take shelter in the railway depots. A place on a stairway is a Godsend, and even a doorstep is a welcome couch where famished, weakened bodies may find rest and the sleep they crave. Anywhere to lay their heads.

But even then there is but little rest for the pitiable creatures. Before long the policeman on the beat orders them to move. It is his duty. No loafing!

The poor wretches have committed the crime of being poor in "Rich England."

Work or riot, starve or steal, one or the other, which is it to be?

DO YOU WANT A First-Class Sewing Machine?

A \$40 machine for \$25. Sent from the factory to your house! No agent's commission or go-between's profit. Comrades and readers should apply to the office of St. Louis Labor, 212 South Fourth street, for further particulars.

OLD AGE PENSIONS IN GERMANY.

How the System Works and What It Means to the Working Class.

In Germany the plan in its practical operation might be called a form of compulsory insurance under government direction and with government help.

Thus every person working for wages or a salary not exceeding \$500 a year must take out an old age or infirmity insurance policy on which he pays one-half of the annual premium while his employer pays the other half. From the fund thus obtained pensions are paid to persons whom sickness or infirmity have incapacitated for work as well as to those attaining the age of 70 years. To each recipient of an invalid or old age pension the government makes an additional grant of its own.

The amount of the pension is determined upon the double basis of the wages received by the pensioned while he was at work and the amount he has paid in premiums.

In 1907 there were insured in Germany in the government old age and invalidity insurances more than fourteen million persons—from which astounding fact you can gather something of the proportions of the new idea.

In practice the invalidity pension has proved more popular than the strictly old age pension, for the reason that the infirmity pension can be entered upon when the invalidity occurs and after the age of 70 it takes the place of an old age pension. Thus while in 1907 there were 110,967 persons receiving the straight old age pension, there were more than 800,000 who were in receipt of the infirmity pension. The total national expenditure in 1907 on the insurance account was \$52,750,000, of which about \$4,200,000 was for old age pensions.

The average pension paid was: For old age, \$39.52 a year; for permanent invalidity, \$40.04 per year; for provisional invalidity, \$40.14 per year.

Of course these sums seem very small to us, but we must remember, first, that the difference between our country and Germany in respect to the relative cost of living is a fact always to be reckoned with in making comparisons, and second, that Germany was the pioneer in these reforms and her cautious first steps have been far exceeded by the nations that have followed her.

There are five class of contributors to the German fund:

1. On annual wages or salaries of \$87.50 the annual premium is 3½ cents a week.
- (2) On annual wages or salaries of \$137.50 the annual premium is 5 cents a week.
- (3) On annual wages or salaries of \$212.50 the annual premium is 6 cents a week.
- (4) On annual wages or salaries of \$287.50 the annual premium is 7½ cents a week.
- (5) On annual wages or salaries of \$500 the annual premium is 9 cents.

Benefactions under the act are somewhat restricted. Thus old age pensions are paid to only those who have contributed for at least 1,200 weeks and the disablement pension to those who have contributed for at least 500 weeks. It was thought that a wholly unrestricted pension scheme was too fearsome an experiment, the whole thing being at best so bold a leap in the dark and in defiance of sacred traditions.

This is the scale of German pensions according to classes: Class 1, \$27.50 a year; class 2, \$35 a year; class 3, \$42.50 a year; class 4, \$52.50 a year; class 5, \$57.50 a year.

Even in a country where living is as cheap, easy and comfortable as it is in Germany, \$57.50 a year pension is no great sum; but it is an income, a man can live on it in Germany, and every reform must have a beginning often of a timid and feeble character.—United Mine Workers' Journal.

CARPENTERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ST. LOUIS.

From a subscriber who signs himself as an "Old Member of Carpenters' Union No. 5" we received the following inquiry: "Some years ago a certain Mr. Lyon was running for the office of 'Inspector for Weights and Measures' on either the Democratic or Republican ticket. Is this man identical with J. C. Lyon, the present business agent of Carpenters' Union No. 257?"

In reply to the foregoing we wish to say: No, J. C. Lyons is not identical with that old-time politician. J. C. Lyon (better known as John C. Lyons) never ran for any political office on old party tickets. He joined the Socialist movement during the 1897-98 reorganization period and was quite active for some time. Later on he became more and more interested in the Carpenters' Union movement and his union work took up most of his time. While he was not an active Socialist party member for several years, he has always been an active supporter of our party press and never failed to give his mite to the Socialist campaign and propaganda funds. For the last five years he has been the business agent of Carpenters' Union No. 257, which position he still holds. He has also been nominated for Secretary of Carpenters' District Council; the local carpenters' unions will vote on the secretaryship nominations in their first meeting nights in January.

BARBERS' UNION ELECTS OFFICERS.

The annual election of officers of the local Barbers' Union No. 102 of the Journeymen Barbers' Union of America was held Monday night at Liederkranz Hall, Thirteenth and Chouteau, and the following elected: President, Fred A. Heller; vice-president, Henry B. Merton; secretary and business manager, J. C. Shanessy; recording secretary, Eugene Boreburg; treasurer, William H. Peschbacher; guide, William Fritche; guardian, James F. Parker; and the following finance committee: James A. Merton, John R. Merton and Geo. R. Kuhn.

ST. LOUIS BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL REORGANIZED.

During the last few weeks the St. Louis Building Trades Council has been reorganized as the local Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor. The new organization practically comprises all of the building trades in this city.

Full Line of...

UNION MADE

SUITS and HATS

AT REASONABLE PRICES

Rothgiesser Bros.

MEN'S OUTFITTERS.

BROADWAY & CHESTNUT.

