

SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

A RECORD OF THE WEEK'S PROPAGANDA AND PROGRESS.

Some Interesting Facts About The Movement From Various Parts of The United States.

Our Evansville comrades are working heroically, and are meeting with success on all sides. Their ward meetings are an excellent feature; they are well attended, and are awakening much interest in Social Democracy, and resulting in substantial increase in the membership. The comrades are looking for a visit from some member of the national executive board in the near future.

The meeting of representatives of the Chicago branches on the 18th inst. was well attended and enthusiastic. A central committee, to be composed of three delegates from each branch of the Social Democracy in Cook County, was formed and a program for earnest and aggressive work was outlined. The committee will meet on the second Saturday of each month at 8 o'clock p. m. Communications concerning propaganda methods and work may be addressed to Comrade Seymour Stedman, Corresponding Secretary, room 504 Trude Building, Chicago. Cook County has now 26 branches, and the central committee will find plenty of work on hand.

The comrades of Branch 5 are arranging for a series of public debates, and are considering the advisability of engaging a larger hall and establishing a club and reading room. The comrades have ordered 100 copies of Merrie England and 25 copies of President John Smith, which books will be loaned, and will form the nucleus for a circulating library of Socialist literature. Branch 5 contains some hard and earnest workers, and their efforts in the cause of Social Democracy are being crowned with deserved success.

At the last meeting of Branch 6, corner Sixty-fourth and Kimbark avenue, delegates were elected to attend the central committee meeting, and on account of the holidays it was decided to abandon the regular meeting of the 23d. The next meeting will be held on Dec. 30, and in the meantime the executive committee of the branch will secure a more spacious hall. The secretary will notify all members of the branch by postal card of the new place of meeting. A large attendance is expected, as important matters are to be discussed.

The first gun in favor of Social Democracy has been fired in the state of Delaware. Comrade N. Blue of Branch 5 of Pennsylvania is responsible for it. About two months ago he removed to Wilmington, Del., and feeling like a fish out of water with no Social Democrats around him, he determined to call a number of public meetings to make some. The first one was held Sunday afternoon, Dec. 12, and was a gratifying success. J. C. Frost, chairman Branch 1 of Pennsylvania, was the speaker. He presented a plain, clear-cut picture of Socialism, and made a favorable impression as the beauties of the picture was unfolded.

Less than two months ago Comrade Luther S. Kauffman organized a new religious association in Philadelphia under the title the Christian Socialist church. Its first meetings were held in a small and inexpensive hall, but it has now grown to such proportions that it has moved to the Casino Drawing room, a beautiful and commodious hall, situated on Thirteenth street, above Girard avenue. Its first service was held there Sunday evening, December 12. The attendance was encouraging, the music and singing attractive, and the sermon by Mr. Kauffman on the "Signs of the Times" was eloquent and outspoken against the evils of church and state. This new church promises to be one of the most effective means in Philadelphia of forwarding the cause of Social Democracy.

Comrade L. Zakshesky of New York Branch No. 12 has adopted a novel plan for the purpose of raising money for propaganda purposes. The plan is worth trying by other branches. Comrade Zakshesky writes as follows: "Get any merchant (member of our organization or sympathizer preferred) to place near or in his store a penny in the slot machine, which brings in about 45 per cent profit, and all the investment necessary is about \$2.80 for rent, which the branch advances and gets back its investment in a short time. I already have one machine working and hope soon to put out a number more. I advise our comrades to follow this example, and am sure they will find it a great help in raising funds for our good work."

