

On earth peace,
good will
toward men

The Social Democrat

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CURRENT COMMENT

BY THE EDITOR

Read Gordon's "Hard Times."

You cannot make good citizens of men who are idle and hungry.

Society contains a hundred tons of poverty for every available ounce of charity.

Carroll D. Wright insists that "the general trend of wages and percentage of employed in this country since 1850 has been decidedly upward." Mr. Wright is to be congratulated on his wonderful ability as a statistician, but his figures will hardly answer to stay the hunger of the constantly increasing army of the unemployed.

The latest plan for "the amalgamation of all forces of reform" is the establishment of a National Journal, to be published by a stock company controlled by editors and contributors representing all reforms, from free silver to Socialism. The idea is a product of the fertile brain of Mr. E. B. Webster, national treasurer of the Patriots of America. It is not likely to succeed, for the very good reason that "all forces of reform" cannot be amalgamated.

Among the many advantages of the new soft coal combination is the fact that—as stated in the press dispatches—the mine owners, acting in conjunction with the railroad companies, will be in a very much better position to dictate terms to their employees than they ever were before. All working expenses will be reduced, while the prices of the product will be enhanced. This combination is an outcome of the "great victory" (?) which we are told the striking miners gained last fall. If these are the spoils of victory, the miners are very easily satisfied.

Chicago elevated roads are to combine. This means a great saving in expenses over the present method of operation as separate systems. It is claimed that in the matter of power alone over \$1,000,000 annually will be saved. Consolidation will also mean an immense reduction in the operating and office forces. Instead of four general offices and many high-salaried positions, as at present, one general office, with very few expensive officials, will do. The promoters of the scheme are very enthusiastic as to the economies which will be effected, and the increase in dividends which will accrue to the stockholders, but they are saying never a word as to the fate of those who will be deprived of employment and cast upon an already overcrowded labor market. This one-sided Socialism is developing very rapidly; the other side will shortly begin to do business.

A new law, limiting the production of goods in the penal institutions of the state, is causing no end of trouble in Massachusetts, and is being strenuously opposed by the authorities, who say that the enforced idleness of the prisoners makes them restless and hard to control. The inmates of our penal institutions are assured of their subsistence; they have no fear of hunger and cold, as the state provides plenty of wholesome food, shelter and warm clothing for them. If, under these conditions, they become restless and hard to control when deprived of work, how can those who are not inmates of our penal institutions be expected to remain quiet when deprived of work, since a lack of work means starvation to them? If it is right for society to guarantee work and subsistence to its criminals, why should not those who are not criminals be guaranteed work and subsistence also?

At a conference of the National Loomfixers' Association, in Boston, Mass. on Jan. 6, it was declared by the delegates that competition is destroying capital; also destroying the laborers by overwork; the lowering of wages through competition brings on starvation, thus creating a fruitful field for disease, and that the competitive system is destroying more wage earners each year than were killed during the civil war.

This strong declaration was followed by a resolution, affirming that all industries should be placed in the hands of the national government.

This action is a significant and encouraging sign of the times. The old trade organizations are being forced by the logic of events which are stronger than all the theories in christendom, to abandon the old competitive ideals, and the day is not far distant when they will be found united and fighting heroically under the banner of Social Democracy.

The legislative committee of the American Federation of Labor, appointed at the Nashville convention, has appealed to congress to pass certain laws for the improvement of the condition of the workingmen. The utter hopelessness of securing any good results from this course of action ought to be apparent. Workingmen have not a single representative in congress. All of our senators and representatives belong to the capitalist class and represent its interests, and none of them is going to champion measures in the interests of labor, except it may be for political effect and when there is not the slightest possibility of a labor measure becoming a law. If workingmen want laws in their interest they must send their own men to congress to pass them. As long as they con-

tinue to divide their strength among the capitalist parties they are of absolutely no consequence as a political force, and they will appeal and petition in vain. They should not appeal—they should demand laws for the betterment of their economic condition; and they should place themselves in a position to back up their demand with something stronger than wind.

A very interesting review of Socialism in America is contributed to the December, 1897, number of the Independent Labor Party News, by the Executive Board of the party, who recently returned to England from a lecture tour in the United States.

