

Comrades,
Work for your
Own Press!

ST. LOUIS LABOR

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of St. Louis, Mo.

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Work for your
Own Party!

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The Milwaukee Conference

The first national conference of elected Socialist officials will be held in Milwaukee August 12 and 13. There will be interesting addresses delivered and live problems discussed. Comrades elected to public office in recent years will be anxious to give their experience for the benefit of the general movement. Others will be anxious to gather advice and information that might be of value to them in their efforts to solve knotty problems confronting them since getting into public office.

There are those comrades who sincerely believe that this conference will succeed in drafting a generally acceptable Socialist municipal program. This will be an impossibility. The best that could be done in that direction would be to prepare a few carefully considered lines of advice to the comrades everywhere concerning the drafting of local or municipal Socialist platforms and programs.

In the first place, the powers and activities of municipalities are outlined and restricted by the state constitutions. In every municipality there are certain peculiarly local conditions which must be taken into consideration in the drafting of local platforms, in making local campaigns and effecting local reforms. In years gone by the Socialists would get together to draft a municipal platform and arrange for a local campaign. Instead of looking over the local field, investigating local conditions, trying to find out the most urgent public needs and reforms, and thus become thoroughly acquainted with the local situation, they would stick to their "theoretic-scientific method" of collecting all possible municipal programs put up by Socialists in New York, Boston, San Francisco and Kalamazoo, select the "best clauses" and put them together like a crazy-quilt for their local campaign platform, irrespective of whether they had the least relation to local conditions or not. Really important and most vital local conditions were entirely disregarded, the result being a fiasco on election day after a farcical municipal campaign.

Aside from the fact that practically every state in the Union has different constitutional provisions concerning the rights of municipalities, it must be taken into consideration that the municipal reform work in big industrial centers like New York, Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland, St. Louis, San Francisco, etc., is radically different from the local problems by which the Socialists in smaller cities, towns and villages are confronted.

Furthermore, in large cities like St. Louis, with eighteen miles of river front, and extending its western limits five miles from the river, even the local conditions and needs are so radically different that some important parts of the municipal program applying to some districts of the city will be of little or no direct interest to the residents of the rest of the city. Yet the measures applying to these respective districts constitute a most vital part of the program.

We could mention a number of cities and towns where Socialists were elected to public office within the last fifteen years and where the Socialist movement was by no means benefited or advanced, because the men elected failed to make good. In other words: they failed to carry out the social-democratic program. In the constructive policy of International Socialism. Clear-cut, scientific, revolutionary and, above all, loud-mouthed before election, and absolutely incompetent when elected as Socialist lawmakers. In most cases this class of Socialists dropped out of sight, and where they remained in the movement they became obstacles in the way of those who were agreed on the real, constructive work of Socialism.

To talk Socialist municipal reformwork is one thing; to practice it is another. The grave responsibilities placed upon the Socialists elected to important public offices are fully realized by our comrades in Milwaukee. Indeed, our Milwaukee Socialist friends had been fully awake to these grave responsibilities before they elected their first men to the City Council. And it was this consciousness of public duty and public responsibility that enabled them to make the heroic fights and get the Socialist Party into public power.

It is not sufficient for us to know—or pretend to know—or promise what we will do in case of election; it is even more vital for the sound progress of our movement and for the public good to know what we may not be able to do. In plain language: We best know our strength when we fully realize our weakness!

The Milwaukee conference will also take up state and national questions. The immediate practical result may fall far behind the general expectations, especially since our Milwaukee comrades are anxious to provide their outside guests with all kinds of entertainment. However, the work of the conference will not be in vain. It will at least open the eyes of many of the visiting comrades and make them realize the fact that there is a vast difference between the traveling soap-boxer and the comrade who is selected and called upon to represent the movement and the interest of the working class in public office.

In this connection we are reminded of the tragic-comical experience of our Chicago movement some years ago, when Impossibilism reigned supreme. Comrade Johnson was elected on the Socialist ticket. He came to the City Hall as an impossibilist to represent Impossibilism. He was supposed to act clear-cut and class-conscious on every bill that came before the house. In his impossibilist consciousness and under the impossibilist influence of the movement that elected him, he lost himself in confusion, and the Socialist Party of Chicago was thus enriched by one more expensive experience.

In dealing with the vital problems while in public office, our comrades should never lose sight of this one cardinal fact: The Socialist Party is a revolutionary party, and because it is a revolutionary party it is the real party of social reform. While its ultimate aim is and must be the radical reconstruction of society in line with the doctrines, aims and objects of International Socialism, the Socialist Party is bound to work for immediate measures and reforms that tend to ameliorate the conditions of the working class and guarantee improved economic, political and social relations generally. By the very pressure of this revolutionary Socialist movement capitalist society will be forced to grant concessions in the same ratio as the economic and political movement of the proletariat will grow and develop.

Therefore the question is not: Is the Socialist Party a revolutionary or a reform party?

We repeat: The Socialist Party is both a revolutionary and a reform party. It cannot be the one without being the other.

The Milwaukee conference will be the beginning of an important movement. It may not accomplish much at this time, but it will clear the way for greater work to come. Greater work, with magnificent results!

We extend cordial greetings to the comrades who will assemble in Milwaukee August 12. May their work be crowned with success!

G. A. Hoehn.

The Steel Trust plants have been investigated by the U. S. Bureau of Commerce and Labor and here are some of the facts officially reported: The Trust has 90,000 employes on the pay roll, 60 per cent of whom are foreign-born. Only fifteen per cent of the 90,000 employes work less than sixty hours a week. 50 per cent work 72 hours per week. Almost half of the 90,000 employes receive less than 15 cents per hour. 25 per cent receive under 25 cents an hour. Only 25 per cent receive more than 25 cents an hour. Only 5 per cent receive over 50 cents an hour. The 12-hour-day and the seven-day week still exist in many of the Trust's plants. About one third of all the 90,000 employes belong to the Slavic race.

OLD AGE PENSION

Comrade Victor L. Berger introduced an Old Age Pension bill in Congress. Capitalist statesmen and politicians may declare this bill a Socialist dream, because there may not be the least chance to have it passed by the present Congress.

We wish to emphasize that this is the most important bill brought to the attention of the United States Congress for years. Much depends upon the attitude of the organized working class of this country whether the bill drafted and introduced by Comrade Berger shall remain a Socialist dream, or whether it shall become the most vital problem in congressional legislation for the near future.

Berger's Old Age Pension bill should be supported by every labor organization, Socialist club and radical society throughout the country. Every Congressman should be called upon by "his constituents" to take up the bill and support it. If he fails to support the bill, he should be called upon to explain and give good reasons for withholding such support.

No civilized country on earth is caring so little for the health and life of its working class as our glorious Republic of Dollaria. The lives of hundreds of thousands of wage workers are sacrificed every year. At the age of 45 the average wage worker is considered too old to be of any great value to the capitalist exploiter. The best part of his life has been ground out, worked into dollars and cents for his master, and he is cast aside on the dump of the labor market like a broken wagon wheel on the scrap pile.

A systematic agitation in favor of this important bill should be inaugurated without delay, both by the Socialist Party and by the Trade Unions. Let Congress know that the organized wage workers are wide awake to the need of radical legislation in favor of those upon whose shoulders all human progress and civilization rests.

G. A. Hoehn.

NATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY NOTES

(By J. Mahlon Barnes, National Secretary.)

The Jewish Labor World.

The Jewish Labor World for Friday, July 28, is an anniversary number, celebrating the tenth anniversary of the organization of the Socialist Party. It contains special articles by A. M. Simons, Morris Hillquit, B. Feigenbaum, John M. Work and others. Bundle orders should be sent to the office of publication, 739 West Twelfth street, Chicago.

Against the Morocco War Scare.

The International Socialist Bureau, upon motion of the Executive Committee, has been considering the advisability of calling a meeting of the delegates of Germany, France and Spain, in particular, and from all other countries that can send delegates, to be held either in Paris or Brussels, to consider the Morocco situation. If such special meeting is not decided upon, this question will at least be placed upon the program by the Executive Committee for the next annual meeting.

Finnish Socialists Report Progress.

The Finnish National organization continues to make progress at a rapid rate, and for the month of July has paid for dues the sum of \$417.70, which is the largest payment in any month in the history of that organization. The Finnish locals now number 204 and the membership is just about 9000. The subscription list of each of the Finnish publications is rapidly increasing, and there is general activity in the three district organizations of which the national organization is composed. In the Upper Peninsula of Michigan the Finnish comrades are effectively co-operating with the National Office in a campaign of organization.

Since the last report charters have been granted to locals in unorganized states as follows: Mississippi—Airmunt, 6 members; Laurel, 11 members; Lawrence, 7 members; Poplar Creek, 7 members; Potts School House, 6 members; Richton, 11 members; Spring Hill School District, 6 members; Vicksburg, 11 members. North Carolina—Hope Mills, 8 members. Alaska—Ketchikan, 33 members; Wrangell, 8 members.

Since last reported contributions to the McNamara Defense Fund have been received at the National Office and forwarded to the office of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers as follows: Socialist Local and Miners Union, Basin, Mont., \$39.00; Local Portsmouth, N. H., \$5.00; Local Coffeyville, Kan., \$5.00.

Comrade Wells LeFevre has resigned as State Secretary of Arkansas, and Comrade Ida Hayman-Callery of Huntington has been appointed as Secretary pro tem pending an election.

Comrade C. A. Rades, 124 Pine street, Clifton Forge, Va., has been elected a member of the National Committee for that state.

Mayor Seidel On Alarm Clocks

Now that practically all the capitalist dailies have commented upon Mayor Seidel's suggestion that phonographic music be substituted for the alarm clock, let a Socialist paper add a word.

The alarm clock is a disagreeable instrument. It emits a harsh, unmelodious sound. It calls the sleeper to a disagreeable task—labor for the benefit of another.

It is the call of the master to the slave. It stands by the worker's bedside and at the hour when his slavery must begin it shrieks at him: "Get up, you slave! Go to work for your master. Toi whether you wish to or not, whether you are strong or weak! Come! Bend your back to the task that your master may have his profit."

The alarm clock, with its shrill voice, is peculiarly appropriate to the present system. Few masters can rule their slaves with honeyed words.

But Mayor Seidel, a Socialist, sees into the future. He sees the time coming when men, through Society, will work for themselves. He knows that some day there will be no industrial masters, and hence no need for their shrill-voiced representatives at the bedside of men.

The worker will then go to his task with delight. Work will be a pleasure, fitted to the needs of the worker, and rewarded to the full proportion of the toil. Mayor Seidel could not help anticipating a bit when he addressed the talking machine men.

He could not help seeing that they were developing a kind of Socialist successor to the capitalistic alarm clock.—Chicago Daily Socialist.

THE GRAND RAPIDS STRIKE.

Seven Furniture Companies at Grand Rapids Have Given In; Two More Expected Soon.

Grand Rapids, Mich., July 27.—One hundred striking furniture workers resumed their old positions with the Fancy Furniture Company to-day. The men go back to work on the basis of ten hours' pay for nine hours' work. The proposition was voted on last week by the men formerly employed in the plant, with the understanding that the company would, after January 1, adopt the 54-per-week working schedule with sixty hours' pay.

Two more large companies are conferring with the strike organizers, and it is expected they will sign before the end of the week.

Many strikebreakers, imported from Chicago for the Nelson, Matter Company, deserted this afternoon, went to strike headquarters and will be returned to their homes at the expense of the unions.

It is now believed that the strikers will win, as seven large factories have signed up since the beginning of the strike, April 19, as follows:

April 22, Marvel Manufacturing Company; April 24, Veit Manufacturing Company; April 24, Interchangeable Fixture Company; May 13, Nachteggall Manufacturing Company; May 15, Fritz Manufacturing Company; May 26, American Seating Company; July 24, Fancy Furniture Company.

"UN-AMERICAN"

"These conditions are un-American and must not be tolerated." This and similar expressions and phrases we read and hear so often that it is about high time to examine a little closer the meaning of "American" and "un-American."

There was a time when Socialism was generally denounced as decidedly un-American. Politicians and statesmen, priests and preachers of the gospel, authors and newspaper writers preached and wrote and argued in support of the assertion that Socialism was un-American. And there were so-called labor leaders who would join the chorus of capitalist sycophants and emphasize: "Yes, Socialism is un-American and will, therefore, never gain a foothold in this country!"

We remember the days when the Trade Union Movement was denounced as un-American and anarchistic by men in the pulpit and by leading lights of the public press.

When Elijah Lovejoy preached and wrote against negro slavery his life was threatened and he was driven out of St. Louis because of his un-American ideas and propaganda; when he continued his anti-slavery work in Alton, across the river, he gained for himself such an un-American reputation that he was murdered by an infuriated mob of alleged patriotic American citizens.

When William Lloyd Garrison, in his Liberator, declared war on chattel slavery he was condemned as an un-American wretch. His little printing office was wrecked, because it was un-American, and Garrison himself, the un-American, was mobbed and dragged through the streets of Boston with a rope around his neck.

Then came Wendell Phillips, the man who was so un-American that he would not practice law in American courts or recognize the American Constitution. He was persecuted and hated for his un-American agitation as no other American ever was hated. He supported Garrison in his un-American anti-slavery warfare, and more than once was he in danger of being lynched by "respectable, law-abiding and patriotic Americans."

John Brown came along in his un-American way, stirring up such an un-American fuss that Old Patriot Uncle Sam made short work of him.

Two short years after the un-American Harper's Ferry excitement comes the un-American Abe Lincoln and stirs up such an un-American row about the un-American ideas and propositions of Lovejoy, Garrison, Phillips and John Brown that the North and South met in bloody combat on the battlefields and sacrificed the lives of over one million American patriots.