The comrades of Washington Branch No. 3, at Seattle, are doing excellent work. Their Tuesday evening meetings at 1118 Third avenue are well attended, and are filled with interesting and instructive features. The Question Box is a very interesting feature, which might be introduced with profit by other branches. Questions are invited from the audience at each meeting. Any question which can be answered simply by "Yes" or "No" is answered by some member of the branch, under the direction of the executive board, on the same evening it is asked, but questions which require extended answers are held until the next meeting. This has a tendency to awaken interest and draw people back to the next meeting in order to see how the postponed questions will be answered. Among the lady members of the branch are two expert musicians, who splendidly entertain the audience at each meeting with fine selections on the mandolin and guitar. Discussions and lectures are also prominent features of the branch's work. On Dec. 14th Rev. Brown of the North Seattle M. E. Church lectured on Christian Socialism, and on the 21st Col. P. H. McKernan, a member of Branch 3, and a veteran in the reform cause, delivered a very instructive and entertaining lecture on Ancient and Modern Slavery. The meetings are always well attended, and much interest is displayed.

Mr. Editor:—Local Branch No. 7 of Pennsylvania was organized by members of Typographical Union No. 7 a few months ago and has been growing slowly but steadily since. Our membership is not confined to printers, but, on the contrary, we want to keep it out of trade lines and open to any and all men of liberal thought. We have had one public meeting and were greatly pleased with the large turnout. Our permanent headquarters are at 318 Fifth avenue, where we hold two meetings a month, the second and third Sunday afternoons. The third Sunday we intend to devote to addresses on the objects of the Social Democracy and the public is always invited and welcomed.

Aid is coming to us from all walks of life. The daily press of the city is tolerant and gives us considerable space. Our local speakers will soon be able to talk on the subject with anyone, no matter how warped he may be on this question, and, in fact, their work is already being felt wherever they go. We are doing our best to keep up and our watchword is "Forward" all along the line. When once Pittsburg is awakened to the nobility of the principles of Social Democracy and the possibilities of the co-operative commonwealth, she will willingly bear her burden, do her duty and fight to the last ditch and never surrender.

SECRETARY, Branch No. 7 of Pennsylvania.

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DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY ADOPTED AT CHICAGO, JUNE 21, 1897. We hold that all men are born free, and are endowed with certain natural rights, among which are life, liberty and happiness. In the light of experience we find that while all citizens are equal in theory, they are not in fact. While all citizens have the same rights politically, this political equality is useless under the present system of economic inequality, which is essentially destructive of life, liberty and happiness. In spite of our political equality labor is robbed of the wealth it produces by the development of this system it is denied the means of self-employment, and by enforced idleness through lack of employment, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