Our Branch Store—2100-02 South Broadway

Woman's Study Corner

How I Became A Socialist Agitator

By Kate Richards O'Hare in Socialist Woman.

My earliest memory is of a Kansas ranch, of wide stretches of prairie, free herds roaming over the hills and coulees, of cowpunchers with rattling spurs and wide hats, free and easy of speech and manner, but brave and faithful to their friends, four-footed or human; of the freedom and security and plenty of a well-to-do rancher's home.

Those were wonderful days, and I shall never cease to be thankful that I knew them. Days that laid the foundation of my whole life, gave me health and strength and love of freedom, taught me to depend on myself, to love nature, to honor rugged strength of mind and body and to know no shams in life. Everything is very real, very much alive and in close touch with nature on the broad sweep of the prairie amid the longhorns.

The Wolf at the Door.

Then comes the memory of a Kansas drouth, followed by one of the periodical panics which sweep over our country. Days and weeks of hazy nightmare when father's face was gray and set, when mother smiled bravely when he or we children were near, but when we sometimes found tears upon her cheeks if we came upon her unexpectedly. Of course, it was all beyond our comprehension. A horrible something that we could not fathom had settled down over our lives, but the day when the realness of it all was forced home came all too soon. The stock was sold, the home dismantled and one day father kissed us good-by and started away to the city to find work. He who had always been master of his own domain, who had hewn his destiny bare-handed from the virgin soil, forced to go out and beg some other man for a chance to labor, an opportunity to use his hands. Though I could not comprehend it then the bitterness of it all was seared upon my memory, and I never see a strong man vainly seeking and begging for work that my whole soul does not revolt.

Goes to the City.

Then came the day when we left the ranch and went to the city to take up the life of a wage worker's family in the poverty-cursed section of the town. For, of course, no other was possible for us, for father's wages were only nine dollars a week, and nine dollars is not much to support a family of five. Of that long, wretched winter following the panic of 1887 the memory can never be erased, never grow less bitter. The poverty, the misery, the want, the wan-faced women and hunger-pinched children, men tramping the streets by day and begging for a place in the police stations, or turning footpads by night, the sordid, grinding, pinching poverty of the workless workers and the frightful, stinging, piercing cold of that winter in Kansas City will always stay with me as a picture of inferno, such as Dante never painted.

Of the years that followed when father had regained to some extent his economic foothold and poverty no longer pinches us, though it encompassed us all about like a frightful dream that could not be shaken off, it is hard to write intelligently.

I, child-woman that I was, seeing so much poverty and want and suffering, threw my whole soul into church and religious work. I felt somehow that the great, good God who had made us could not have wantonly abandoned his children to such hopeless misery and sordid suffering. There was nothing uplifting in it, nothing to draw the heart nearer to him, only forces that clutched and dragged men and women down into abyss of drunkenness and vice. Perhaps he had only overlooked those miserable children of the poor in the slums of Kansas City, and if we prayed long and earnestly and had enough of religious zeal he might hear and heed and pity. For several years I lived through that Gethsamene we all endure who walk the path from religious fanaticism to cold, dead, material cynicism with no ray of sane life-philosophy to light it.

Temperance Work.

I saw drunkenness and the liquor traffic in all the bestial, sordid aspects it wears in the slums, and with it the ever-close companion of prostitution in its most disgusting and degraded forms. I believed, for the good preachers and temperance workers who led me said, that drunkenness and vice caused poverty, and I struggled and worked, with only the heart-breaking zeal that an intense young girl can work, to destroy them. But in spite of all we could do the corner saloon still flourished; the saloonkeeper still controlled the government of the city and new inmates came to fill the brothel as fast as the old ones were carried out to the Potter's field, and the grim grist of human misery and suffering still ground on in defiance to church and temperance society and rescue mission.

Gradually I began to realize that the great Creator of the universe had placed us here to live under fixed natural laws that were not changed at the whim of God or man and that prayers would never fill an empty stomach or avoid a panic. I also learned that intemperance and vice did not cause poverty, but that poverty was the mother of the whole hateful brood we had been trying to exterminate and that the increase of her offspring was endless. Dimly I began to realize that if we would win we must fight the cause and not the effects, and since poverty was the fundamental cause of the things I abhorred, I began to study poverty, its whys and wherefores, and to try to understand why there should be so much want in a world of plenty.

Becomes a Mechanic.

About this time father embarked in the machine shop business and I added to my various experiences that of a woman forced into the business world, there to have every schoolday illusion rudely shattered, and forced to see business life in its sordid nakedness. Possibly because I hated ledgers and daybooks and loved mechanics, and possibly because I really wanted to study the wage worker in his own life, I made life so miserable for the foreman and all concerned that they finally consented to let me go into the shop as an apprentice to learn the trade of machinist. For more than four years I worked at the forge and lathe and bench side by side with some of the best mechanics of the city and some of the noblest men I have ever known. The work was most congenial and I learned for the first time what absorbing joy there can be in labor, if it be a labor that one loves.

Even before my advent into the shop I had begun to have some conception of economics. I had read "Progress and Poverty," "Wealth vs. Commonweal," "Caesar's Column," and many such books. Our shop being a union one I naturally came in contact with the labor union world and was as deeply imbued with the hope trade unionism held out as I had been with religious zeal. After a while it dawned upon me in a dim and hazy way that trade unionism was something like the frog who climbed up to the wellside two feet each day and slipped back three each night. Each victory we gained seemed to give the capitalist class a little greater advantage.

Meets "Mother" Jones.