And the old, dear American institution of negro slavery was abolished! Lovejoy and Brown did not live to see their un-American dreams realized; Garrison and Phillips did.

Lovejoy has since been "Americanized." A \$50,000.00 monument on the bluffs of Alton tells of the glory of the great martyr hero of the Abolitionist movement!

Brown's tragic end on the hangman's scaffold of West Virginia could not prevent the following generation from covering his grave with the revolutionary immortelles of history and from declaring him the patron-saint of the American Abolitionist movement.

It was the bad luck of Garrison and Phillips that they lived to see the end of chattel slavery. They would not rest on their laurels. In their old un-American way they declared that the trouble was not over, but had just begun. In their un-American way they announced to the world that white or wage slavery had taken the place of black chattel slavery under the patriotic rule of Capitalism. Because Garrison and Phillips declared war on the capitalist institution and took up the fight for the modern labor movement they have not yet been fully Americanized. The names of Garrison and Phillips are cautiously kept out of our school books, as much as possible, and their great work during the three decades of the Abolitionist movement is a sealed book to most of the young generations.

How could a man like Wendell Phillips be admitted a bona fide American when as early as 1871 he submitted a Socialistic program to a labor convention in New England? Why, that was as absolutely un-American as his former attacks on the old American chattel slavery!

And this same man Phillips had the nerve to applaud the Paris Commune at a time when every American newspaper cried:

"Murder! Murder! Murder!"

In this un-American way Wendell Phillips destroyed his chances of being officially baptized as a bona fide American in this age of capitalist dollar-and-cent patriotism!

Garrison and Phillips knew full well that they would not be immortalized by the capitalist regime that took possession of this country's affairs with a strong hand after the Civil War.

Now let us glance over our American institutions. Let us try to get clear on the terms American and un-American.

American Capitalism is doing its business in American style. The industrial, commercial, political, religious, moral, social and all other business!

Along the shores of patriotic New England we see the prosperous industries, where poor, helpless, weak women and children are exploited for starvation wages. American, no doubt! The proprietors and stockholders are mainly Americans, hence the conditions under which their plants are operated must not be un-American.

In the mines and in the cotton factories of the Southern States men, women and children, mostly Americans, are working long hours for starvation wages, under most horrible conditions, to grind out profits and dividends for the American capitalist patriots who pull the industrial and commercial wires from their general offices in New York and Boston. American capitalists from North and South co-operate in the systematic efforts to grind the lives of the Southern wage-working men, women and children into hard cash for patriotic speculators and stockholders. Hence, these Southern slave pens cannot be un-American!

The railroads and mines of this country are to-day owned and operated by law-abiding, patriotic American citizens. Hence the conditions under which they are operated can hardly be called un-American! Within the last twenty years there were 200,000 persons killed and 2,000,000 persons injured and crippled in our American Mines and on our American railroads. Why call this murderous work un-American? Is it Russian? Is it German? Is it French? Is it Hottentot or Soudanese?

Take our United States Senate? Is that supreme legislative body not composed of the "creme" of the ruling classes? And the lower house of Congress! Does that body not contain the elite of American statesmanship? And would you dare to assert that the Congress of the United States could do anything that was un-American?

Why, no. Never! Every Congressman and Senator is a patriot, defending the Stars and Stripes, denouncing anything and everything that is un-American.

There you are!

Un-American Socialism has become so Americanized that it made its way into the United States Congress.

Un-American Trade Unionism has become so Americanized that it comprises the intelligence of American labor.

The term un-American has been applied to every true new reform movement until the term itself has become a nuisance in the English language which should at least be "cut out" by the speakers and writers of the Socialist and Trade Union movement.

G. A. Hoehn.

How Socialism is Coming.

By Winfield R. Gaylord

III.

Labor Unions and the Farmers.

This industrial army is necessarily subject to discipline—a discipline by the side of which a military discipline is a kindergarten on a summer day's picnic. To violate the discipline brings a summary and dishonorable discharge from the army.

But this discipline does not originate with the superintendent, nor the owner of the factory. It is inherent in the nature of the machines. No matter who owns the machines, no matter who operates them, no matter for whose benefit they are run, the discipline must be there. Even though the workers owned the machines—as they will do under Socialism; even though the workers owned the raw material and the finished product of the machines—as they also will do under Socialism; even then it will not be possible for any one worker in the industrial army to declare his "independence" of the body of organized workers and proceed to "do as he pleases." There must still be the discipline of the factory, railroad, mill and mine. The difference is, that it will then be for the benefit of the workers, framed and organized to fit the lives and necessities of the workers, as well as the machine, and modified when necessary for the good of the workers, by the workers who do the work and, therefore, best know what laws will best serve their own interests.

The Parliaments of Labor Are in Session.

Now, the beginning of this process of making the laws of industry, by the workers, has been made long since by organized labor. What else is the agreement between the mine workers' union and the operators and owners of coal mines in any given district but a writing of the laws of the mine and its operation by the workers? What else is the agreement between the railroad organizations of workmen and the great railroad companies but a writing of the laws of labor for those great enterprises? Imperfect—of course! Incomplete, to be sure! But the parliament of the workers is in session, and THE INDUSTRIAL LAWS OF LABOR ARE BEING WRITTEN NOW BY THE ORGANIZED WORKING CLASS. That these laws are not always accepted by the kings and barons of industry and finance is only a thing to be expected—a simple repetition of the history of the writing of constitutions and statutes.

For it must be understood that the workers are invading the sacred precincts of "property" when they propose to write the laws of industry. They are doing just what the English parliament did to King John. England BELONGS TO THE KING. The land was his property. Everybody else lived on English soil by his permission. And here came a group of his subjects, thrust a paper under his nose and made him sign it. He had been accustomed to writing all the laws himself—or telling his ministers what to write. But he signed—he had to! A little later King Charles lost his head over a similar matter; thought he did not have to sign—and they cut off his head. Since that there has generally been a very willing king to sign the laws passed by the English parliament.

The modern "kings of industry and finance" have been signing the laws of industry prepared by organized labor—their "hands" or subject—only when they had to; only when the competitive process forced them to keep their factories going in order to hold their trade.

"Industrial Organization.

The new development of capitalism, caused by the new combinations of capital and the organization of ever larger units of industry, are enabling the employing capitalists and captains of industry to adopt new tactics against the workers. And this compels a reshaping of the plans of the workers' organizations. The old craft organizations are giving way to larger units of organized labor. The new industrial principle of labor organization, by which all the workers employed in the same industrial enterprise are affiliated into one organization, regardless of the particular trade or craft, is being recognized.

Some of the workers, looking too narrowly at the present conditions in some of the ranks of the workers, caused by jurisdictional fights, etc., seem to think that the craft unions are inherently bad of themselves. They forget that the unions of each particular trade were the only logical form of successful labor organization in the earlier days, bringing together the men who had the most in common. They were historically necessary, and furnished the school for the education of the workers, preparing for that further development of their organizations which now becomes necessary with the changing character of the industrial system.

That this new principle is being recognized—in spite of the jurisdictional fights—is shown in the organization of the Building Trades Councils, the Metal Trades Councils, the Allied Printing Trades Councils, the method of the Brewery Workers' organization, of the United Mine Workers, and many other unions. That it will be necessary, or even profitable, for all members of organized labor to come under this new principle of organization, is not clear—not until the industry in which they are engaged has so changed its character as to necessitate industrial organization.

There has been a serious antagonism among certain of the farming class against the labor unions as such. But of late years this antagonism is giving way, for two very good reasons. In the first place, the farmers are beginning to understand that unless the industrial workers get good wages they cannot buy many farm products—much less pay decent prices for them. And the success of the labor union movement is bound to be reflected in the improved local market for farm products. But, in the second place, the farmers have found it necessary to organize their own labor unions. The American Co-Operative and Educational Society in the South and Southwest is quite a force. In the more northerly parts of the country the American Society of Equity is a farmers' organization. The latter is even affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and, in Wisconsin at least, exchanges fraternal delegates with the State Federation of Labor. Self-control over his own labor, through the control of the marketing of the products of his labor, and control, to some extent, of the prices of the manufactured articles which he must use, appeals also to the farmer, once it is presented to him.

The introduction of the rural free mail delivery and the farmers' telephone lines are making it easier for the farmers in any given community to keep in touch with the world markets—making it harder for the merchant and the grain and produce buyers to fool them. It is also easier for the farmers to get together on any proposition now than it ever was, because of telephones, better roads, automobiles, etc. And the result is—they are getting together. Once they understand the value and possibilities of getting together with the industrial workers on the economic field, for the purposes of co-operation and insisting upon union products, the world of capitalism will find it hard to hold them back.

Do Labor Unions Try to "Run the Business" of Employers?

One great objection is raised against labor unions by the employing class, and that is, that they "try to tell the employer how he shall run his business." Is this true?

We shall do well to affirm that labor organizations succeed only to the extent that they succeed in controlling property that does not belong to the members of the unions. This is the fact. It is essential to the life of the labor unions, under these or any other conditions.

Whoever has the power to fix the time during which the machinery of any industry shall run has the power to fix the length of the day's labor for those employed there. And that means that he may thereby fix the average length of life for the workers so employed.

Whoever has the power to fix absolutely the financial condition, the profit rate of a business enterprise, has the power, other things being equal, to fix the wages of the employees, and, therefore, to fix also the kind of bread they shall eat, and how much, the kind of clothes they shall wear, the kind of houses they shall live in, the kind of education their children may have—in fact, to fix the very pattern of the coffin they shall be buried in.

And whoever has the power to fix the arrangement of the machinery in any given industry, as to the safety of its operation, for the workers, has the power to fix the percentage of killed and wounded out of those who daily go in and out of that factory, mill or mine; and how many shall be torn asunder by projecting set-screws, how many sawn in pieces by lacerous saws, how many caught by flying belts and whirling pulleys, how many crippled for life.

And, therefore, unless the workers can succeed in controlling to some extent the machinery and its hours of operation, the profits—so far as they bear upon the wage question, and the conditions of the machinery affecting their own safety—the workers have no word to say of self-control.

SELF-CONTROL ON THE PART OF THE WORKERS IN THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL WORLD INVOLVES CONTROL BY THE WORKERS OF THE MACHINERY IN CONNECTION WITH WHICH THEY ARE EMPLOYED.

And the absolute control of the machinery and wages of labor, on the part of the capitalist and employing class, would give them a control over the laborers, to the disadvantage of the latter, which would be worse than the control of the slave owner over his chattel slave. The slave owner lost money when his slave was injured. The modern employer of labor loses nothing by the injury of his employe, unless the worker has something to say about about the matter.

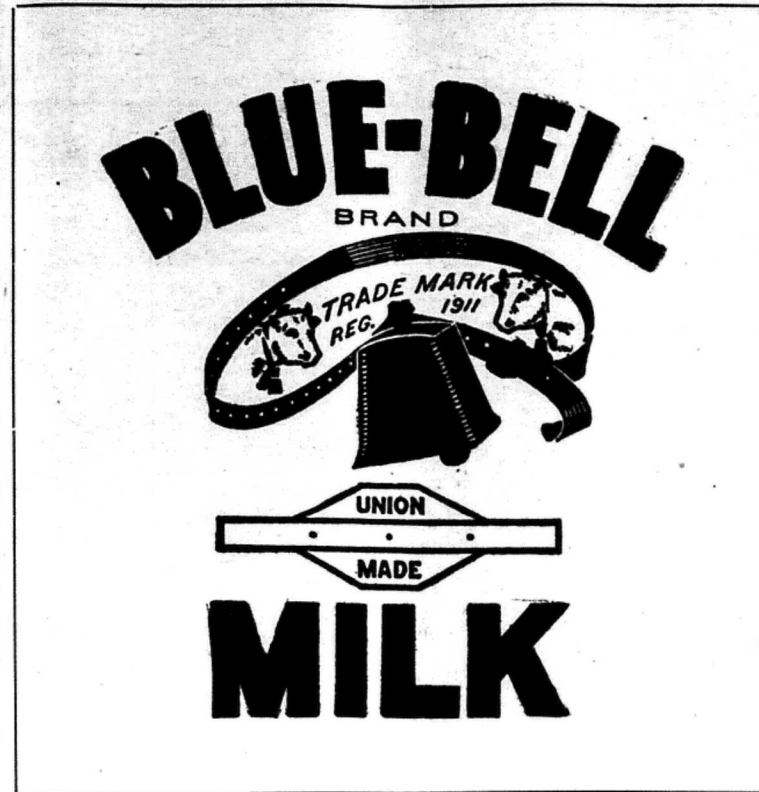
There may be compromise in this field; but it can only be temporary. Laborers and capitalists may agree for the time to operate under certain conditions and agreements; but the very development of industry in modern times breaks up all such agreements sooner or later. This struggle is one not to be smoothed over. It is in the nature of the means of production and distribution, and in the nature of human nature also.

We have been told that "the interests of labor and capital are identical."

Jas. W. Riffie's "Original" Union Brand Milk and Blue Bell Milk

are made from the purest milk possible to produce. The factory at Columbia, Mo., is in the heart of the finest natural dairy district in the world; finest because it grows the most luxuriant blue grass and has the finest cold pure spring water for the cows to drink.

Every cow producing milk for our factory has been Tuberculin Tested by the State Authorities and the dairies are operated under directions from the MISSOURI STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE which is located at Columbia, Missouri.



"Original" Union Brand Milk and Blue Bell Milk for SALE AT ALL GROCERS.

JAS. W. RIFFIE, Kansas City, U. S. A.

ical." Here is where this identity of interests appears. And it is true—in a way. Just as two spring chickens having hold of the opposite ends of a fat angle-worm, after an April shower, have an identity of interests, because they have hold of the same worm—so and so only are the interests of the working class and the capitalist class identical.