Mr. MacDonald is inclined to a rather pessimistic view of Socialism in the United States, and remarks that the influence of Socialism thought upon public opinion is weak. "In every social matter," says "America is a quarter of a century behind this country." This is no doubt true, but for all that, I am inclined to think that we shall yet outstrip our English brethren in our practical applications of Socialism. The influence of Socialism thought upon public opinion here is much stronger than its organized expression would indicate to a superficial observer, and it is increasing in potency at a very rapid rate. We are rapidly nearing the point where "Socialism grows native," and the United States will lead England in a very few years, in spite of the latter's quarter of a century advance. "The great hope for Socialism in the States," says Mr. MacDonald, "is the new Social Democracy of America." Catholicism in its sentiments, like the I. L. P., free from the Marxian phrasemongers, which has become a shibboleth in the States, and essentially American in spirit and method. If the Social Democracy of America can do nothing, there is no home for Socialism across the Atlantic for some time to come." In common with many others, both in this country and in Europe, Mr. MacDonald is anxiously looking forward to our convention next June.

In Comrade Casson's recent address criticizing the attitude of the Arkwright Club, published in another column of this issue of the Social Democrat, he adverts in a sarcastic way to the possibility of the Arkwright Club training monkeys to perform the work of men. Since monkeys can live on four cents a day, it would be possible for the manufacturers employing them to compete easily with other employers on the markets of the world, and the immigration of monkeys and chimpanzees might then become a question of "national honor" for people to take sides on.

This question of monkey competition is not altogether sarcasm. There is nothing new under the sun. I quote the following from the Chicago Tribune of Jan. 10:

Two dozen monkeys, equipped with all the paraphernalia of gold miners, are now on their way to the frozen treasure fields on the Yukon, under the care of one of the wealthiest mine-owners in the British empire. The name of this millionaire, who is going to startle the Klondikers, is Captain Edmond Moss, a well-known clubman in London, who is one of the most important operators of gold fields in South Africa. The corps of twenty-four monkeys is intended by Captain Moss to be but the vanguard of an army of these animals. As soon as the first instalment is put to work successfully on the claim, his syndicate controls he promises to have more monkeys ready to do manual labor.

While the idea of having monkeys act the part of miners is startingling in America, Captain Moss says that he has them working right along on his claims in the Transvaal for the last four years. In an interview Captain Moss said: "The advantage to a mine-owner of having his claims worked by monkeys rather than by human laborers are many. Monkeys do not know enough to be dishonest. They will not hide any of the precious metal that they find, for even if they were to steal it they would not have any possible use for it."

I call Comrade Casson's attention to this quick confirmation of his general statement, and think I may submit the Tribune news item without comment. It speaks for itself.

HESING'S PESSIMISM.

In the sketch of Washington Hesing published in the Chicago Times-Herald immediately after his death we find the following language:

"In one thing he was a pessimist. How far he revealed that to his intimates is known only to them. But he was a firm believer that the nation is on the verge of a social revolution. He spoke of this not ten days before his death in language something like this: "Political science seems to be pretty well understood in this country, but somehow we are not satisfying the big majority of people that are at the bottom. I'll be lashed a favorite word with him) if I know what the matter is, but there is too much discontent with what we have got. I can't see, for the life of me, how an explosion is to averted, and I don't believe it is a quarter of a century away. The mass of our people are not satisfied, and when dissatisfaction reaches a certain point there is no averting an upheaval. I think if we paid more attention to the bottom and less to the top it might stave the thing off, but it is too late to change now, I'm afraid."

A few short months ago any one opposed to the rule of plutocracy using the above language would have been denounced as a most dangerous "calamity howler." It is a significant fact, however, and one that will illustrate the rapidity with which public sentiment is changing, that this ex-

pression has so soon become obsolete and those who so recently used it already see the specter of revolution rising out of the mists of the future.

That Washington Hesing, a man of wealth and a gold Democrat, should use the above language is most significant. He seemed to think an explosion could not be averted. Nothing could be more erroneous. There is no need of an explosion nor an upheaval. If those who have monopolized the earth, usurped the right to control our industries and determine the destiny of our people will restore to the people their own, simply do even-handed justice, there will be neither explosion nor revolution and they will save themselves no end of trouble.