One night while returning from a union meeting, where I had been severely squelched for daring to remonstrate with the boys for voting for a man for mayor whom they had bitterly fought four months before in a long, hard strike, I heard a man talking on the street corner of the necessity of workingmen having a political party of their own. The man's words were balm to my ruffled spirits, for I had been unmercifully ridiculed for daring to tuff politics to a lot of American Voting Kings: "a woman, the very idea!" I asked a bystander who the speaker was and he replied, "a Socialist."

Of course, if he had called him anything else it would have meant just as much to me, but somehow I remembered the word. A few weeks later I attended a ball given by the Cigar Makers' Union, and Mother Jones spoke. Dear old Mother! That is one of the mile-posts in my life that I can easily locate. Like a mother talking to her errant boys she taught and admonished that night in words that went home to every heart. At last she told them that a scab at the ballot box was more to be despised than one at the factory door, that a scab ballot could do more harm than a scab bullet; that workingmen must support the political party of their class and that the only place for a sincere union man was in the Socialist party.

Here was that strange new world again coupled with the things I had vainly tried to show my fellow unionists. I hastily sought out "Mother" and asked her to tell what Socialism was, and how I could find the Socialist party. With a smile she said, "Why, little girl, I can't tell you all about it now, but here are some Socialists; come over and get acquainted." In a moment I was in the center of an excited group of men all talking at once, and hurling unknown phrases at me until my brain was whirling. I escaped by promising to "come down to the office tomorrow and get some books." The next day I hunted up the office and was assailed by more perplexing phrases and finally escaped loaded down with Socialist classics enough to give a college professor mental indigestion. For weeks I struggled with that mass of books only to grow more hopelessly lost each day. At last down at the very bottom of the pile I found a well-worn, dog-eared little book that I could not only read, but understand, but to my heart-breaking disappointment it did not even mention Socialism. It was the Communist Manifesto, and I could not understand what relation it could have to what I was looking for.

Finds a Friend in J. A. Wayland.

I carried the books back and humbly admitted my inability to understand them or grasp the philosophy they presented. As the men who had given me the books explained and expostulated in vain, a long, lean, hungry-looking individual unfolded from behind a battered desk in the corner and joined the group. With an expression more forceful than elegant he dumped the classics in the corner, ridiculed the men for expecting me to read or understand them, and after asking some questions as to what I had read, gave me a few small booklets. Merrie England and Ten Men of Money Island, Looking Backward, and Between Jesus and Caesar, and possibly half a dozen more of the same type. The hungry-looking individual was Comrade Wayland, and the dingy office the birthplace of the Appeal to Reason.

For a time I lived in a dazed dream while my mental structure was being ruthlessly torn asunder and rebuilt on a new foundation. That the process was a painful one I need not tell one who has undergone it, and most of us have. At last I awoke in a new world, with new viewpoints, and a new outlook. Recreated, I lived again with new aims, new hopes, new aspirations and the dazzling view of the new and wonderful work to do. All the universe pulsed with new life that swept away the last vestige of the mists of creed and dogma and old ideas and benefits.

Marries a Fellow-Student.

For some time I worked with our group in Kansas City, and seven years ago when Walter Thomas Mills opened his training school for Socialist workers in Girard, Kansas, I was one of its students. There I found not only a congenial group of comrades, the best and most forceful teacher I have ever known, but that crowning, finishing touch of human life, love. In the schools as a fellow-tudent I met my husband. Of our marriage at the home of Comrade Wayland at the close of the school and our life since that time little need be said. All who are at all acquainted with the Socialist movement know more or less of it, for our story has been the story of the Socialist movement, it has been our life.

Life of an Organizer.

Taking up the work of traveling speakers and organizers the next day after our wedding, we have followed the stony, rough hewn path from that day to this. From the coal fields of Pennsylvania and West Virginia and Indian Territory, to the farms of Kansas and Iowa and Missouri, through the plains of Texas and into the cotton fields of Oklahoma and Arkansas and Tennessee, from the Ghetto of New York to the Rocky Mountains we have gone wherever and whenever the economic pressure has made men and women receptive to the philosophy of Socialism. We have stood on the street corner and in the pulpit, at the shop door and in the college assembly room, in the country schoolhouses and trades union hall, in the legislative chambers and temples of justice, in all manner of places and appealing to all manner of men, we have worked and have seen the Socialist movement grow from a handful of men and women sneered at, derided and ridiculed, into the mighty force it now is.

Twice in the seven years my work in the field has been interrupted by the cares of maternity and now a curly-haired boy of five and a brown-eyed girl of two share our hearts and make the fight seem all the more worth while.

Seven years, yes, seven long, weary, toilworn, travel-tired years. Years when the path was often dark and the road rough; when the heart grew sick and the soul faint because the world is deaf and dumb and blind, has eyes that see not and ears that do not hear, hearts that do not feel either their own needless suffering or that of their fellowmen. Yet they have been glorious years, years of battle with the forces of ignorance, years that have tried men's souls, that have left many a noble comrade lying by the wayside, dead upon the field of battle for economic justice, yet years of such achievement as the world has never known, years filled with success still unmeasured, of revolutionary forces we can not even guess. Our thought in so short a time has dominated the thought of the world, our literature setting the standards, our philosophy shaping the political forces of the nations and round the world glows the spark of human brotherhood, ready to spring at our call into living flame.

WOMAN SCHOOL INSPECTOR DEMANDED

The Female Teachers' Association of Norway has memorialized the Minister of Education in Christiania and asked that the higher positions in connections with schools shall be opened to women. There is at present one position of school inspector vacant in the Norwegian capital and the association asked that a woman teacher be given a chance to occupy this position.