This struggle can never be brought to its logical termination by the labor organizations alone. They are not organized for that purpose. They are organized to carry on the struggle for better wages and conditions under the conditions of the capitalist system. Incidental to that is the process of education and discipline of which we have spoken. There will be for many years a broad field for the development of the proper purpose of organized labor, in the adapting of its methods and organization to the changing conditions of capitalist, before the arrival of the Co-Operative Commonwealth. And there can be no doubt that organized labor will continue to "make good" in this line.

And we must say that organized labor will make good only to the extent that the organized workers succeed in controlling the property of the employing class and compelling readjustments of business processes in the interests of the workers.

This means the eternal conflict between the owners of the property and the users of it; and points logically to some other method which must be used for the solution of the problems of society and the community, which is also interested in the operation of the various parts of the industrial plant with as little friction as possible.

Industrial Democracy Not Enough.

However widely and successfully the labor unions may organize, they can never become the vehicle for the action of society as such. In the very nature of them, they pertain to those employed in industry of some kind. Other members of society have interests at stake in the country and its resources, which might easily become antagonistic to the interests of the unions as such. It might even be true of members of the unions that their interests as citizens would outweigh their interests as members of the union.

And because the unions are inevitably limited in their character by the industrial nature of their organization, as well as by other facts, I am opposed to their becoming the only vehicle for the government of society. It would be just about as pleasant finally to be exploited by Mr. George Baer and his crowd of "godly" friends as to be exploited by the mine workers' union. Between the two, our experiences with some of the "aristocratic" unions make it difficult to choose. Power over society, held because of the ownership of certain resources which society must have in order to live a civilized life—such power is dangerous in the hands of any man or any group of men smaller than the group whose life depends upon the proper use of such resources. And that is the great objection to that form of unionism proposed by some Socialists, who would substitute for all political action on the part of the workers such action as can be taken by the workers industrially organized.

Organized labor is developing log-

ically and to its limit the possibilities of the labor union, and by that very process is showing the next necessary step to be taken by the workers. What will probably stand as the classical illustration of this process of development, by which the "economic power of a class at a certain stage if development inevitably expresses itself in political action," is to be found in the history of the great English labor movement. Antagonized by Socialists of a certain sort, who believed that the very success of the English labor unions was leading them into a swamp of reaction, the English workingmen stuck to their labor organizations, and turned a deaf ear to all appeals to organize a political party for the working class. But when stung into action by the Taff Vale judicial decision, they turned the resources and the organization of the unions into the current of political action and stepped at once, full-fledged, into the political arena as a political power that had to be reckoned with.

What I want to make plain is not that the course of the English trade unions was the only right one. The point to be emphasized just here is, that the labor organizations, however powerfully well-disciplined and resourceful, met what would have been the Waterloo of labor organizations had it not been possible for the same class to turn to the political field, use its political power, and make of the political party the ally and co-worker of the trade unions, in the interests of the workers.

A Third Way in Which Socialism Comes.

And so we can say that, wherever the working class succeeds, by its own organization, in securing control over the laws of property, to any extent, to its own advantage, there, to that extent and for those workers social democracy—social self-control—is being achieved now.

Dimly, "as through a glass darkly," some of our alleged statesmen of today see the connection between Socialism and the necessary control of property. But they do not see it clearly at all. This is all made very plain in a statement by William H. Taft in an address in Boston on December 30, 1907, before he became President. He said, among other things: "If the abuses of monopoly and discrimination cannot be restrained, if the concentration of power made possible by such abuses continues and increases and it is made manifest that under the system of individualism and private property the tyranny and oppression of an oligarchy of wealth cannot be avoided, then Socialism will triumph and the institution of private property will perish."

Of course, we have not time enough to correct all the mistakes of "Bill" Taft, but this one lies close enough at hand to come in for a "mention."

Impossible to Abolish Private Property.

It is a good thing that the Socialist Party does not propose to "abolish private property." Not even the Republican party can entirely succeed in doing that—although they have been trying to do so for several years, at the bidding of the trusts. Private property as an institution

does not mean very much, when ninety-five per cent of the wealth of a nation is in the hands of one per cent of the population, and the great bulk of that is held by corporations. "Individual property" has practically disappeared anyway, in the process of economic development, except for those things which are personal, private utilities, and cannot be used otherwise than by one person. Even these are not easily attainable as "private property" by the average man to the degree that is desirable under a decent civilization. There are altogether too many people without the proper quantum of "private property" in the form of decent clothes, right now. And when hungry men go to garbage cans to get a meal, get arrested in order to have the protection of the jail against the cold, and commit crime in order to have a habitation, there is something loose in the existing system of "PRIVATE property"—so-called.

Who Wants Municipal Ownership of Hats?

The "municipal ownership of hats" would not find a very warm endorsement by Socialists as a plank in their platform. Imagine what that might mean when we have woman suffrage! No, sir! A hat is a personal, individual utility; can be used to good advantage and completely by one person; is capable of being adapted to the peculiarities of persons and taste of any individual. There is no reason why a hat should be used by any other than the man or woman who uses it. The use of a hat by one person does not necessarily interfere with the freedom, labor, happiness or welfare of any other person. The municipal ownership of hats would restrict the development of individual taste and the control of individual comfort in a way utterly unnecessary for the welfare of the community. Down with the municipal ownership of hats! Nobody wants that.

Private Property a Permanent Institution.

Now, whether it be a hat, a coat or a piano, a book or a house, a garden, or a ten-acre lot—yes, or a 100-acre farm—whatever property it may be, which one person can use to good advantage, and in using it does not interfere with or damage or harm or hinder the labor, the welfare, the happiness or any other person, that property is, by the nature of its use and ought easily to become, private property.

And so long as there is property of that kind it will and of right ought to be private property. Which means that private property is as permanent as human nature.

The national platform of the Socialist Party of America has a plank on the land question which will make this very clear. It is as follows:

"There can be no ABSOLUTE private title to land. All private titles, whether called fee simple or otherwise, are and must be subordinate to the public title. The Socialist Party strives to prevent land from being used for the purpose of exploitation and speculation. It demands the collective possession, control or management of land to whatever extent may be necessary to attain that end. It is not opposed to the occupation and possession of

The high quality of the milk

and our own secret process of Evaporating produce that rich creamy flavor so necessary to good milk.

You cannot imagine how much better and richer it is than ordinary milk until you have tried it.

After that you will have no other.

It is too rich to use without diluting and the price is no higher than other milk.

land by those using it in a useful and bona fide manner without exploitation."

The same principles apply to all property.

(To be continued.)

A New World

BY JOHN M. WORK.

Once upon a time I indulged in a twenty-five-mile drive in Southern Idaho in order to make a Socialist speech and organize a local. The way led us down the mountains and across a wide valley. When we left the little nest of a town away up in the mountains where I had spoken the night before, we drove over a tortuous path around the mountain side, with peaks on every hand shutting off our vision. Passing down the canyon and turning an abrupt curve in the road, suddenly and without warning, the whole broad valley below swept into view. It was one of those moments that are never forgotten. The broad expanse of sage brush, too far away to be ugly; the winding river, the twinkling brooklet that flowed into it when it could afford water enough, the irrigation ditches that flched the water back again, the angular patches of green farm land carved out of the gray sage brush, the little shanties with would-be clumps of trees about them, the browsing cattle and sheep, the isolated cross sections of red rock thrown up by some mundane upheaval in the dim and silent past, and the rising peaks and blue sky beyond—all these made a panorama of exquisite beauty. I feasted my eyes upon it and it refreshed my soul.

Years ago the panorama of Socialism burst across my vision in much the same manner. I had decided to prepare a lecture against Socialism. I knew nothing about the subject. I happened to have sense enough to know that in order to prepare a lecture against it I must investigate it. In those days Socialists were few and far between. I could not talk with them, because I did not know any. I went to the city library and made out a list of the books on the subject. I got out the first one on the list. When I began reading it I could not stop. I forgot that I wanted to prepare a lecture against Socialism. My eyes were glued to the page. The book spread out before my view a social panorama of unexamined beauty. It showed me the unerring cure for all the social evils that had been burdening my mind. It refreshed my soul. It made a new man of me. Before that time I had been a cynical pessimist. Since then I have been a joyful optimist.

Try it, friend. It will do the same for you. It will open up a new world to you. It will make your life worth living.

NEW UNION IN McLEANSBORO.

The workmen of McLeansboro, Ill., have just perfected the organization of the McLeansboro Federal Labor Union, A. F. of L., Local 14,067, with a membership of about fifty. This makes the third union organized in McLeansboro this year, the carpenters and printers having organized.

SLAVES OF MANHATTAN

By Wm. Preston Hill, M. D.



New York City, July, 1911.

Once more I have come to visit this great metropolis. It has a fascination for me; the fascination of the monstrous; the hold on the imagination that might be exercised by some prehistoric beast of fearful strength, unknown capabilities and doubtful character.

I like to go up into the tower of the Metropolitan Life building and look down on the confused mass below. From that great height, the streets look like channels and human beings like bees or ants crawling about in a gigantic bee-hive of ant-hill.

I love to sit there and give free vent to my imagination in the effort to figure out what all this movement is for, what it means and what it is all about.

What we see with our physical sight, unaided by the mind's eye, amounts to very little.

For example, four men are looking at a country hillside. With their physical sense they all see the same things, trees, rocks, vegetation, differences of elevation, etc., but how different is the image conceived in the brain of each!

The first, a farmer, let us say, sees that this hill would make a very poor farm, fit only for pasture or orchard and not to be compared with his rich and fertile valley land.

The second, an artist, sees a thing of beauty and joy forever. He notices the blending harmony of colors, the delightful contour of the landscape, the delicious shadows cast by the setting sun. His eye lingers and dwells with rapture on the cozy nooks made by the luxuriant foliage amidst the rocks carved and worn by the babbling brook.

The third observer, a poet, clothes all this with life. He fancies that here the nymphs were bathing and the naiads dancing in yon shady bower, that here the chaste Diana might have been surprised by an unlucky Acteon and that there ardent lovers are ever whispering their vows of eternal love under the soft beams of the sentimental moon, that yonder the lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea and many a flower is blushing unseen and wasting its fragrance on the desert air.

The fourth observer, a geologist, sees the records of countless ages written upon the rocks. He sees again the plesiosaurs, the pterodactyls, the mastodons and the ochthyosaurs in deadly combat. He sees prehistoric man, the cave-dweller, with his stone hatchet shrinking in terror from his monstrous enemies. He sees the glacial period and the titanic forces which through countless ages have been at work carving out a world and leaving here and there a trace to bear silent witness to future generations of what has come and gone.

Thus it is that what one sees with the eye depends largely on the mind to which the impression is carried.

And so I sit here in my observation tower and, with a free imagination, I picture to myself that all this life and movement is part of the great whole; that together all these moving atoms form an organism just as much as the cells of the human body together form a man.

I try to picture to myself what kind of a being this is, this great composite organism made up of millions of human particles.

In a word, I try to personify it into a single personality so as to be able to judge and study it at my leisure. I am not the first to have this thought. The people have tried to do that before, but in a sort of unconscious, careless and crude way.

They have called this personification of New York City, "Father Knickerbocker," and have pictured to themselves a free, independent, wise, just, benevolent and honest old Dutch burgomaster.

Now as I sit here, there conviction is forced upon me irresistibly that this personification of New York City is utterly false.

If we will study him closely we will have to admit, that he is neither free, nor independent, nor just, nor wise, nor benevolent, nor honest.

It would be pretty hard to describe his character accurately. We can, however, easily say what he is not, even if we find difficult to describe what he is.

I prefer, therefore, to give some other name than "Father Knickerbocker" to this personification. I would prefer to call it "Manhattan."

This has a more savage sound, like the name of some old Indian chief, and is more appropriate to describe a being, fierce, cruel, unjust, dishonest,

ignorant and malevolent, and is, therefore, a more accurate name for this personified New York City. Let us, therefore, call it "Manhattan" and study it closely.

We find at the outset that "Manhattan" is not free. He is absolutely owned by a few thousand people. He is their slave to all intents and purposes. He obeys their slightest wish; he gives them lavishly and without stint all the product of his labor. He starves himself and all those under his control in order to constantly increase the share exacted from him by his masters.

But while we find thus on the one hand that "Manhattan" is a most abject, cringing and obedient slave to his owners, we find on the other hand that he in turn is a fierce, cruel, unjust and remorseless master to those under his power.

This great slave in turn is a slave master. He owns slaves and these slaves of a slave I have called the "Slaves of Manhattan."

You can see them any day from early morn, pouring in a steady stream for hours from the East and West sides, through subway and elevated, from ferries and tubes, into shop and factory to grind out a precarious existence for starvation wages.

I say starvation wages deliberately and purposely, because it is the truth; because it is impossible for the immense majority to live decently on the wages they receive.

We do not need statistics (although there is an abundance of them) to prove this.

Come with me and look at them as I have done and you will see the pinch of poverty, the stings of misery, the signs of exhaustion written on their faces in indelible lines.

Not one in a thousand is in as good physical condition as the black slaves of the South before the war nor do they get as good food or treatment.

See the breeding-places of tuberculosis and other diseases of filth and vice.

See the children trying to snatch a breath of air in the dangerous streets, making them their playground, where they are familiarized with vice and their morals corrupted.

Think of the record of the industrial insurance companies who have issued more than one million policies in Manhattan of the kind known as Graveyard Insurance, on which the premium averages from 2 cents to 10 cents a week. These policies are taken out by poor people to avoid being buried as a pauper by the city in the dreaded Potter's fields. And yet, in spite of all this, one out of every ten deaths is so buried by the city.

Come with me and look at the girls and women hurrying to their work in the early morning and notice that the immense majority of them have ugly features and bad figures, crooked shoulders or crooked backs and that not one in a hundred is passably good-looking.