This course, however, will probably never be thought of, much less seriously considered, and the upheaval foreseen by Mr. Hesing will probably appear in due season. One thing even now may be positively asserted: The great multitude will never consent to die the death of slow starvation in order that a few persons may gratify their vanity by dominating the world through the power of unlimited wealth, every dollar of which represents the toll and the life's blood of some crushed and bleeding brother. If the monopolists persist in their mad career of exploitation and wholesale plunder we are quite sure their troubles will be legion and that all the armies and navies of the world will not save them from the wrath to come. The struggle has become a world struggle. The content spoken of by Mr. Hesing is not confined to this country—it extends throughout the civilized world. Everywhere the people are awaking to the new danger—the absolute mastery of the rich on the one hand and the abject slavery of the masses on the other, and as light and knowledge increase, robbery under the guise of "business" approaches its doom.

CORPORATE METHODS.

Some years ago the city of Milwaukee, Wis., had several independent street car companies, each owning and operating its own separate lines. That was in the days of horse cars. The fare charged was four cents, at which the various companies did a lucrative business. At length one of the companies absorbed all the rest; the patient and long-suffering mule was superseded by electricity, and the new monopoly increased the fare to five cents. Some eighteen months ago the city council, acting under authority conferred by its charter, passed an ordinance reducing street car fares to four cents.

The federal court promptly came to the relief of the monopoly by restraining the city from enforcing the ordinance until a suit could drag its interminable length, with infinite leisure, through the court, the object of which was to show that four-cent fare would not be sufficient to pay operating expenses together with a reasonable interest on money invested.

After reading the evidence recently taken in that city relative to that issue, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that the Milwaukee Electric Railway and Lighting company is as notorious as corporations in general are reputed to be. It appears that that company's entire plant could be duplicated for something less than \$3,500,000, and yet the stocks and bonds of the company aggregate about \$17,500,000. This means that a five per cent dividend on their capitalization, water and all, is equivalent to a 25 per cent dividend on the money actually invested. In order to carry out their colossal humbug and defeat the attempt to reduce fares the officials of the company have, to all appearances, systematically charged a large part of their profits to some trumped up expense, so as to make the company appear as poor as a church mouse, even on a five-cent fare. But strange to say, this showing does not agree with the statements emanating from the company's office for use in New York and elsewhere for the purpose of floating its bonds and securing the standing which they covet in the financial world. Unfortunately that it should be necessary to show that they have a very good business and a very poor business at the same time!

But, of course, the court will take plenty of time before rendering a decision. The company will likely ask for and be granted an adjournment. The eighteen months of delay which the company has already secured have been golden. It is estimated they save by it \$700 per day or a trifling sum of some \$383,000 to date. Don't hurry, gentlemen. By all means, give the court plenty of time!

BARTHOLDI ON POLITICS.

The eminent Frenchman, Bartholdi, who gave to America the famous statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World," is a close student of social questions, and is following the growth and development of the Social Democracy of America with a great deal of interest. The following passage from a recent letter written by him to Comrade Debs is interesting, as indicating his view of the ultra-materialistic basis of American society and his opinion of our politics:

"You are endowed with the most beautiful faculty to which one can aspire, the gift of language, and you use it to proclaim the most noble and generous thoughts. However, you live in surroundings where the material is more appreciated than the ideal. Your beautiful language is that of an apostle. May heaven protect you from politics and politicians. There is undoubtedly an opinion among the leaders of European thought that American politics are hopelessly corrupt, and this opinion will continue to be justified by facts until the inauguration of a Socialistic regime.

AT THE OPEN DOOR

GREYBEARD'S CHAT

I have often prefigured myself as sitting musing, as the shadows fall when lamps are lighted, at an open door of a working writer's room, looking down the long and crowded street of an American city. I'm sitting now, a lonely old man, kept from doubt and dread of closing years by the faith that has come of a better future and a truer life. Memory and reflection sit within as twin comrades of brain and heart to illumine and cheer. And one needs both in this savage thing called "our civilization"—a congeries of contradictions which early set on fire the narrowest brains and later calls on all the hideous forces of triumphant and plutonian greed, misnamed by Carnegie as "Triumphal Democracy"—to suppress them when the flames rise high or become too clear and steady for the "Plutes" to enjoy.