The minister promised to submit to the Board of Education of Christiania and solicit the opinions of that body concerning this question. He said that it would not be against the law for a woman to occupy this position. The law does not stipulate that women shall be permitted to occupy positions as teachers only. It recognizes them as suitable for any position in connection with public education.

He indicates, however, that a bill will have to be passed concerning the salary to be paid to the inspector should the position be occupied by a woman, since the law provides that men employed by the Minister of Education must be paid more than women. Should a woman occupy the position it will be the first time in the educational history of Norway.

The teachers' Association is dissatisfied with this phase of the question. Its leaders say that if a woman will be appointed it will only be after proving to be a successful competitor over a man at the competitive examination. From this they conclude that a woman should be paid the salary which would be paid to a man.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT MEETINGS.

Open to everybody. Conducted by Public Sentiment Club. Every Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Barr Branch Library Auditorium, Lafayette and Jefferson avenues. Any and all subjects of public interest will be freely discussed from all sides. You are requested to suggest one or more questions for consideration. Thos. Quinn, Secretary. H. H. Artz, President.

THE LITTLE SOCIALIST MAGAZINE.

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Sixteen pages monthly, entertaining and instructive reading on Socialism and kindred subjects by prominent Socialist writers. 50c a year; in clubs of five, 25c. 143 Federal street, Boston, Mass.

Socialist Sunday School.

Fifteenth Ward Socialist Sunday School meets every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at 1823 Carr street.

SOME BOOK BARGAINS.

A Little Brother of the Rich.



Joseph Medill Patterson has thoroughly exposed the rottenness and degeneracy of "high society" in his latest book, "A Little Brother of the Rich." It has created a sensation and Comrade Patterson has seemingly portrayed conditions as he actually found them. Get a copy and be ready for the next individuals that tell you of our "upper classes." Price, \$1.15.

The Moneychangers.

This latest book from the pen of Upton Sinclair is a sequel to "The Metropolis," which appeared some time ago. Sinclair delves deep into the doings of our "best citizens" in Wall Street. He depicts the panic of 1907 as being caused by rival speculators quarreling over the possession of a woman. Price, \$1.20.

- The Metropolis, by Upton Sinclair.....\$1.20
- The Jungle, by Upton Sinclair......50
- The Iron Heel, by Jack London..... 1.50
- Bitter Cry of the Children, by John Spargo..... .50
- Looking Backward, by Edward Bellamy......50

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Missouri Socialist Party

News From All Parts of the State, Reported by Otto Pauls, State Secretary, 212 South Fourth Street, St. Louis, Mo

Howard E. Lindsay Is Expelled.

The trial committee elected by Local St. Louis to hear evidence on charges against Howard E. Lindsay made its report to a special meeting of the local on Dec. 21. The charges against Lindsay were slandering and libeling other members of the local and the circulation of falsehoods in St. Louis and through the state about party officials.

After carefully weighing the evidence, for and against, the trial committee found him guilty as charged and recommended his expulsion from the party. The committee's report was adopted by a unanimous vote.

New Locals.

Comrade McAllister organized Fordland with 11 members. There are plenty others who are expected to join in the near future. Four members-at-large near Freeman secured three other Socialists to join with them and their local starts with a membership of seven. The secretary, A. H. Cobb, closes by saying, "We realize that the only party capable of combating the evil influence of the two old parties is the Socialist party. Please send such literature as we are entitled to, as we intend working with might and main at whatever our hands find to do." I. A. Harper moved from St. Louis to Licking and carried his agitation work with him. Having secured five other names besides his own, he applies for a charter for a local. This is the way it works. Capitalism keeps us on the move, but we get even by spreading the Socialist idea wherever a stop is made.

Get a Blank Application.

Comrades who intend organizing a local should first secure a blank application for charter from the state office. It will avoid delay and make the work easier for you. The blank contains the obligation that all members must agree to and other information required in starting a local.

If the Socialists of your neighborhood are not organized, then get an application for charter and see what you can do. You will find them ready and waiting for you to show them how to work for Socialism.

Miss Carrie Hollowell.

In January Miss Hollowell will do some work in St. Francois County. She can speak at places on the Frisco from Springfield to St. Louis and Socialists on that route that want a date should write the state office at once. You will kill two birds with one stone, to-wit: secure a good speech that will interest your neighbors and help the speaker to make expenses in getting to St. Francois County. Let us hear from you promptly. The dates will be from Jan. 10 to 15, or thereabouts.

The Mexican Refugees.

Locals that receive literature in behalf of the Mexicans who are held prisoners by Uncle Sam can do a good turn by sending in a protest against such methods. Our Mexican comrades should not be forgotten and left to the mercy of Diaz.

Report Promptly.

If your local elects a new secretary, or if the old secretary changes his address the state office should be immediately informed. Failure to receive communications within a reasonable time should also be reported to this office. Any interesting news or plans that you have will become more valuable if reported so that it can be inserted in this column. Give others the benefit of your experience and ideas. This column is maintained for the express purpose of providing information and exchanging ideas, methods of agitation, etc. Get in touch with your comrades elsewhere in the state.

That New Year Resolution.

Of all resolutions that you can make there will be none to excel the resolve to get a new member for the party or a new subscriber for a Socialist paper. If every party member canvassed his acquaintances on New Year's day for a new member we could start the new year's work with a rush. Don't forget that the surest way to bring "peace on earth and good will toward all men" is to strengthen the Socialist party. As a harbinger of peace it has no equal, and to establish good will among men it is necessary to abolish this wolfish struggle for existence. If you never made a New Year resolution before, then try one this year on the above lines.

McAllister and the Farmer.