Then the conclusion will be irresistibly forced upon you that some force is silently and continuously at work sorting out the pretty ones and removing them from the crowd.

Then you will believe as I do that the struggle for existence is so fierce among them, that a girl to whom nature has given even the slightest advantage of comely face or good form, is irresistibly tempted to take advantage of them to better her miserable condition.

In such a field the white slaver finds victims galore to be tempted by his wiles.

But the great majority who escape such a fate are nevertheless in some way directly or indirectly removed from the struggle and enter the personal service of the rich, where they have an easier time.

In plain words, "Manhattan" picks out his comeliest girl-slaves and gives them over to become the personal parasites of his masters.

But what a relentless task master he is to the remainder less favored! He drives them without mercy. Even the policemen tell them to "move on" in the streets and to "step lively, please"; such is the spirit of the place.

ing steamship will bring him thousands of new ones every week.

And what does he do all this for? Has he any end to gain; any intelligent purpose in view?

Not at all. He does all this in blind obedience to his owners. He grinds his slaves in order to hand over all the products of their labor to the few that are his masters.

Does he benefit these few even by his actions? Not at all.

The senseless and useless luxury he heaps upon them rots them physically and morally and destroys them even more surely than poverty undermines the multitude.

Consider all these facts impartially and then perhaps you will be able to appreciate as I have done the grim humor that lies hidden in a sign in front of an imposing edifice on the East Side:

Society for the Amelioration
of the Condition of the Poor

Not that these people do not mean well enough, but because they wish to make the condition of Manhattan's slaves a little more endurable without changing Manhattan himself—because it is Manhattan's masters who furnish the money that maintains the Society to Ameliorate the Condition of the Poor.

The only way to help Manhattan slaves is to make Manhattan himself free, first of all, to make him the owner of himself, and then perhaps these slaves will have a chance to improve their own condition and the conditions under which they live and work.

And, perhaps, finally, you will agree with me that "Manhattan" is a very appropriate name to designate this impersonation of folly and vice and that he is neither wise, nor just, nor benevolent, nor honest.

MY COUNTRY.

By Robt. Whittaker.

My country is the world; I count
No son of man my foe,
Whether the warm life-currents
mount

And mantle brows like snow,
Or red or yellow, brown or black,
The face that into mine looks back.

My native land is Mother Earth,
And all men are my kin,
Whether of rude or gentle birth,
However steeped in sin;
Or rich or poor, or great or small,
I count them brothers, one and all.

My flag is the star-spangled sky,
Woven without a seam,
Where dawn and sunset colors lie,
Fair as an angel's dream,
The flag that still, unstained, untorn,
Floats over all mortal born.

My party is all human-kind,
My platform, brotherhood;
I count all men of honest mind
Who work for human good,
And for the hope that gleams afar,
My comrades in this holy war.

My heroes are the great and good
Of every age and clime,
Too often mocked, misunderstood,
And murdered in their time,
But spite of ignorance and hate
Known and exalted soon or late.

My country is the world; I scorn
No lesser love than mine,
But calmly wait that happy morn
When all shall own this sign,
And love of country, as of clan,
Shall yield to world-wide love of man.

Cold Blooded Murder.

ANOTHER "SAFE MINE" IN AN EXPLOSION.

By Fred Thomas.

With the explosion of the Cascade mine at Sykesville, Pa., on Saturday, July 15, one more catastrophe has been added to the innumerable disasters that have occurred within the last few years. This time twenty-one miners had their lives snuffed out, and, according to reports, it was one of the most brutal murders ever committed.

Efforts are being made to hush up the affair and lay the blame on the poor unfortunates who lost their lives. One of the papers stated that the explosion was caused by the striking of a gas pocket and intimates that this is the first time that gas was found at this mine. The usual theory that the explosion was caused by dust accumulation is insidiously being spread around.

A coroner's jury, which was impaneled on Sunday, July 16, where a preliminary hearing was held, was hastily adjourned until Wednesday, presumably (as it is rumored) to allow the company to fix up its testimony.

Your correspondent went to the scene and, unlike the others, did not go to the mine superintendent and mine inspector for information.

The men who were daily employed in that ill-fated mine were interviewed, and in no case did the story differ, all declaring that the mine was a gaseous one, and that innumerable small gas ignitions occurred there within the past six months, and one as late as Thursday, July 13.

That the mine has been a gaseous mine, and that the men were allowed to work in these with open lamps, is proven by the following letter:

"Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

"12th Bituminous Inspection District, "C. P. Byrne, Inspector.

"Punxsutawney, Pa., May 27, 1911. "Mr. John Sullivan, President Sub-District, Punxsutawney, Pa.

"Dear Sir—In reply to yours of the 26th inst., wish to state that the report of inspection sent to the mine to be posted read as follows: 'Additional safety can be secured by the use of a safety explosive for blasting.' At the time of my inspection I found No. 8 left heading giving off explosive gas in sufficient quantity to be detected with a safety lamp, and I advised the mine foreman to blast in such places with a permissible powder.

"Mr. Gadd, superintendent, is evidently mistaken, as those recommendations are in line with the recommendations of the U. S. Federal Bureau of Mines.

"Trusting this is satisfactory, I remain, yours very truly,
(Signed) "C. P. BYRNE,
"Inspector 12th Bituminous District."

PATRIOTISM OR PRISON!

Be patriotic or go to prison! This is the demand of representative J. Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania. Moore has begun his campaign for compulsory patriotism by introducing a bill in the House of Representatives "to prevent and punish the desecration of the flag of the United States."

Part of the bill provides: "That whoever shall publicly or privately mutilate, deface, defile, or defy, trample upon, or cast contempt, either by words or act, upon any such flag, standard, ensign, shall be fined not more than \$500, or be imprisoned not more than one year, or both."

If Moore's bill becomes a law it would be criminal to call attention to the fact that capitalists and crooks flaunt the flag to cover the lawless actions of a gang of scabs led by Pinkertons marching behind the American flag.

Of course, Moore has a reason to be patriotic. He is the representative of the Ship Trust primarily and the Third Philadelphia District incidentally. Patriotism means battleships. Battleships means cold cash to the Ship Trust. Thus Moore can be excused for his patriotic proclivities.

While this bill is a serious matter, it is also very amusing. Think of getting a congressional act to force American citizens to evoke patriotic sentiment. It is about as funny as Senator Heyburn's suggestion that there ought to be a federal law compelling citizens to volunteer as soldiers.

At this rate we may expect that Congress will be soon called upon to enact a law "compelling" American

MEETING DIRECTORY

Standing Announcements in this column will be \$5.00 per year, payable in advance.

SECOND WARD SOCIALIST CLUB

Meets every second and fourth Thursday, at 8 p. m., at Reis's Hall, Blair and Salisbury, second floor. All workmen and women in sympathy with the Socialist Party are welcome. A ROSENKRANZ, Sec'y, 3319 N. Ninth street.

NINTH WARD SOCIALIST CLUB

Meets every second and fourth Thursday, at 8 o'clock p. m., at northwest corner of Ninth and Lami streets. All working men and women in sympathy with the Socialist Party are welcome.

TENTH WARD SOCIALIST CLUB

Meets the second and fourth Thursday, 8 p. m., at South West Turner Hall, Ohio avenue and Potomac street, in large hall, upstairs. All comrades or those interested invited to attend our meetings. DR. W. L. MOORE, Sec'y, 3747 South Jefferson Ave.

26th AND 27th WARD SOCIALIST CLUB

Meets every first Wednesday of the month, 8 o'clock, at Lazar's Hall, southeast corner Union and Easton (entrance on Union avenue, side door.) A hearty invitation is extended to all who are interested in the aims and objects of the Socialist Party to join our ranks. T. PRENDERGAST, Sec'y.

WORKINGMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY "FORWARD"

Meets every second Thursday at Labor Hall, 966 Chouteau avenue. All friends of the co-operative idea are welcome to attend and join the organization. Every member will be pleased to give information regarding the aims and plans of the society. Payments on shares are accepted in any business meeting. PETER KIEFER, Secretary, 5116 Cologne Avenue.

Workingmen's Protective Union.

Office hours: 5 to 6:30 p. m.; Saturdays, 12 to 12:30 p. m. MARTIN C. SEEGER, Clerk.

Office: 408 Olive Street, Room 506
Phones: Central 5076, Olive 2123
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citizens to have their hearts beat faster than usual every time they hear the "Star-Spangled Banner" played.

YOU ARE INVITED.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper, it is an invitation to subscribe. Just send us your name and address—we do the rest.

JURISDICTION TROUBLE IN THE BUILDING TRADES.

Carpenters No. 25, of Toledo, has been ousted from the local Building Trades because of a decision of the National Building Trades expelling the Brotherhood of Carpenters in the difference with the Sheet Metal Workers.

At the last meeting of the Toledo Building Trades Council a refusal of the national body to furnish supplies as long as the Carpenters were seated resulted in their expulsion.

The Carpenters do not appear worried over the action, as it is known there has been some difference on other matters for quite a while, which has resulted in the Carpenters refusing to send delegates, although they have paid their per capita.—Toledo Union Leader.

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Editorial Comment.

BY G. A. HOEHN.

The State Capitol Bond Issue has been adopted by a 4 to 1 vote. There were less than 150,000 votes cast in the entire state. St. Louis City gave 16,353 for and 4,098 against.

"Take care of your friends!" is the maxim of the Kreisman administration. The Mayor's friend, Ex-Speaker Rombauer, has been elected to revise the city code for the nice little plum of \$5,000.00.

Germany expelled a French Socialist for making speeches against war. This matters little, because there are still nearly four million Socialists whom the Kaiser is bound to tolerate whether he likes it or not.

In recent dispatches from the mining camps of Mexico where strikes are in progress, much is said about the anti-American sentiment among the miners. The fact of the matter is that this anti-American sentiment is confined to the American mineowners and some of their imported slave drivers who are making the Mexican mining camps a hell to work and live in.

We are glad to inform our readers and friends that the critical situation in the St. Louis building trades unions is clearing up. The prospects of avoiding or preventing a general split-up of the forces are good and we sincerely hope that within a very short time the St. Louis building trades unions will show a united front and prepare the ground for successful co-operation and greater work in the near future.

The Civic League's plan of federating all the civic and ward improvement associations is simply a scheme of the Big Cinch manipulators to check the reform work of the radical associations. The New Charter campaign and the attempted franchise steals of Festus J. Wade, Jim Campbell et al. taught the lesson to the Big Cinch crowd that something must be done to counteract the "Socialist tendencies" in the radical associations and prevent them from taking any "harsh action" without the permission of the "central government".

About 900 men and boys in Lemp's bottling department went out on strike last Tuesday. The strikers demand the removal of Wm. J. Kinney, the ward politician, time-keeper and overseer, who imagines that he can make wretched slaves out of the Union men and boys in the bottling department. The discontent leading up to this strike has been brewing for several years. It was hoped that conditions would improve and that the Lemp Brewing Company would call a halt to Kinney's rowdy work. But conditions grew from bad to worse until the explosion came resulting in a general bottlers' strike.

The Wisconsin State Legislators seem to be an unholy crowd. Rev. Tull, a Methodist minister of Madison, was called upon to deliver a prayer in the Senate. For this "courtesy" State Treasurer Dahl sent the minister a \$3.00 check. Rev. Tull returned the check with the remark that to accept the \$3.00 would be purely commercialism. We think the Reverend gentleman is right. Any sum less than \$25.00 as payment for a prayer for a conglomeration of sinful Wisconsin state senators smells of commercialism, or of common laborer's wages. A \$50.00 check would have looked more like "returning the courtesy."

Two St. Louis Shoe Factories: the Roberts, Johnson & Rand Co. and the Peters Shoe Co., were consolidated with a capital of \$20,000,000.00. The chief reason for the merger is given by the consolidators as follows: "The advantages to be gained by having a large number of highly organized and well-equipped specialty factories under one management. The economies of the consolidation will assure increased efficiency in manufacture, resulting in higher quality, greater consumption and consequently a reduced cost of distribution." The new company employs 8,500 men in 18 factories, some of which are located in neighboring Illinois and Missouri country towns where labor is cheap and where the factory laws can not be enforced. Cheap female and child labor is one of the "great advantages" of the St. Louis shoe factories, some of which are regular industrial kindergartens.

The Anti-Trust Law will not kill any trust. Here is what the great Republican mouthpiece, the St. Louis Globe Democrat, says in its editorial columns: "The Standard Oil and the American Tobacco Co. find it to their interest to obey the Sherman anti-trust act. . . . There will be no unnecessary harshness shown to violators who display any desire to keep in conformity with it. The rule of reason will govern the action of the courts in enforcing the statute. . . . The stocks of the two big concerns involved in the recent decisions remain high. . . . The court showed a conservatism and a sanity which will contribute much toward trade stability. No radical interpretation of the law is likely to come in the near future. Grangerism and Populism have no standing in the federal courts this day." What have the trust-busters to say about this assurance of a leading Republican machine organ? Meanwhile the Democrats in Congress may continue their trust investigations and childish attempts to create a campaign issue for the next presidential election.

POLITICAL CRITICISM.

Governor Harmon Attacked by Labor Leader.

A bitter attack has been made
A bitter attack has been made
Connors, first vice-president of the Switchmen's Union of North America, in an article in the Chicago Daily Socialist. Connors denounces Harmon as a railroad tool because he vetoed the Calvey bill to compel the corporations to employ full crews to man trains. Connors, who was stationed at Columbus for some time during each of the two last sessions of the legislature to lobby for the bill, declares that in vetoing this guard proposed by men engaged in a hazardous occupation Harmon sacrifices the lives and limbs of railway employes to the greed of plutocracy. It is also pointed out that Harmon

vetoed the vestibule bill advocated by street railway employes and refused to sign the workmen's compensation act, thus plainly betraying his sympathy with the privileged class.
As Connors has been active in old party politics for some years, his condemnation of Harmon will have a telling effect on some workmen who still thought that the Governor is a wonderful statesman. At the same time, it is now up to Harmon's labor lieutenant to fly to the rescue and explain how the "old man" didn't mean it if he did.—Cleveland Citizen.