MEETINGS OF LOCAL BRANCHES California. Branch No. 6, San Francisco, Cal., meets every Sunday at 2 p. m., at 909 Market street. The general public is invited to attend. Branch No. 8, Bakersfield, Cal., meets the first Sunday of each month, on or before the full of the moon, at 2 p. m., in Matson's Hall. Colorado. Branch No. 1, Denver, Colo., meets every Sunday at 3 p. m., Union Hall, 1712 Curtis street. Illinois. Branch No. 1, meets every Sunday, 2:30 p. m., at 198 East Madison street, Chicago. Good speakers. Everybody invited. Free discussion. Note change of hall. Branch No. 4, Chicago, Ill., meets every Sunday at 3 p. m., at 3424 South Halsted street. Branch No. 5, meets 2d and 4th Tuesday of each month at 8 o'clock p. m., at Social Hall, corner 113th st. and Michigan ave. Chicago. Branch No. 6, Chicago, meets at Hyder Memorial Hall, northwest corner Sixty-fourth street and Kimbark avenue, every Thursday evening at 7:30. Public invited. Branch No. 9, meets 2d and 4th Mondays at 8 p. m., 63d street and Centre avenue, Chicago. Business meeting for members only 1st Sunday of each month at 10 p. m. Branch No. 10, meets every Wednesday at 221 N. Clark street, Chicago, at 8 p. m. Branch No. 21, meets every first and third Mondays at 8 p. m., at Social Turner Hall, Belmont avenue and Paulina street, Chicago. Branch No. 25, meets every Friday evening, southeast corner Sedwick and Siegel streets, Chicago. Indiana. Branch No. 3, Richmond, Ind., meets 2d and 4th Wednesday evenings, hall of German Benevolent Society, corner 5th and Main streets. Massachusetts. Branch No. 1, meets every Sunday from 6 p. m. to 10 p. m. at Homestead Hall, 725 Washington street, Boston. Meetings for discussion and education. Everybody invited. Business meeting for members only from 9 p. m. to 10 p. m. Branch No. 5, Lynn, meets every Friday at 8 p. m., in Woman's Christian Temperance Hall, Oxford and Washington sts., Boston. Business meeting in month. All other meetings educational. Missouri. Branch No. 1, St. Louis, Mo., meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at 1223 N. Broadway. Branch No. 3, meets every 2d and 4th Tuesday at 18th and Wyoming sts., St. Louis, Mo. M. Dorn, Secretary, 1333 Lami Street. New Jersey. Branch No. 1, meets every Tuesday, Club room, at 1223 N. Broadway. Saturday and Sunday, 356 Pacific street, Paterson. Branch No. 2, meets every first and third Wednesday evenings at Aurora Hall, 45 William street, Newark. Branch No. 4, meets every Thursday at Progressive Labor Hall, corner Barclay and Montgomery streets, Newark. New York. The Greater New York City Central Committee of the Social Democracy of America, meets every Saturday at 8:20 p. m., at 212 East Broadway, Nicholas Aleinikoff Secretary, 87 Nassau street, New York City. Branch No. 2, New York City, meets second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at 34 E. Forty-ninth street at 8 p. m. I. Frank, chairman. Branch No. 6, 12th Assembly District, S. D. A., meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at American Star, No. 112 Clinton street, New York City, Charles Bushnell, 52 Suffolk street, Secretary. Branch No. 9, Tenth Assembly District, New York City, meets second and fourth Fridays of each month at 8 p. m., Liberty Hall, 255-257 E. Houston street. Lectures each meeting. Sam'l Whitehorn, Secretary, care of H. Margolis, 116 Suffolk street. Branch No. 10, Buffalo, N. Y., meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m., Schweizer's Hall 483 Broadway, Philadelphia. Ohio. Branch No. 2, meets every Monday evening at 8 o'clock, Stegell's Hall, cor. Pearl and Monroe streets, Cleveland. Pennsylvania. Branch No. 1, meets every Sunday and Tuesday at 8 p. m., Co-operative Hall, 1125 Poplar street. Branch No. 7, Pittsburgh, meets in K. of P. Hall, 315 Fifth avenue, fourth floor, on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, at 2:20 p. m. Secretary's address, 1221 Bedford avenue. Branch No. 10, Allegheny, Pa., meets every Sunday evening at 242 Heaver avenue. Secretary's address, 114 Manhattan avenue. Tennessee. Branch No. 1, Nashville, Tenn., meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p. m., 62 1/2 Church street. Visitors cordially invited. Texas. Branch No. 1, Houston, Texas, meets second and fourth Thursday of each month in Union Men's Hall, on Franklin street, between Main and Travis streets. Branch No. 3, Dallas, meets every Sunday at 3 p. m., at Social Democracy Hall, 525 Main street. Washington. Branch No. 2, Tacoma, Wash., meets every Sunday at 3 p. m., at Armory Hall, corner 15th and C streets. Interesting programme. Public cordially invited. Wisconsin. Wisconsin Central Committee, composed of the executive committee of the ten branches of the Social Democracy in Milwaukee. Meets first and third Monday evenings of each month at 812 Chestnut street, Milwaukee. Frederick F. Heath, Secretary. Branch No. 9, Business Meetings Friday, Nov. 19, 1897, and every fourth Friday thereafter. Open meetings for discussion and education Friday, Dec. 3, 1897, and every fourth Friday thereafter, at Sigel's Hall, S. E. Corner of 9th avenue and Orchard street, Milwaukee, Wis.

That indefatigable worker, Comrade J. C. De Armond, has organized a new workers as Comrade De Armond in the branch at Mosca, Colorado. With such field working for Social Democracy, Colorado will soon be solidly organized.

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