Besides organizing Bruner and Fordland, McAllister is pleasing the comrades at all points that he reaches. Comrade Gibson of Fordland says that he is just the man to do the work. The meetings were well attended and McAllister handed out ideas that will make their think-tank work overtime trying to digest them. Comrades at Seymour and other points report successful meetings and think that for work among farmers McAllister is the best they have had. The remainder of this month will be spent in Dunklin County and good results can be expected. The vote in Dunklin showed a fine increase and Socialists are getting quite numerous in that section.

While There Is Life There Is Hope.

For long years Socialism seemed to make no progress whatever in Macon and Moberly. The state office could not even find a correspondent in either town who would arrange a meeting, and this after repeated efforts. But affairs have taken a turn for the better and prospects are that Macon will follow Moberly's lead into the Socialist camp. Wage-knecht organized a small local in Moberly and it bids fair to grow and do business in true Socialist fashion. Now comes Comrade Smith of Macon, who says he wants to organize a local. No doubt they will celebrate the new year by pitching their tent in the Socialist camp for a fight to the finish. It is encouraging to note the manner in which the Socialist movement is gaining ground in all directions. "Nothing Impossible" would be a good motto to inscribe on our banner.

Sidelights.

Secretary Pruett of Local Liberty writes that they are hard at work and are making dents in some of the local Democrats.

Comrade Koehler puts Local Independence in the running once more and adds that they are getting ready for 1912. Of course that means 1910 also.

The congressional election in 1910 is just as important, from the Socialist point of view, as any other. Let us figure on 1912 after we have 1910 behind us.

But first of all come the spring elections. Quite a number of large cities and, no doubt, some of the smaller ones, will have an election next spring and in all cases Socialists should make their most determined fight in the local elections. We will first carry single cities or towns, then the state, and then the nation. So you see we must do our very best in all local elections. Some comrades are inclined to disregard them because of a failure to realize their importance. Great things from small beginnings grow.

Ballots for National Referendum.

Ballots for the election of seven members of the National Executive Committee and a National Secretary have been sent to all locals in good standing. The returns from locals must reach the state office on or before Jan. 26. The secretary should write the complete vote of the local on a blank ballot and return same to the state office.

There are over 2000 candidate for National Executive Committee. This seems to be a case of running democracy into the ground.

The Struggles of the Russian Socialist Movement.

Berlin, Dec. 18.—The current issue of the Russian Bulletin contains the following interesting account of the revival of Socialist activity in Russia. The general feeling among the great masses of the Social-Democratic party of Russia is that the period of inactivity and stagnation is over at last. The greatest difficulty for the party was the transition period from a legal or half legal status to an illegal one, which carried with it the necessity for concentration in a secret organization and the renouncing of all open propaganda. This process of reorganization is not yet fully accomplished, but is being rapidly perfected with the help of a few semi-legal bodies, such as a few trade unions, fraternal organizations, educational clubs and, above all, the Social-Democratic part of the Duma. It can easily be understood that considerable difference of opinion exists regarding the immediate work to be done. Certainly, the general idea is that the party organization must be strengthened, the existing half legal institutions made use of and the activity of the members of the Duma used for the intensification of political activity; but the different tendencies in the party are not united as to which of these methods is the most important. This is particularly noticeable regarding the position toward the Social-Democratic members of the Duma. Some declare that they should be withdrawn from the Duma, as their presence there has no object, while on the other hand many propose to make the Duma group the very center of party activity. The discussion over these points clearly shows, however, that the differences of opinion will vanish as soon as the Duma members take up their work in the Duma with more vigor and intelligence and as fast as the work of the local organization spreads out. This expectation is justified by the fact that, as the party propaganda grows, a livelier interest in the doings of the Socialist members of the Duma is shown by the masses of the workers. Standing firm upon that class consciousness part of the proletariat that has never deserted it, the Social-Democratic-Labor party of Russia is marching on with unweakened confidence to new battles and new victories.

TAILORS' INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION.

The Journeymen Tailors of North America have formed an international federation with their fellow craftsmen in fourteen countries in Europe. Under the agreement a union card presented by any European tailor will be recognized, and the foreign workman will also be entitled to receive all benefits that may be paid in any country to which he emigrates, except sick and death benefits, which are covered by national or local laws. In cases of strikes and lockouts the facts relating to the same are to be forwarded to all countries.

ANCIENT SOCIETY.

There is just one American who is recognized by the universities of Europe as one of the world's greatest scientists. That American is Lewis H. Morgan, and his title to greatness is found in a book first published thirty years ago. Its title is:

Ancient Society; or Researches in the Lines of Human Progress; From Savagery Through Barbarism to Civilization.

It is the classic statement of a long series of vitally important facts without which no intelligent discussion of the "Woman Question" is possible. It traces the successive forms of marriage that have existed, each corresponding to a certain industrial stage. It proves that the laws governing the relations of the sexes have constantly been changing in response to industrial changes, and thus explains why it is that they are changing still. It shows the historical reason for the "double standard of morals" for men and women, over which amiable reformers have wailed in vain. It points the way to a cleaner, freer, happier life for women in the future, through the triumph of the working class. All this is shown indirectly through historical facts; the reader is left to draw his own conclusions.

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TO THE PUBLIC!

Why is the St. Louis Bakery Trust opposed to Union Labor? For the same reason that the other trusts and corporations are opposed to having their employes join the ranks of Organized Labor. Every workman and woman is requested not to patronize any of the boycotted bakeries.

Give your grocery man to understand that he will lose your patronage if he will not insist upon the removal of the boycotted firms' bread boxes in front of his store.