Love's Way.

She—I'm afraid, Tom, dear, you will find me a mine of faults.
He—Darling, it shall be the sweetest labor of my life to correct them.
She (faring up)—Indeed, you shan't!—Boston Transcript.

Old Age Pension Bill
Introduced in Congress

By Victor L. Berger.

Important Measure Should Have the Unanimous Support of Organized Labor.

(By National Socialist Press.)

Washington, D. C., July 31.—Completing his measure with a radical clause forbidding the United States Supreme Court to pass upon its validity, Victor L. Berger, the Socialist Representative, introduced in the House a bill to pension the veterans of industry.

The bill provides for a basic pension of \$4 for every man and woman more than 60 years old.

"The old working men and working women," declares Berger, "are entitled to a living outside of the poor houses and without the aid of private charity. If the old parties and the Supreme Court do not realize that fact, they will be wiped out of existence, together with the old constitution."

Referring to a precedent established by Congress on March 27, 1868, Berger's bill provides that "the exercise of jurisdiction by any of the Federal courts upon the validity of this act is hereby expressly forbidden."

It is the belief of the Socialist Representative that his old age pension bill is perfectly constitutional. "But some of the capitalist Supreme Court justices may hold different opinions," says Berger. "This bill furnishes a good opportunity for testing the power of the Federal courts to annul necessary legislation passed by Congress."

In his statement Berger points out that old age pension laws have been passed in the principal nations of Europe, in the Antipodes and even in one American nation.

He asserts that through a thousand complex ways the country spends a greater amount to relieve the destitution of the aged than what his bill asks. "It is time now," he says, "that we go at the problem in a scientific and economical way."

Berger also introduced a bill today providing for the creation of a commission composed of members of the three parties in Congress to compile detailed data on the subject of old age pensions. The committee is to settle the details of administration.

The Socialist Congressman expects to wage an incessant campaign for the passage of this measure.

Mr. Berger's Statement of His Old Age Pension Bill.

The working men and working women of this country—the men and women who create all the wealth and make civilization possible for everybody—are entitled to be taken care of in their old age. Most of them receive in return for their labor so small a part of what they produce that all of it is expended in merely keeping alive. Since the average wage in our country is probably not more than \$400 a year, it is obvious that it is impossible for three-fourths of the population to save up from their wages anything for old age.

The working class is not better off in the matter of wages in any other country. But in many of the other countries the duty of society to the aged is recognized. Old-age pension laws have been passed in the principal nations of Europe, in the Antipodes, and even in one American nation. Germany, Denmark, Italy, Austria, Great Britain, France, Canada, Australia and New Zealand have all enacted such laws.

As usual, where legislation for the protection of the working class is concerned, the United States is lagging behind. No state in the Union has so far enacted a general old-age

pension law. The Republican party put such a plank in its platform of 1900, but the Republican Congress did nothing in the matter, and the plank has disappeared from subsequent platforms.

Everybody in America readily understands why soldiers are entitled to pensions. It is because soldiers render service on the field of battle which is considered dangerous to life and limb. But very few people realize that the number of men killed and maimed every year on the railroads, in the mines, factories and other industries in our country is approximately equal to the number to the number killed and wounded in any one year of our great Civil War, with all its terrific battles.

Moreover, the work of the soldier of industry is infinitely more necessary than the bloody work of the soldier on the battlefield. Most of the labor performed must be performed every day and every hour, or our civilization would stop.

The old-age pension bill which I introduce is, therefore, a measure of simple justice. It is also an expression of the growing demand for the taking care of the veterans of industry—many of whom have become invalids through occupational diseases which were the inevitable consequence of their toil.

My bill does not go into the administrative details and does not try to provide for the many complex situations that may arise in the operation of such a law.

The details will have to be settled by a commission appointed for that purpose. I am introducing at the same time a bill for the creation of such a commission.

Four dollars a week is to be the basic figure of the pension for every man and woman.

The ratio of persons more than 60 years old in the 1900 census, when applied to the 1910 census, would give about 5,800,000 persons.

It is assumed that 1,000,000 of these are foreign-born or have not been citizens sixteen years.

It is assumed that 1,500,000 of these, either by the ownership or the use of property, or the receipt of incomes above the limit designated, or because they are already in receipt of civil, military or naval pensions, or because they are in some way disqualified, will not come under the terms of the act.

Approximately 2,500,000 of the remainder are married and living together, and as such married couple counts only as one person and a half there would be a further reduction of 625,000 persons. This would leave a remainder of 2,675,000 persons to be pensioned.

As the average pension would range somewhere about \$2.50 a week, the cost of the pension scheme would be about \$347,000,000 annually.

This sum may be staggering to some good folk who believe in cheap government and in everybody taking care of himself. But if our nation can pay yearly \$131,000,000 for a navy, \$95,000,000 for an army and \$155,000,000 for pensioning war veterans—a total of \$381,000,000—it should certainly be able to pay an equal sum to pension its veterans of industry.

As a matter of fact, we pay a great deal more than this sum for this purpose now. The total expenditures made in a thousand complex ways by nation, state, county, municipality and private agency in relieving the destitution of the aged, would, if properly computed, show an enormous

greater amount than what this bill asks. Only we do the thing at present in an inefficient, expensive and cruel way. It is time now that we met the problem in a scientific and economical way.

Remember that these destitute aged men and women have, from their childhood, aided in creating the wealth which makes possible the payment of such huge appropriations for the navy, the army and the war pensions.

Of course, there are also some other good folk who may worry about the constitutionality of the bill. I believe that this old-age pension bill is perfectly constitutional, but some of the capitalistic Supreme Court Justices may hold different opinions. The bill furnishes a good opportunity for testing the power of the Federal courts to annul necessary legislation enacted by Congress. I have, therefore, put at the end of the bill a clause based on a precedent furnished by Congress in reconstruction times, and held constitutional at the time, forbidding the Federal courts to question the validity of this measure.

The old working men and working women are entitled to a living outside of the poorhouses and without the aid of private charity. If the old parties and the Supreme Court do not realize that fact they will be wiped out of existence, together with the old constitution.

New times require new laws.

To the Quitter

By John M. Work.

So you are tired and discouraged and propose to lie down and quit.

Just when things are coming our way all over the United States and all over the world. When the magazines are devoting a large amount of space to us. When the newspapers are compelled to give us attention. When our municipal and congressional victories have put us on the map, so to speak. When a presidential campaign is coming on in which we should all do our duty and reach another mile post on the way to the Co-Operative Commonwealth.

In the face of all this, you propose to lie down.

Well—good-bye!

There have always been those who lack the stern qualities and the grim persistence to keep on fighting until the goal is reached. There have always been those who drop out of the ranks and take it easy, and then profit by the sacrifices of their comrades after the victory is won. There have always been those who want to get something for nothing. There have always been those who give the enemy aid and comfort by throwing down their arms in the midst of the conflict.

To one who was in the fight before you heard of it, your lament is babyish.

Some of your plans have not worked out as you expected. There were not as many votes as you thought there ought to be. You are unable to see visible results of your efforts. You have not been fully appreciated by your comrades.

Even so.

The changing of people's minds is a gradual, not a sudden, process. Seldom does a comrade see the direct results of his own individual efforts for the Cause.

But let him look back a few years, comparing the standing of the movement then with its standing now, and he will see the marvelous advance that has been made through the common efforts of all the comrades, including himself.

And let him not expect to be patted on the back every time he aims a blow at the enemy. There are others also in the fight.

Persistence—persistence—and yet again persistence—is the thing that wins.

And working for the Great Cause is the only thing that is worth living for at this stage of human progress. He who quits is dead. He is intellectually and spiritually deceased.

Let the faint-hearted and the weaklings lie down if they like.

But they whose courage and whose consecration to the Cause make them worthy to be called men and women will keep on fighting, with dogged determination, in spite of all obstacles and discouragements, until capitalism is conquered and Socialism takes possession.

Our Milwaukee Letter.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST LEGISLATORS.

A great event in the history of American Socialism is about to take place. On August 12 the first conference of elected Socialist officials will meet in Milwaukee.

This will be an epoch-making meeting. At this conference the policies and the duties of Socialists in office will be discussed by men to whom the party has entrusted grave responsibilities. These men are now making history. Their perplexities, their difficulties, their experience and their triumphs will be carefully and thoughtfully debated in this gathering.

The party is now confronted with an entirely new situation. We now have to decide on a scientific line of policy in municipal affairs. All these subjects must be considered from a Socialist standpoint. It is true that our European comrades have long faced these questions, and we have the light of their valuable experience. But, nevertheless, the Milwaukee conference will mark a new era in American Socialism.

The conference will continue in session two days—August 12 and 13 (Saturday and Sunday). The first day will be devoted to national and state questions. Among other topics, the problem of the unemployed will be taken up. Comrade I. Leiseron will read an essay on this subject.

The second day will be given to municipal questions. Comrade Carl D. Thompson will address the conference on "City Problems." Other interesting essays will be read and speeches delivered by delegates who are experts on various lines.

When we consider that there are now twenty-eight Socialist Mayors in the United States, and that the number of other Socialist officials is legion, it may be understood how rich and varied will be the stock of experience and study on which the conference can draw. It will be a meeting of Socialist statesmen! For although the offices which some of these comrades hold are comparatively humble, yet from the thoughtful and studious spirit in which they have taken up their new duties they are better entitled to this name than many of the high-placed politicians of the old capitalist parties.

The conference will close on the evening of August 13 with a mass meeting to be held at the Auditorium and addressed by the members of the National Executive Committee, which will meet in Milwaukee at the same time as the conference of officials.

No doubt this Socialist Officials' Conference will be the first of many similar meetings, which will have great historic significance in the future. The conference will be open to all. Every comrade who can should avail himself of this rare educational privilege. Milwaukee hopes to welcome all thoughtful students of American Socialist problems.

E. H. THOMAS.

VICTORY FOR BAKERS.

Newark Concern Unionized After a Five Years' Fight.

At international headquarters of the Bakers and Confectioners' Union in Chicago the glad news was received that the Williams Bakery of Newark, N. J., has again been unionized, after having been run as a non-union shop for over five years. According to the information at hand, the Williams Baking Co. changed hands some time ago and the new management, being more progressive than the old one, decided to change its attitude toward organized labor.

St. Louis Tax Dodgers

Bernero Personal Property Assessed at Less than Two Per Cent of its Value.

Death is a great leveller—and does not respect tax dodgers any more than anyone else. The death of Mrs. Theresa L. Bernero of 4460 Lindell boulevard has had some unlooked-for results in the uncovering of wholesale tax frauds.

When an inventory of Mrs. Bernero's personal property was filed in the Probate Court it contained the following items: Notes, \$71,740; stocks, \$10,000; bonds, \$13,500; certificates of deposit, \$29,680.89; cash, \$23,779.20; chattels, \$3671.10. This makes a total of over \$152,000.

Now what would be your guess as to the amount she paid taxes on? Fifty per cent? Twenty-five? Ten? Five? Still to high. According to Assessor Brinkop's books, she paid taxes on less than 2 per cent of her personal property. The exact sum is \$2710, of which \$2500 is listed as cash and \$210 as "other property." Just think of it! Only \$210 given in to the tax assessor as her personal property, other than cash, when the furnishings of her palatial home on Lindell boulevard will undoubtedly run up to several thousand dollars.

Remarkable Real Estate Assessments.

Mrs. Bernero's real estate holdings show an equally astounding

state of affairs. The real estate includes her home, 4460 Lindell boulevard, where she died; 4328 Maffitt avenue, 4232-34A Olive street, 1413 Olive street, corner of Maryland and Taylor avenues, where the Westmoreland Hotel is situated, and the southwest corner of Ninth street and Washington avenue. These five pieces of real estate are estimated to be worth \$1,000,000. The property at Ninth and Washington is valued at \$500,000 by real estate men.

Investigation at Assessor Brinkop's office develops the amazing fact that Mrs. Bernero paid taxes on but \$258,560 worth of real estate, just about one-half of the value of the single piece at Ninth and Washington avenue alone.

Truly, Assessor Brinkop must have some remarkable guessers on his staff. Personal property is difficult to assess, and the assessor is not always to blame when it escapes him, but to let the furnishings of 4460 Lindell get by for \$210 and to assess real estate for one-fourth its value is another matter.

No wonder the capitalists are so eager and so careful to maintain control of the offices of Assessor and the Board of Equalization.

OTTO PAULS.

First Annual Picnic

GIVEN BY THE

12th Ward Socialist Club (West Branch)

Gravois View Park, —8200— Gravois Av. Sunday, Aug. 13th, 1911

Tickets 10c. First Class Speakers, Dancing and Refreshments. — Take Cherokee Car to End of Line. Bus to Grounds every 20 minutes (10 minutes walk from end of line) All Day — rain or shine — PLENTY OF SHELTER

Free Motion Pictures in Garden

PRIESTER'S PARK

Concerts Daily, Pelzer's Military Band

SOUTH GRAND AVENUE AND MERAMEC STREET.

UNSURPASSED RESTAURANT MEALS AT POPULAR PRICES

NEW!—AUTOMOBILE TRACK!—NEW! 10c a ride.

Thoroughly Remodeled — Fine Dancing Pavillion — Billiard Hall — Patent Bowling Alleys.

Liberal Terms to Societies and Schools. Both Phones. Frank M. Priester, Prop.

FROM THE BATTLEFIELD OF ORGANIZED LABOR

REMEMBER THE KIDNAPPED! Local Labor Field



Washington, D. C., July 27, 1911.

To All Workers:
From Los Angeles last October came the news that a terrible catastrophe had occurred in that city—that the Los Angeles Times building had been destroyed, with the loss of a number of lives. The first word spoken, even before the flames had completed their destruction, by the emissaries of the Times, contained positive declarations that organized labor was responsible for the disaster. Qualifying statements were conspicuous by their absence. Wide publicity was given, warped and unsupported allegations against the organized workmen of the entire country were featured, vast sums of money were dangled in the faces of unscrupulous men to fasten the crime upon some member or members of the trade unions. The National Manufacturers' Association, flanked by the Erectors' Association, Citizens' Alliance, detective agencies and a hostile press, brought their every influence to bear and appropriated every available circumstance to bulwark and fix in the public mind a mental attitude that the charges made against organized labor had been proven beyond the peradventure of a doubt.

The authors of the charge, after months of intrigue and searching investigations, utterly failed to substantiate the flamboyant and positive accusations that had been made. The public mind was slowly emerging from the hypnotic spell in which it had been enveloped and mutterings of suspicion began to be heard against the originators of the indictments against labor men. The position of the hostile employers' associations became exceedingly desperate. The Times management, with its years of relentless warfare against humanity, fearing that its Belshazzar feast of organized labor's blood was about to be denied, redoubled its efforts and demanded that a sacrifice must be furnished that its unholly appetite might be appeased, specifying that some union workman or workmen must be supplied to assuage its unnatural and abnormal hunger.

The record of events is too well known to make it necessary to recount them in detail. That "the end justifies the means" became the slogan, is patent. With all the forces of greed compactly joined, there began, is' patent. With all the forces of which has never before found judgment on the pages of our American republic's history. A prominent member of union labor was selected, J. J. McNamara, and one at whom the finger of suspicion had never before pointed, whose life had been characterized by an uprightness of purpose and loyalty to the cause of labor, and whose activities in every walk had drawn to him the commendation of his fellows. To give the stage the proper setting and to involve other trades than the iron workers, J. B. McNamara, the brother, was selected for the sacrifice.

With intrigue, falsehood and an utter disregard for all forms of law, applying individual force, conniving with faithless officials, the two McNamaras were rushed in feverish haste to the scene of the alleged crime. The rights of these two men have been trampled upon, wilfully, flagrantly and wantonly.

Every man, even the meanest, under the constitutional guarantees of our country, is entitled to a trial by a jury of his peers, and every man is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty. Thus far the proceedings have been outside the pale of those guarantees. The charge has been lodged against organized labor, and two of its members are now before the bar to answer to these charges. What is the duty of the organized labor movement? What shall be our course? What efforts shall we put forth to see to it that justice shall finally obtain?

The intellect, heart and soul of the men of labor yield to no body or class of citizens in their fidelity in obedience to the law, and their history is replete with instances of sacrifice that humanity may be protected. If within the ranks of labor there are those who commit infractions of the law, then they should be

punished, but there should not be instituted a double standard of justice—one for the wealthy malefactor and another for the workman.

The organized labor movement believes that the McNamaras are innocent. Upon that belief there devolves upon us another duty. The accused men are workmen, without means of their own to provide a proper defense. The assault is made against organized labor equally with the McNamaras. If we are true to the obligations we have assumed, if it is hoped forever to settle this system of malicious prosecution of the men of labor, our duty is plain.

Funds must be provided to insure a fair and impartial trial. Eminent counsel has been engaged. Arrangements are proceeding that a proper defense may be made. The great need of the hour is money with which to meet the heavy drains incident to the collection of evidence and other necessary expense.

Every man who was connected with the kidnaping of the McNamaras will be prosecuted to the full limit of the law. It is proposed that the interests of organized labor shall be fully protected and punishment meted out to detective agencies that assume to be superior to the law. The rights of the men of labor must, shall be preserved.

The men of labor, unlike the hostile organizations arrayed against us, have not vast sums of wealth to call upon, but they are imbued with the spirit of justice, and are ever ready to make sacrifice for principle.

The trial of the McNamaras is set to commence on October 11. In the name of justice and humanity all members of our organizations are urgently requested to contribute as liberally as their abilities will permit. All contributions toward the legal defense of the McNamara cases and for the prosecution of the kidnapers should be transmitted as soon as collected to Frank Morrison, 801-809 G street, N. W., Washington, D. C., who will forward a receipt for every contribution received by him, and after the trial a printed copy of the contributions received, together with the expense incurred, will be mailed to each contributor. Fraternally,

SAMUEL GOMPERS,

President A. F. of L.

FRANK MORRISON, Sec. A. F. of L.

By order of the McNamara Ways and Means Committee.

STAGE EMPLOYEES AID
IN McNAMARAS' DEFENSE.

Convention Elects Officers and Selects
Peoria, Ill., for 1912.

The nineteenth annual convention of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, recently held at Niagara Falls, adopted a resolution assessing each member 25 cents for the benefit of the McNamara Defense Fund. This will bring in a tidy sum for use in balking the persecutors in Los Angeles.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Chas. Shay, New York. Vice-Presidents—First, James H. Schew, Montgomery; second, German Quinn, Minneapolis; third, C. Schreck, Cleveland; fourth, Daniel O'Donnell, Toronto; fifth, Jos. Carney, Newark; sixth, Otto Brock, Worcester; seventh, John LeMaster, Denver; eighth, Chas. Crickmore, Seattle; ninth, John O'Neill, Nashville. General Secretary-Treasurer—Lee M. Hart, Chicago, Ill.

Delegates to A. F. of L. Convention—John Suarez, St. Louis; John J. Barry, Boston; George Peterson, Philadelphia.

Peoria, Ill., was selected as the place for the 1912 convention.

YOU ARE INVITED.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper, it is an invitation to subscribe. Just send us your name and address—we do the rest.

Teamsters of Dubuque, Iowa, secured an increase of 50 per cent per week.

BY OTTO PAULS.

Telephones:
Central 1577. Olive 4198.

Beer Bottlers Compel Transfer of Kinney

DEMOCRATIC PLUG-UGLY MUST CEASE BULLDOZING OF EMPLOYEES.

Shop Strike at Lemp's Wins Demand.

A one day's strike in the bottling department of the Lemp brewery resulted in victory for the bottlers.

The men and boys employed as bottlers at Lemp's had long suffered from the tyranny and brutality of William Kinney, a brother of State Senator Thos. E. Kinney. Bottlers who were not members of the Tenth Ward Democratic club were hounded and abused by William Kinney in his capacity as timekeeper and overseer. At the same time Kinney would show rank favoritism for the ward heelers belonging to the Democratic club.

This abuse and mistreatment has been going on for years and recently reached a point where the Beer Bottlers' Union delivered an ultimatum to Lemp that Kinney must get out of the bottle shop. The time limit set was August 1, and when the bottlers found that Kinney still held his place they walked out in a body last Tuesday.

Kinney made it his business to walk around and through the strikers, trying to provoke them into using violence. The bottlers maintained splendid order, however, and the police had no cause to interfere.

Several conferences were held Wednesday between the officers of the Bottlers' Union and the brewery management. The strikers firmly refused to submit the matter to arbitration, claiming that the men had reached the limit of endurance, and nothing short of Kinney's removal would satisfy them. Their demand was finally granted Wednesday afternoon and the bottlers joyously returned to work.

Just what disposition the bosses will make of Kinney remains to be seen, but it is certain that the boys in the bottling department will no longer be subject to his contemptible abuse and maltreatment.

An injury to one is the concern of all.

Stay Away From Caney, Kansas

STRIKEBREAKERS BEING RECRUITED IN ST. LOUIS.

Caney Men Strike for Right to Organize.

Strikebreakers are being shipped from St. Louis to take the places of the striking smelter men at Caney, Kansas. It is feared that the Southern Illinois district will be drawn upon for men.

Organized labor must be on guard. The unemployed are being appealed to on promise of good jobs at high wages. The men in Caney, Kansas, went on strike in support of their right to organize. In a telegram to Adolph Germer, of the United Mine Workers, Charles H. Moyer, the president of the Western Federation of Miners, asks for the support of organized labor in this district and suggests that steps be taken to prevent further shipments of strikebreakers.

Carmen Determined to Win.

REJECT HIGHER WAGE OFFER—DEMAND RIGHT TO ORGANIZE.

Strikers Stand Firm for Rights.

The strike of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen at the plant of the St. Louis Refrigerator Car Co. is still in progress. The bone of contention is not so much an increase in wages as it is the right of the men to organize.

E. Schlenker, chairman of the strike committee, and W. H. Ronemus, a Grand Lodge officer, who is assisting in conducting the strike, stated that an agreement on wages can be reached. The hitch comes when the company refuses to abide by the clause which provides that men laid off shall be the first ones reinstated when the force is increased.

The main claim this is essential to the life of their organization, as, otherwise, the company discharges union men on a pretense of slack work and then puts on non-union workers when the force is increased.

As proof of this the strikers point out that fifty of their members were fired recently in an endeavor to break up the union. The company will agree to anything verbally, but refuses to sign a contract.

The officers of the St. Louis Re-

frigerator Car Co. are: August A. Busch, vice-president; R. Muehlberg, secretary; Edward Faust, manager and treasurer. This shows conclusively who owns the concern.

Not a man is at work in the shops at present and everything is at a standstill. As there is much work on hand, the men are hopeful of a prompt settlement.

Co-operative Store Opened

READY FOR BUSINESS NEXT WEEK.

Good Location Secured.

"Forward," the Workingmen's Consumers' Society, has leased the building at 1109 South Jefferson avenue, and will open same as a co-operative store next week.

L. F. Rosenkranz has been elected manager and will be in charge of the undertaking.

The location is central and convenient to the Chouteau, Manchester, Jefferson and Park cars.

THE PRESS COMMITTEE,
L. F. Rosenkranz, Secretary.

THAT NON-UNION BRIDGE.

About 125 non-union men are at work driving piles and erecting the steel work on the "Free Bridge."

The piling is now two-thirds of the way across the river and the erecting of the steel superstructure will commence in the near future.

Union men are not employed on the bridge work now in progress and all indications are that the steel work will be erected with non-union men.

CARPENTERS GIVEN SUPPORT.

The various conferences held by the building trades have produced some good results. The carpenters are now back at work and the bosses have agreed to pay the scale of 62½ cents per hour, no carpenters to be employed except such as hold United Brotherhood or Amalgamated cards. The other trades will refuse to work on jobs with non-union carpenters.

TYPO CONVENTION.

Typographical Union No. 8 has selected Frank A. Hill, Wm. McKenzie, George Buerkle and Charles Daly as delegates to the international convention in San Francisco.

The convention opens on August 14 and will continue for a week. Missouri and Kansas delegates have arranged for a special train to accommodate printers from this part of the country.

Help Yourself.

Every union man in St. Louis should be a reader of ST. LOUIS LABOR.

STAY AWAY FROM MEDART'S.

The Molders' Union desires to have it known that the molders' strike at the Medart Pulley Co. is still on. It appears that men of other crafts are filling the places of the striking molders.

Local No. 10, Stove Molders, will give a picnic at Linn's Grove on Saturday, August 19.

Bread and Milk for Union Men.

Bread and milk with the union label can now be had by every union man's family.

Tell your wife to ask for the "Blue Bell" brand of evaporated milk. Every grocer can get it from the wholesale houses.

OBJECT TO UNFAIR PRODUCTS.

Belleville carpenters have refused to handle the unfair mill work of the Foster Lumber Co. of Indianapolis. As a consequence, work on the new postoffice in Belleville has been stopped. The Building Trades Department is determined to push the fight, particularly so as the contractor of the work is located in Canada.

To retain the good will of Alton union men, A. H. Wuerker, an Alton storekeeper, had a brick wall torn down and rebuilt by union bricklayers. The original work had been done by an unfair concern, but the building trades proved to Wuerker that his business depended on the trade of union men.

BARTENDERS' PICNIC.

Customers will have to mix their own drinks on Saturday, August 6, as all members of Bartenders' Local No. 51 are expected to attend the picnic at Roth's Grove on that date. A big time is assured all that attend. A special ball game has been arranged. Business Agent Miller of the Bartenders informs us that there is no truth in the daily press report that Charles Nugent was refused a drink of water shortly before his death. The police report of the death of Nugent makes it quite clear that no such occurrence took place.

PENITENTIARY CLOTHING MARKED "UNION MADE."

The Women's Trade Union League has discovered that overalls and jumpers made in the Jefferson City

penitentiary are being labeled "union made."

The object is to deceive miners, farmers and others into buying these penitentiary goods. The Star Clothing Co. is the unscrupulous concern that is doing the work.

The league intends to take steps to stop the fraudulent labelling.

HERE AND THERE.

Steamfitters' No. 29 have paid in their 25-cent assessment for the McNamara Defense Fund.

Electricians No. 2 held a special meeting to complete details of their picnic and attend to other important business.

James J. Mulcahey of Mailers' Union No. 3 has been elected president of the Allied Printing Trades Council, E. J. Sadring having resigned.

St. Louis Labor advertisers furnish union label goods. Patronize them and demonstrate this for yourself.

FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS.

Dundee, July 29.—The twelfth annual General Council meeting of the General Federation of Trades Unions has just concluded its deliberations. The reports of officers showed an increase in membership of nearly 9000, with the membership at the high-water mark, namely, 711,994, showing an increase in the last ten years of over 100 per cent. The total benefits paid during the year amounted to over \$360,000.

YOU ARE INVITED.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper, it is an invitation to subscribe. Just send us your name and address—we do the rest.

Missouri Notes

ANOTHER SOCIALIST PAPER.

John F. Scott of Caruthersville will commence publication of the "Pemisot County Socialist" on August 15.

This makes four Socialist papers in Southeast Missouri—two in Scott and two in Pemisot county.