This is a battle for the rights of the workingmen and women. The same old story is repeated: To crush the small master bakers out of the competitive field and force him to the wall of ruin and bankruptcy; next, to crush the labor unions in order that they may employ anybody and everybody they please, at whatever wages they please, under whatever conditions of labor they may dictate, and then place themselves in a position of might and power, which will enable them to declare: **The Public Be Damned!**

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- Do not buy any bread from the foregoing bakeries. They refuse to recognize Union Labor.

Socialist Party of St. Louis

Executive Committee meets every Monday evening at 8 o'clock, at 212 S. Fourth street. Otto Kaemmerer, Secretary.

Ward.	Place.	Time.	Secretary.
1	4444 Penrose, 2nd and 4th	Tuesday	F. E. Nye
2	3033 North Broadway, 1st and 3rd	Wednesday	F. Rosenkranz
3	Unorganized, at large.		
4	Unorganized, at large.		
5	Unorganized, meets with sixth.		
6	Thirteenth and Chouteau, 1st and 3rd	Sunday	A. Slepman
7	Rear 1724 South 9th, 2nd and 4th	Wednesday	Frank Heuer
8	2213 South Tenth, 1st	Thursday	G. Boling
9	2875 South Seventh, every	Tuesday	W. M. Brandt
10	Ohio and Potomac, 1st and 3rd	Thursday	F. F. Brinker
11	South Branch, 7801 South Broad way, 4th	Friday	Wm. Klages
11	North Branch, 6001 Gravois Ave., every	Wednesday	E. Plambeck
12	2623 Lemp, 1st and 3rd	Monday	Dr. E. Simon
13	1000 Mississippi, 1st and 3rd	Wednesday	W. H. Workman
14	1325 Market St., 2nd and 4th	Tuesday	Clifford Z. Miller
15	1832 Carr, 1st and 3rd	Thursday	D. Burckhart
16	1446 North Nineteenth, 1st and 3rd	Tuesday	Jul. Siemers
17	2300 North Market, 1st and 3rd	Tuesday	W. W. Baker
18	2108 North Fourteenth, 2nd	Tuesday	W. E. Kindorf
19	3720 North Twenty-first, 1st and 3rd	Wednesday	Peter Frank
20	3129 Easton, 2nd and 4th	Wednesday	F. Mittendorf
22	2651 Washington Ave., every	Friday	G. W. Payne
23	3306 St. Vincent Ave., 1st and 3rd	Wednesday	Jas. E. Wilson
24	4262 Juniata St., 1st and 3rd	Friday	Otto Mehl
25	4345 Arco, 2nd and 4th	Friday	David Allan
26	3938 Garfield Ave., 1st	Friday	M. Duerrhamer
27	South Branch, 5524 Easton, every	Wednesday	Paul Manthei
27	North Branch, 2318 Gilmore, 1st and 3rd	Thursday	Hy. Gerdel
28	5586 Vernon Ave., 3rd	Friday	J. K. Savage
	Women's Branch—212 S. 4th St., 1st and 3rd	Thursday	Miss E. M. Bassett
	Jewish Branch—1105 N. Eleventh St., 1st and 3rd	Friday	Dr. A. Keat
	Hungarian Branch—2315 N. Ninth St., every	Sunday	John Rozma

THE FACT IS

The Court of Equity of the District of Columbia declared against the boycott and ordered the American Federation of Labor to discontinue in the columns of the American Federationist under the "We Don't Patronize" list the name of

The Buck's Stove & Range Co.

This court decision does not make this nor any other unfair concern fair; neither does it make the Union men and women of America forget the fact that Mr. Van Cleave is still fighting the Labor Unions, and that so long as he is pursuing his present Union-killing work he can not expect them to forget the fact that he

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SOCIALIST NEWS REVIEW

Applications for Membership.

Application for Membership Cards containing pledge provision of the new constitution is ready for shipment. Price, prepaid, 25 for 10 cents; 50 for 15 cents; 100 for 20 cents; 1,000 for \$1.50.

Jewish Propaganda Pamphlet.

The Jewish Agitation Bureau has had the pamphlet entitled "The Socialist Party," by Charles H. Vail, translated. Orders for the same should be sent to the secretary of the Jewish Agitation Bureau, 444 South Halsted street, Chicago, Ill.

Kirkpatrick to Lecture.

Comrade George R. Kirkpatrick, address 112 East 19th street, New York City, is now acting as organizer for the Intercollegiate Socialist Society, and desires the names and addresses of college students, teachers, professors, etc., particularly those of known Socialist tendencies or liberal views.

Typographical Error Corrected.

In the November Official Bulletin there appears a typographical error in the financial report of the National Secretary for the month of November. Where the total expenses first appear the amount is stated to be \$7,785.50. In the summary the total expenses again appear, and there it is correctly stated to be \$8,785.50.

Dobbs Elected for National Committee.

By a recent referendum Charles Dobbs, care Insurance Field, Louisville, Ky., has been re-elected a member of the National Committee, and Walter Lanfersiek, 506 Washington avenue, Newport, has been elected State Secretary for the unexpired term, vice F. H. Streine, resigned, and for the following full term of one year, beginning Jan. 1, 1909.

Indiana State Convention Called.

The state committee of Indiana has issued a call for a state convention to be held at Indianapolis Saturday, Feb. 27, 1909. The committee has also adopted the following course of reading for the locals during the winter months: Commonsense of Socialists—John Spargo; The Spiritual Significance of Modern Socialism—John Spargo; Value, Price and Profit—Marx; Woman and the Social Problem—May Wood Simons; Socialism and the Home—May Walden.

The Berlin Socialist Organization.

If there are any persons abroad who have any doubts about the rapid growth of the Social-Democratic movement in Germany, the quarter centennial of the Berlin section of the party should put all such doubts at rest. Where the Social-Democrats had only 8,000 votes in this city in 1883, the year in which Social-Democracy was born here, at least as an effective political power, they are now polling 100,000 votes in the third class of voters alone, as against a bare 22,000 for all the other parties. The 35 Socialists in the Berlin city council virtually control the body, but their power is greatly restricted by national and state laws.

Tucson, Arizona, Is Doing Things.

Dec. 15, 1908; Dear Comrade—In the local election here for officers of the city government the Republicans and Democrats combined and nominated Ben Heney for Mayor—a brother of the San Francisco prosecutor who was recently shot. The Socialists nominated Comrade Charles M. Murphy and in spite of the fact that both the old parties were combined against him Comrade Murphy was beaten by only 90 votes. The vote stood as follows: First ward—Murphy 315, Heney 446; Second ward—Murphy 347, Heney 306; total—Murphy 662, Heney 752. This is a good showing in the largest city in Arizona. Yours truly, WM. P. HILL.

Job Harriman Fighting for Mexican Revolutionists.

Job Harriman, candidate for vice-president on the Socialist party ticket in 1900, is back in the organization. Harriman withdrew from Local Los Angeles about six years ago because of differences of opinion regarding tactics, but he continued to work for the cause of Socialism on the outside. Harriman is a splendid fellow and is and was universally esteemed. At the present time he is fighting the efforts of the Mexican government and its American henchmen in their efforts to extradite three revolutionists whose crime was to organize the Mexican workers to resist the tyranny of the butcher Diaz. The unionists and Socialists of the extreme Southwest are backing up Harriman, but their means are very limited. Still they are hopeful of securing justice for the victimized men.

Preachers Fall in Line.

The preachers keep a-coming along. The Christian Socialist of Chicago prints articles from a number giving their reasons for becoming converts to Socialism. Among them are Rev. James L. Smiley, Protestant Episcopal, Annapolis, Md.; Rev. P. J. Frederick, Lutheran, Spring Church, Pa.; Rev. Herbert T. Cash, Friends' Church, Paoni, Col., and Rev. H. O. Hammond, a minister 72 years old, who was a warm admirer of Horace Greeley. Rev. Frederick makes a statement that is typical of the rest. In speaking of Socialism, he says: "They say it is revolutionary. Amen! The Sermon on the Mount was just as revolutionary. It will overthrow some of the oldest institutions of modern civilization. Amen! Chattel slavery was an old institution, but it had to go. So must every system which has become effete or obsolete."

Wisconsin Pushing the Good Work.

Organizer Carl D. Thompson is circulating the following appeal in Wisconsin: Now is the time, comrades, for us to organize and educate. During campaigns we have to rally our forces and crystallize into votes the Socialist sentiment we have created. But now we must create Socialist sentiment. Now we must teach Socialism. Now we must make new Socialists. Now we must organize. No comrade should judge the present opportunity in his community by the past. We have advanced. There has been a wonderful growth of sentiment everywhere. People will listen now who would only scoff a year ago. We are now prepared as never before to push the organization. We are ready to help you. We have the speakers all harnessed and champing their bits and pawing the earth. We can arrange one lecture or a whole series in your town. Will you help? All we ask is that you help. Just help. We don't ask for a big money donation. Just a little work. Anybody who is willing to do a few hours' work can have the whole current of light turned on his town—speakers, lectures and literature. Such an effort will result in a local organization. And when you get organized the rest goes naturally. Will you help us arrange some lectures and organization work in your community this winter?—Carl D. Thompson, State Organizer, 344 Sixth street, Milwaukee, Wis.

The Swedish Socialists in Swedish Election.

At the late elections to the second chamber (lower house) in Sweden, the Socialists elected 33 members, the Liberals 98 and the Conservatives 90, with seven districts yet to be heard from. At the previous election only 13 Socialists were elected. The result is much more gratifying when one considers that the suffrage is limited. At the last session of Parliament the constitution was amended, creating universal suffrage with certain limitations. This amendment must be passed on again at the coming session before it becomes a part of the constitution. At the last session the Socialists and the Liberals voted against the adoption of the amendment because of the limitations, but was passed by the Conservatives, who then con-

stituted a majority. The only question at the coming session will be, will the Liberals stand by their former position and vote for universal suffrage without any limitations. The "provisos" contained in the amendment as passed last year provide that in order to have a right to vote taxpayers must have their taxes paid in full, those eligible for the military service must have performed this duty, and the minimum age of electors was raised from 21 to 24. The amendment did not provide for any extension of the suffrage to elections for the upper house, another reason for the opposition of the Socialists: In Malmo, where the dock workers' strike of last summer was exceptionally bitter, the Socialists carried all of the four districts.

Ben Hanford Married.

We read in eastern exchanges: Ben Hanford, twice candidate for vice-president on the Socialist ticket and a bachelor for 48 years, is married. The woman who captured Hanford's heart is a resident of New York, and, according to him, knows more about the Socialist movement than he does. The joyful event of Hanford's life occurred on Nov. 22, but it was not until recently that Ben loosened the padlock on his mouth and told about it, and then he barely said that the name of the woman of his heart's choice is Miss Alice Bointom. It was in a letter that reached the national office written in Hanford's characteristic scroll. At the top of the letter was stamped in red letters an address reading: "Ben Hanford, 857 East Thirty-fourth street, Flat Bush, Brooklyn, N. Y." National Secretary J. Mahlon Barnes peered at the address with a puzzled expression and began to read:

"No doubt you have already noticed my new address," read the letter. "I have something good to say to you. You may think it will hurt my jaw, but here goes: 'I am a married man.'"