Comrade Scott was the Socialist candidate for Circuit Judge at the last election and is well known for his hustling qualities.

WAYS THAT ARE DARK AND TRICKS THAT ARE VAIN.

The Portageville Critic, a Socialist paper, does the printing of notices for Pemisot county. This galls the politician who holds the job of county clerk. In order to damage the Critic, the county clerk mailed him copy for a lengthy notice about two days too late for publication. However, the trick was promptly exposed, and the Democratic politicians will be the losers.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE COLONEL.

Colonel Dick Maple, who recently resigned as editor of the Rip-Saw, has decided to launch a monthly journal, to be named "The World's Butt-Cut," a name as picturesque as the Colonel's language.

Since being cured of a serious ailment, Col. Maple has been an ardent Christian Scientist, and it is possible, he could no longer stomach the kind of advertising that the Rip-Saw carries.

It is to be hoped that the new publication will be free of the reprehensible advertisements which found their way into the Rip-Saw.

Unquenchable.

Two more "braves" joined our ranks at the meeting of the local on Monday night. They might put the Hornet out of Sikeston, but they'll never put Socialism out—that has come to stay.—Sikeston Hornet.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Given by

Brewery Freight Handlers & Ice Plant Workers Union

NO. 287

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 1911,
at LONGWOOD GROVE, 9400 S. Broadway

Family Tickets, including refreshments, \$1.00. Extra Lady, 25c

Fine Hall for Rent

—TO—

Unions and Societies!

Hall has windows on four sides and is on the third floor. There is no cooler meeting place in St. Louis. Convenient to all sections of the city.

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Not for Texas.

Texas is perhaps too near Oklahoma not to profit by its experience with blind tigers, bootleggers, vile secret dens of vice and corruption and refused to accept the delusive wall of the prohibitionist.—Miller (Mo.) Herald.

The Divorce Mill.

The Piedmont Banner prints the Circuit Court docket for August, and we note it contains fifteen divorce cases. Social unrest is showing itself on the farm as well as in the great cities.

SOCIALIST PRESS TROUBLES.

Lewis G. DeHart, editor of the Kansas City Socialist, has resigned his position with that paper owing to the necessity of supporting his family.

The committee in charge of the Socialist are working a new plan of publication, and they expect to have everything in order this week. The new editor will also be announced soon.

Don't Go West Young Man.

The World's Cresset of Brushy Knob, Mo., prints a lengthy warning from a Denver employment agency, stating that prospects for work are very poor in the West.

At best, the harvest offers but a few weeks' work and the pay is such that only a bare living is possible.

Cow punchers and sheep herders fare no better. They get \$25 to \$30 per month, and must furnish their own saddle, bridle, blanket, etc. Immigrants are doing the work in the West at a wage that is less than subsistence for the American workman.

A LIVING WAGE FOR WOMEN.

Boston, July 29.—The governor of this state has appointed a commission to investigate women's wages and conditions of labor in the state. "How much does it cost a working woman to live in health and comfort?" How much does it cost her to live in filth and rags?" "How many women workers get wages enough to live in health?" These are a few of the questions to which the commission will endeavor to supply an answer, as they are fundamental in every reform. Suggestions have been offered that the commission should determine the amount necessary to provide wage-earning women a comfortable subsistence. A similar commission in Wisconsin has drafted and submitted to the Legislature a minimum wage law, based upon laws now in force in portions of Australia.

EVERY ONE CAN HELP.

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We ask every woman and child to get busy and save the Union Bread Label. We ask you not to buy Bread with any other label; it is against the interests of the working people. Boycott all bread that does not bear the UNION LABEL. Master Bakers' Bread is still Unfair. BAKERS' UNION NO. 4.

BREAD TRUST WAR DECLARED.

Bakers' Unions of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to Fight.

New York.—The journeymen bakers' unions in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut have taken up the cudgels against the control of the bread business in New York City by any one corporation or commission.

Delegates from fifty-six locals of the Bakers' Union are organizing the Tri-State Anti-Bread Trust Conference, which purposes to fight an alleged attempt to control the trade and drive hundreds of small independent bakers out of business.

That the Department of Justice also has its eye on the proposed Bread

Trust is indicated by a statement given out by Max Freund, representing the International Union of the Bakers.

"I was visited by a representative of the Department of Justice," said Freund, "who wanted to know if I had any evidence that that Sherman anti-trust law has been violated in the case of the trust concerns. He will see the officers of the unions. As a matter of fact, I hardly think that this law is violated as yet, but it will be if the proposed trust, composed of three large corporations which have been fighting each other, is formed to control trade. This is what we are trying to prevent."

Are the Workers Better Off When They Get Higher Wages?

An article by Wm. C. Anderson in a current issue of the Labor Leader furnishes a timely discussion of the old-time—and now well-explored—idea that passes current in Socialist and labor-world circles under the name of the "iron law of wages."

Many of the early fighters in the Socialist movement had little faith in the value of any movement which aimed to secure any immediate improvement in the conditions of labor, the wages of labor or the cost of living. They thought of the capitalist system of society as a vast automatic machine, which would not permit any more than a barren existence to pass through its various channels to any workingman, any class of workingmen, or to the working class.

For this reason the earliest Socialists cried down the labor unions. They declared that the co-operatives would succeed only when the state furnished capital enough for them to start full-fledged. Even Engels declared in his book on the "Housing Problem," that it would be impossible under capitalism to improve the living conditions of the workers. The best that could be done, he claimed, would be to transplant the slums in which the workers lived.

Nevertheless, in spite of the doctrinaire declarations of the English and German Socialists, the Rochdale Co-Operatives, the Belgian, French and German co-operatives of all sorts—from banks to wineries—have been an astounding success. Nevertheless, the labor unions have actually shortened the hours of labor, increased the wages of labor, and improved not only the physical conditions of factory, mine and transport employes, but the degree of their self-control and independence as a class.

In the political field there has been still further realized the words of Marx quoted by Bernstein concerning the ten-hour law passed in England, when Marx said "that it was not only a great practical achievement; it was also the victory of a new principle." The new principle was, the principle of social self-control with references to the daily processes of life, in spite of and independent of the wishes of the capitalist class.

The old formula of the automatic capitalist system has been proven to be wrong. Even the capitalist system is a flexible thing, and leaves room for the development of the powers and resources of the working class.

While it is a fact that the workers receive a smaller proportion of the total product than formerly, it is also a fact that the general standard of living has been improved for the working class; that they are getting more and better food, more clothes

and better clothes, more houses and better houses, more leisure and more culture than, as a class, they did 50 years ago.

And along with this goes, very naturally, an increased influence in society, financially, industrially and politically. Englishmen did not elect their Labor members of parliament because the English working class had become so hopelessly degraded. Rather was their political success a blossom and fruit of their slowly acquired economic power. To be sure, the exercise of their political power was brought about by the irritation following the Taff-Vale decision, primarily. But the power was there. What would English labor leaders have done in parliament without a union movement to support them and pay them a living wage while there?

Some of our Socialist friends in this country who are knocking the A. F. of L. would do well to take another observation and correct their reckoning as to the course that has actually been covered by the American labor movement. Some of our theorists, who have read little or nothing of the international movement since the seventies of the LAST century, will do well to secure some fresh data before insisting too strenuously that it is of no avail to secure the benefits of co-operatives, labor organizations, etc.

Doubtless, the landlord will raise the rent to the limit—let the wages be high or low. But it is a fact, that rents are cheaper for workingmen receiving the same wages in some cities than in others. No doubt the grocer will charge all the market will bear for strawberries. But a sudden change in the weather will throw more berries on the market than the grocer can possibly sell at the high prices—and prices come tumbling down in obedience to other laws than the "iron law of wages." And so forth, in many of the commodities.

The proof that the persistent struggles of the working class for improved conditions and standards of life and labor have brought tangible and helpful results is to be found in the increasing self-respect and intelligence of the workers. Hungry, beggared and hopeless men do not fight battles such as have been fought and won by organized workers in recent years.

Another proof is at hand in a form that cannot be controverted. A report printed by the United States Government, on "The Conservation of Vitality," by Dr. Fischer, gives the following figures concerning the increasing length of life in various countries:

Rate of Lengthening Life.

	Males.	Females.
	Years.	Years.
England—1871-1881 to 1891-1900 (20-year period).....	14	16
France—1817-1831 to 1898-1903 (76-year period).....	10	11
Prussia—1867-1877 to 1891-1900 (23-year period).....	25	29
Denmark—1835-1844 to 1895-1900 (57-year period).....	13	15
Sweden—1816-1840 to 1891-1900 (67-year period).....	17	15
United States: Massachusetts—1855-1893 to 1897 (40-year period).....	average 14	
India—1881 to 1901 (20-year period).....	average 0	

Lengthening of Life Per Century.

Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.....	4 years
First three-quarters of nineteenth century.....	9 years
Present rate in Massachusetts.....	14 years
Present rate in Europe.....	17 years
Present rate in Prussia.....	27 years

It is sufficient to say, in view of these figures, that WHEN THE PEOPLE LIVE LONGER THAN FORMERLY THEY ARE NOT WORSE OFF THAN FORMERLY.

And let it be remembered, that if this were not true, we could not say, with conscience, that Socialism is

coming. If the people were weaker in body and mind, starving and miserable, correspondingly degenerate and weakening in intelligence, will and power of resistance, and, therefore, losing their capacity for organized self-control, it would not be Socialism approaching, but barbarism. Winfield R. Gaylord.

By-Partisan Graft.

July 27, 1911.

Editor ST. LOUIS LABOR:

Do you know these little birds that fly from crust to pie, then toast, then die?

Formerly the little birds of prey were called partisan, but the too sumptuous feast—aye, the feast at the political crib—was too much for any one party, so the art of grafting by a political genius of graft invented the bi-partisan, a kind of mongrel, the hybrid of which is neither fish nor fowl, but—never fowl.

No, it would never do to trust a partisan at the pie counter when it is overloaded.

The dominant parties would not trust each other. Every legislative art that could be devised for the purpose of permitting the partisan to devour all that was in sight without success.

But the political genius of graft solved the problem. We now have the bi-partisan Board of Election Commissioners, with an army of 3000 judges and clerks and an unlimited purse furnished annually by the taxpayers. And to whom does it account?

We now have the bi-partisan Board of Police Commissioners, with an army of 2000 officers, clerks, policemen, patrolmen, plain clothes men; also with an overfilled purse from the taxpayers, obtained annually merely for the asking. And to whom is this

board accountable for its expenditures?

Then we have the honorable bi-partisan Board of Education, with its army of 2500 officers, principals, teachers, nurses, doctors, janitors and plain clothes men, with a treasury filled by the taxpayers to the tune of "sixty on the hundred," amounting to nearly four million dollars annually. And to whom does this board account? Echo answers: Bi-partisan.

Out of the gutter to the pie counter, then to the banquet, and then comes death to the political system that mistrusts itself.

"CURIOUS."

Hypocrite William Randolph Hearst

(United Mine Workers' Journal.) The nineteenth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners is in session in Butte, Mont. Among several serious problems that this convention will consider is the lock-out at the Black Hills that has been on since November 12, 1909. It will be remembered by some of our people that this question was debated upon the floor of one of our conventions and a ringing resolution adopted condemning William Randolph Hearst as a hypocrite and a demagogue whose profession of friendship for labor is designed to make those whom he would deceive and fleece unwary. This sinister creature owns a controlling interest in the Black Hills. He could settle that trouble if he were so disposed, but

his hidden contempt for labor won't permit him to do so.

Our people should keep this racial in mind. He publishes a large number of dailies whose circulation among the miners is quite extensive. He is also the owner of what is known as the "Hearst news service," which furnishes news to all the leading dailies of the country.

The most effective way to condemn Hearst is to stop buying his newspapers. In which case you will only be giving him a dose of his own medicine.

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Rud. Schall	1
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Therefore, union men and women and citizens, show that you are opposed to slavery and that you are further opposed to a concern which tries to monopolize the bread market of St. Louis.

Therefore, we ask the public in general for their support; you can give us your support by asking for bread with the Union Label. Shun the product of the following firms—they are Trust bakeries: Heydt Bakery Co., Condon Bakery Co., Hauck-Hoerr Bakery, St. Louis Bakery Co., Welle-Boettler Bakery, Home Bakery Co., Freund Bros. Bread Co. Ltd., McKinney Bread Co.

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The Significance of the Strike at the Baldwin Locomotive Works

(Translated from the Philadelphia Tageblatt.)

It is evidently the design of the Baldwin Company to starve their 12,000 employees now on strike into submission. The company has so far refused to enter into any negotiations with the men with a view to await their unconditional surrender and their return to the "bone-maiming mill." The company declares they are protected in their contracts by strike clauses, and that, under the circumstances, they will not be hard pressed by their capitalist patrons, goes without saying.

Now, will the workers of this country take up the cause for which the Baldwin employees are fighting as their own cause? If so, it is the duty of the workers of the United States to come to their rescue. Let us see what is at stake.

Philadelphia stands among the larger cities of this country as the city where labor organization is weakest. Philadelphia is the great scab center of the United States. Where and whenever a strike of any importance break out, one will read in the papers, "Scabs Have Arrived from Philadelphia." Philadelphia, up to this present day, has been an inexhaustible reservoir for the elements that are ever ready and willing to make the rear attack upon the struggling workers.

In the eighties of the past century Philadelphia was the seat of the general headquarters of the Order of the Knights of Labor. This organization was not intended to be a militant force; it was organized as an educational society, with educational aims and aspirations. Yet, against the will of its founders and leaders, this order developed into an organization of a militant character, with which, during or about the year 1886, almost the entire working population of Philadelphia, excepting the building trades, were affiliated. At the rate of tens of thousands new members flocked into this order during this memorable period, and at once their watchword was, "Strike." The movement at that time has assumed proportions with which the leaders were unable to cope. Here in Philadelphia 70,000 textile workers demanded permission to go on strike. They were refused, but nevertheless walked out and lost out. The result was general demoralization among the working population of the city and the bungling up of the trade union movement for tens of years to come. Thus Philadelphia became the notorious scab town of America.