Barnes threw the letter down and ran around the office to spread the news. Then he brought the letter out on general demand of the office force and read the rest aloud:

"It happened Nov. 2 at 103 East 19th street, New York. We were married by the Rev. Alexander Irvine. Her name is Alice Bointom" (here Barnes paused long enough to consult with the force on the name). "Tell all the boys and girls in the office. She is a good girl and has an old red card paid up to date and knows more about the movement than I do. Note the new address and understand that the latchstring is always outside."

Death of a Brave Comrade.

St. Louis Local lost another good and brave comrade within the last week. Sunday, Dec. 13, 1908, Comrade Fred Andres died at his home on Wisconsin avenue, after an illness of several months. The funeral services were held in Belleville, Ill., from the residence of Mrs. Andres' parents, Mrs. and Mr. Hasselbach, 501 Centerville avenue, Thursday, Dec. 17; the burial took place in Walnut Hill Cemetery. The great number of people present at the funeral ceremonies and the many beautiful wreaths and flowers which had to be transported to the cemetery in a special carriage were the best proof of how much the deceased comrade was respected and beloved by all who knew him. Of St. Louis comrades Mrs. and Mr. Hunstock attended the funeral. Comrade G. A. Hoehn spoke briefly at the house, and at the cemetery he delivered the funeral oration, speaking of the kindness, love and true comradeship of the deceased in his relations with everybody who was fortunate enough to come in contact with him. Fred Andres was a member of the St. Louis Tenth Ward Club, and also a member of the "Union of the Leather Workers on Horse Goods." He was born in Aarau, Switzerland, Nov. 28, 1870, and at the age of 10 years emigrated with his parents to America, who settled in Belleville, Ill., where Fred learned the harness makers' trade. His mother, Mary Andres, died four years ago. He leaves the widow, Comrade Mrs. Margaret Andres; his father, Fred Andres, Sr., and the following brothers and sisters: Oscar of Quincy, Ill., Hans of Belleville, Martha of Belleville, Mrs. Klein of St. Louis, Frida, Walter, Bertha, Louis and Olga of Belleville, and Otto of Newark, Cal. Local St. Louis at last Sunday's general meeting passed resolutions of condolence to be forwarded to the widow, Comrade Mrs. Margaret Andres. Similar action was taken by the Tenth Ward Club at its last meeting.

Ticket Holders.

All comrades holding any tickets for the Armory meeting, the September picnic and also the July picnic are urgently requested to return them at once. While there are comparatively but few holders yet to hear from, nevertheless their neglect prevents the final accounting of the treasurer to the auditing committee for these affairs. There are quite a number of September tickets still to be heard from, and which were sent by the Fish Pond Committee in batches of five to the wives of active party members. Please try and account for your tickets within the next week.

L. E. HILDEBRAND, Secretary-Treasurer.

WORKING WOMEN OF ST. LOUIS AND VICINITY

If You Wish to Help the Poor, Striking Bakery Workmen, Do Not Buy the Products of The American Bakery Co.

These lines are addressed to the women of St. Louis, especially to the working women.

Your husband is a workingman. In order to support his family he must work hard and give the best part of his life to his daily work. You go to the bakery and you will find that the 5-cent bread is not as big as it was years ago; that you get less cake for a nickel. You go to the shoe store and there you will find that shoes cost more than they used to.

Ten years ago you could buy more meat, bread, shoes, etc., for \$5 than you can buy today for \$8.

Why is everything so high-priced? Some slick fellow may tell you: "The high wages of the workmen are the cause of it!"

This is not true. The fact is that big corporations, trusts and monopolies are today in possession of the business and fix the prices arbitrarily. The meat trust fixes the meat prices!

The sugar trust fixes the sugar prices! The flour trust fixes the flour prices!

And now comes the Bakery Trust and attempts to run the bakery business of St. Louis!

American Bakery Co., has gobbled up the following bakeries:

Heydt Bakery Co.
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Freund Bakery Co.
Welle-Boettler Bakery Co.
Hauk & Hoerr Bakery Co.
Home Bakery Co.

These seven bakeries are operated by the trust. This trust is this bakery trust, which is incorporated under the name of not only trying to crush every smaller bakery in St. Louis and vicinity, but the trust is also fighting Union Labor with a view of introducing cheap labor.

We appeal to the working women of St. Louis and vicinity not to buy any bread or cake from the above mentioned trust bakeries until such time as the Union contracts are signed.

Our demands are reasonable. We do not think that anybody will consider \$15 or \$16 a week a very exorbitant wage for any man who has a family to support.

Every reader of Labor can help the paper by patronizing those who advertise in it.

Here is a Good Pamphlet for Democratic and Republican Workingmen to read after the Nov. 3 elections: "What Help Can Any Workingman Expect from Taft or Bryan?" Price 5c a copy. This pamphlet is better now than before the day of election. Gradually the "free-born sovereigns of labor" are sobering up and a little reading on these lines may make thinking men out of them.

The Concentration of Wealth. Five Cents a Copy. Have You read it? It is good. Get a quarter's worth and sell them to your fellow workers and friends. Six for a quarter!

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS!

TAX BILLS FOR 1908, AS WELL AS SPECIAL BILLS FOR SPRINKLING STREETS, ARE PAYABLE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1908. INTEREST AND PENALTIES ACCRUE AFTER JANUARY 1, ACCORDING TO LAW.

JAMES HAGERMAN, JR.,

Collector of Revenue

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