For the last ten years there has been a perceptible improvement. The textile workers made a gallant fight for shorter working hours, which, however, was but scantily appreciated by the outside labor world. The general strike in the spring of last year was not a general strike, but it was nevertheless a splendid

manifestation of solidarity never before witnessed in any other American city. Other important strike movements were also on foot at the same time.

The great disadvantage the labor movement in Philadelphia at all times had to deal with was the apparent impossibility to unionize any of the large establishments of the city. Baldwin's Locomotive Works, Cramp's Shipyards, the Midvale Steel Works, Diston's Saw Factory, Brill's Wagon Factory, Dobson's Textile Factories and others are still non-union. The most favorable that can be said in this regard is, that in some of the establishments union men are tolerated. Agreements with unions do not obtain in any of them.

Now a strike has broken out in the largest of these establishments. The general strike furnished the first inducement for a part of the men in Baldwin's Locomotive Works to join the union of their trade. Since then the company has been watching for an opportunity to strike a death blow to the incipient organization in their factory and restore their old system of terrorism.

The company threw 12,000 men on the street, and while at first they denied that this was a retaliatory measure intended to intimidate their employees and victimize those who had dared to join the union, they now admit that such is the case. The men are fighting this battle to secure for themselves the right to organize. The 12,000 men on strike are battling in the first place to get dress for the 12,000 who are victimized, then for themselves, then in the interest of the entire working population of the city, and last for the inherent right of workers all through the country.

A victory of the men in the Baldwin Locomotive Works would undoubtedly have the effect of thoroughly stirring up the workers of this city. The men employed in the other large establishments here above mentioned would be drawn into this fight. Philadelphia would cease to be the city of the lowest wages and the scab town of America.

Hence, the workers of the entire country are interested in the outcome of this strike. It is in their power to deliver Philadelphia from the stigma of being this country's Eldorado for strikebreakers. We are not authorized to make an appeal for the assistance of the striking Baldwin employees, but such an appeal must soon be sent out, and we wish to prepare the workers for it.

We hope that as a preliminary step in this direction the labor press will take this matter up and invoke the sympathy of their readers in behalf of these 12,000 men struggling for human rights. Let the workers know that they will be appealed to for assistance in a cause as worthy as ever downtrodden mankind has fought for.

Our Milwaukee Letter

The Wisconsin Legislature has now at last adjourned. While Socialists must view with disgust the results accomplished by this "Progressive," supposedly "radical" legislature, still we must admit that some things have been gained. Our Socialist members have succeeded in pushing through some good labor laws. Not all their labor has been in vain.

For instance, the law limiting hours of labor for women, was alone worth a struggle. Considering the frightful condition under which Wisconsin wage-working women have suffered, it is a decided gain that henceforth they will not work more than ten hours a day and fifty-five hours a week, and that for women working on night shifts the time will be eight hours, or forty-eight hours per week. The bill, as originally introduced by a Socialist member, provided for an eight-hour day for all working women. That was much too strong for the "radical" legislature. It was accordingly amended—but, even so, it marks a long step forward. "Progressive" Wisconsin never took much interest in its toiling women. It remained for the Socialist members to push through this most necessary law. For protection of the real material interests of women, only Socialists can be trusted.

Another important measure carried through the legislature was the workmen's compensation bill. For many sessions this measure was introduced and again reintroduced by our faithful Comrade Brockhausen, secretary of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor and member of the Wisconsin Legislature ever since 1904. The old party politicians do not like to pass a Socialist bill. But this time they got around it by appointing a commission to consider the matter, which was again referred to an Assembly committee of which Comrade Brockhausen was a member and finally the measure which he originally fathered was reported as a committee bill and passed. The legislature got the credit, but the workmen got the victory.

The most important consequence of this bill was the provision for a proposed constitutional amendment for state insurance. This would solve the whole question of workmen's compensation. This really valuable measure, however, must also

pass the next legislature and then go to the people before it can finally become a law.

Another good law secured through our members of the legislature is the one establishing an industrial commission, which serves also as the Industrial Accident Board, and will supervise the enforcement of the workmen's compensation act. It has control over the Labor Bureau and is given much stronger powers for the enforcement of sanitary and safety devices.

Considering the really good work which has been done by our Socialists at Madison, some of whom, especially the younger members, have surprised us by their ability and good sense, these results may look small. But, after all, it is not the immediate effects for which our comrades must be credited. They are plowing the soil—their propaganda is for the future!

The annual Socialist picnic at Milwaukee was a tremendous success this year. According to the capitalist papers, 24,000 persons were in attendance. This year the main part of the program was given up to the women and children. A large arena was cleared, and the spectators watched the exercises from raised seats. Then the women of the Socialist clubs, dressed in white and crowned with flowers, marched in, two by two, carrying two immense flags, the Stars and Stripes, and the red Socialist banner. They were preceded by the Socialist Party in a fine speech of dedication, delivered by the wife of Mayor Seidel. Next the children went through a beautiful and impressive flag drill, each boy bearing a red banner and each girl a United States flag. As the two lines marched together, crossing their flags, the audience applauded wildly, and many an old-time Socialist wiped his eyes at sight of this inspiring vision of the future. No words were needed to expound the beautiful lesson.

At the close of the flag drill, Comrade Victor Berger surprised every one by suddenly stepping on the platform. This was a feature not on the program, as every one had supposed him to be in a distant state, and hearty indeed was the welcome given by the comrades to their old veteran. It is but a step from the sublime

to the ridiculous. Next day a Republican writer in one of the capitalist papers came out with an earnest appeal to his party to arrange just such a picnic, in imitation of the Socialist picnic, for the purpose of harmonizing the Republicans and raising campaign funds. Just fancy! Would not a picnic composed of Standpatters and Insurgents be a picnic, indeed!

E. H. THOMAS,
State Secretary.

PROSPECTUS OF THE "HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES."

By Gustavus Myers.

Author of "The History of the Great American Fortunes," Etc.

No established institution in the United States is more powerful than the National Supreme Court, nor is there any, the actual story of which is less known or more wrapped in exalted mystery.

Irrespective of what Legislatures or Congress or lower courts may do, the nine men composing this court have the power of nullifying or setting aside any law as unconstitutional. Of these men a majority of five can and do dictate what our laws and government and conditions are to be, thus becoming a dictatorial and irresponsible body, swaying the welfare of ninety-five millions of people.

The ruling class is willing to allow every other institution, political or social, to be criticised, but it has ever demanded that the Supreme Court of the United States be held above reproach and above criticism. The reason is obvious. This tribunal has been the most powerful instrument of the ruling class, the studied and persistent policy of which has been to proclaim its sacred character and to inculcate popular reverence for it. It is urgently necessary to narrate the facts concerning the Supreme Court as it has been from the start and as it is to-day. This, up to the present, has never been done; nothing but eulogistic and flowery accounts have been written.

To get the accurate facts, Comrade Myers has had to spend a protracted period in difficult research. They are not mere nominal facts or those of a superficial character. They are the authentic underlying facts, all taken from court and other public records, and for the first time will present the actual story of the United States Supreme Court. These facts will show overwhelmingly and indisputably the following:

That the majority of the men who drafted the Constitution of the United States drew it up expressly to safeguard the ruling class and to allow the accomplishment of vast schemes of plunder under color of organic law.

That the greater number of those men were themselves already deep in the schemes of personal plunder, and that immediately after the government was organized but through still greater schemes of pillage. An abundance of acts hitherto never brought out will be presented.

That the Supreme Court of the United States was designed to be the arch protector of the inviolate rights of personal and corporate property; that it was designed to be the authoritative mandate of the ruling class, and has consistently remained so.

That from its inception the Supreme Court Justices have been men carefully selected because of their wealth, their powerful connections, their interests, or their proved subservency and bias. For the first time Comrade Myers will present the detailed and hitherto unknown facts from the time of John Jay, the first Chief Justice, to Edward D. White, the present incumbent of that office. The facts connected with a great number of the Associate Justices will also be brought out.

That some of the most important decisions of the Supreme Court—decisions which have been cited as precedents in thousands of cases and which are the literal law to-day—have sprung in many instances from the personal interests of the judges making them or of their associates. The real, startling history of these will be fully described. The facts are certain to make a great sensation.

That the successive Chief Justices have represented the special interests of the particular dominant section of the capitalist class of their day. This will be demonstrated in detail and beyond question.

That just as the Supreme Court judges of early days were interested in great landed estates or schemes to obtain great tracts of land (the landed interests were then the dominant interests), so to-day the majority of men of the Supreme Court bench have been attorneys for railroads, banks, and other corporations. Here also the continuous, specific details will be given.

This work is certain to be of the greatest propaganda value. It will not be mere statement. It will be nothing but the verified facts, with the references from the records for every fact given.

STRUCTURAL IRON WORKERS.

International Convention Called to Milwaukee.

The International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers will hold its 22fteenth annual convention in Milwaukee September 18. It is expected that this will be the most important convention ever held by this organization.

Corruption in Austrian Elections

Dead Vote—Electors Put to Death.

It will perhaps interest the readers of the Labor Leader to know something of the conditions under which parliamentary elections in Austria are conducted. It will not be too much to state that the dead are voting, while the electors are put to death.

A few days ago a delegation from Drohobyer waited upon the Home Office at Vienna, protesting against the wholesale corruption and bribery initiated for the benefit of government candidates. They pointed out the fact that 1400 totally imaginary names have been placed upon the electoral register, but no notice has been taken of the protest. Later, when the electors of Drohobyer, disgusted with the general corruption, seeing that there, inside the committee room, thousands of votes have been bought and falsified—knowing that the true will of the people could not prevail under such conditions, attempting to prevent this by forcing their way into the committee room—military arrive, and without warning five volleys are fired and 40 wounded. And those morally guilty of this terrible bloodshed, guilty of despising the will of the people, gloat with satisfaction. New elections will come and maybe the names of the victims of this outrage will be used as voters in favor of the Conservative candidate!

A further striking instance of the remarkable length to which election corruption can be carried on in Austria is shown by the following facts: At the second ballot in Cracow, on June 21, the Conservative committee room was searched by the police, in response to an urgent appeal by the Socialists. In sight of the police, 40 men, including several high city officials, fled from the premises, leaving behind in their haste 453 voting papers, which had been bought and filled up with the Conservative candidate's name. In an adjoining room many suits of clothes were discovered, which had been used for the purpose of disguising paid men in accordance with the description of the voters from whom the ballot paper had been bought.

These are some of the conditions with which the Austrian Socialists have to contend, and, taking this into consideration, it is astonishing how they have succeeded in getting more than 80 candidates elected, and this, notwithstanding the fact that all the candidates stood as Socialists, and not as Labor members.

Surely Socialism has made wonderful progress in Austria since I left that country fifteen years ago.

MAURICE JEGER.

THEY SPEAK EVERY DAY.

By Carl Sandburg.

Napoleon Bonaparte is reported to have said: "I fear one newspaper more than a hundred thousand soldiers."

The power of the newspaper is one of the strongest, deepest powers in all modern society.

The newspaper costs only a penny. Those who do not have libraries, those who have never gone to college—millions on millions of people—depend on the cheap daily newspaper. To them it is a library and college. To them it is a daily speaker and teacher.

And so the capitalist interests have got the newspapers. Vast armies of soldiers could not exercise control over the minds of the people as the newspapers do.

Even you who read this now, you know how you have to struggle sometimes against false impressions which the whole capitalistic press is trying to drive into your mind.

This is why Charles Edward Russell regards the power of the press as a power fully as tremendous and perhaps greater than all the power of the trusts.

These are the reasons why you must do your share to get a daily newspaper in Milwaukee.

The ground we have gained here is working-class ground.

A terrific campaign of misstatements, insinuations, lies and half-lies, is being carried on against the Milwaukee Socialist.

A daily paper here must be started. We must have this one-cent daily newspaper to speak to and teach the people and present the truth.

It will be one more weapon for close, hard fighting against the System.

To begin, \$100,000 will be needed. Of this amount over \$41,000 has been subscribed in bonds of ten dollars each. It is believed that a big circulation will be attained and that the bonds will be a paying investment.

Take your pencil and write a card to H. W. Bistorious, Brisbane Hall, Milwaukee. He will inform you of the details of the plan.

East River Bridge Tolls Abolished.

Alderman Frank Dowling introduced a resolution yesterday at the meeting of the Board of Aldermen abolishing all tolls on the four bridges over the East River—the Brooklyn, Manhattan, Williamsburg and Queensboro spans.

A few weeks ago Mayor Gaynor wrote to the bridge commissioner, saying that he saw no reason why tolls should be collected on the bridges.—New York Call.

A WELCOME ADDITION.

The California Social-Democrat, published in Los Angeles, is a welcome addition to our exchange table.

It is owned by the party membership of California and is the official organ of the party. A corporation has been formed, and stock is sold to members and organizations in the same way that we did in St. Louis.

A pleasing feature of the Social-Democrat is that it stands for sound, constructive, International Socialism. California has been afflicted with a weird variety of alleged Socialists, but it is evident that the impostors and kindred spirits are being forced into the background.

OFFICE HOURS SUNDAYS.

For the purpose of giving information to inquirers on naturalization laws and regulations, Socialist Party, trade unions, literature of the Socialist and labor movement, etc., the business office will be open every Sunday morning from 8:30 to 11 o'clock. On the first, third and fifth Sundays Comrade Eckert will be present and on the second and fourth Sundays Comrade Hildebrand will be at the office to meet callers.

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