I am not unmindful of Gomerian turpitude, or Leonine bombast and brutality. One feels sharply the ignorance of man with all its degrading limitations; penury with its down-pulling viciousness; appetites with their passionate viciousness. But they are all part of the martyrdom which has gone on almost unremittingly; that horrible effort of power, self-love, greed, ambition to exclude some one truer than oneself from that inclusion which uplifts and exalts.

I do not forget what one may endure from lives for whose exaltation we can but struggle incessantly. Oppression and privilege bring submission and slavery. Pressed too far, let an explosion. Then it is mephitic gases with deadly fumes, not the clear ozone and sunshine that will fill the air. At the best, the machete and torch of Cuba represent the inevitable when the safety valves are pinned down. But one asks here and answers, why must we work? The bitter-sweet reason may be rudely expressed now as once before Graybeard did to a friend affected by the foul sewerage of unwarranted suspicion:

Waiting, and for what? Working, and for who? Beating on the tides—struggling on the waves, Living and laboring for They and You: Out from the breakers and amid the groves, Wide-mouthed and yawning where noisome grew The blackness of night and odor of knaves Who make the soul sick, till its very spew Falseth on men fit for the role of slaves! Working and waiting for the love of Man, That liveth in ether, over the road Men have traveled under whip, spur and goad; Because freedom dwelleth within Life's plan, And Man must live even when men may die, Splitting the aerial vault with their cry!

Effort for man, however, is not all or even mainly productive of this pessimistic hue. My years tell me that the secular life has advanced. The civilization of humanity has grown and is growing. Teachers begin to apprehend that if God exists he can only be known to do so through the reason and will of man. Hence men and women must be made fit to know the divine. Was it old Volney who preceded Ingersoll in declaring "that an honest God is the noblest work of man?" Bitterly satirical perhaps from one standpoint; but grandly reverential from the larger view of the race, its life and growth. If one must know the why and wherefore of being here let us strive to make the brains and lives of all about us clean and broad enough to comprehend the ethical truths and duties which alone befit us to understand.

The Volney epigram has at least nobility in it by indirection, while the modern socialist affronts brutality even by his scorn of those who have been disabled and crippled through the long Gethsemane of human suffering.

I have been reading my Arena, and that's a magazine for whose existence the innermost soul of despair arouses itself to give thanks. At the very gate I found the second part of Gov. John S. Rogers' (of Washington) strangely disappointing article on "Freedom and its Opportunities." The title and conclusion both strike me as wanting in harmony with the reasoning of the article itself. The sequential limitations were at variance with the purposed outset. It has the vice of the modern thinker who puts material force above ethical needs. The governor's design is all right and much that he writes is correct, but like the Spencerian who is always blasting in sociology about the "Survival of the Fittest," forgetting that an objective and physical generalization is not necessarily a psychological and subjective fact, he exacts the horn of force instead of righteousness, especially when he says:

"I find the following in a newspaper. It is as true a statement as ever was made, come from what source it may: 'David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford University, says that the essence of tyranny lies not in the strength of the strong, but in the weakness of the weak.' There is more of this, but that sentence will answer Graybeard's purpose when he declares that it embodies the apotheosis of all tyranny, and once accepted justifies all its crimes. Men are made weak by continuous oppression under conditions which forbid their knowing better. Ergo, their weakness is the reason then for main-

taining the oppressive rule of the strong. And as such, strength is always arrogant. When weakness becomes illuminant in any degree and aspiration arises to arouse, then repression is always of the "essence of tyranny" militant. Anarchy never uttered a more dangerous slogan than that of the California college president. It is an appeal to force, and the weak inflamed by hunger may yet turn and sting. Will the governor justify or the college teacher proclaim it as right? I trow not. Would it not be wiser to declare that it is of the very essence of resistance for the strong to make the weak stronger, not to scorn them as unfit to survive? I recall a concrete illustration which may give some point to the query. A few weeks since I was in the Chicago dallies several interviews with a couple of "degenerates," yclept scientists. They were male and female—man and woman presumably. Their special tad was the right to slay their offspring should the same not be up to their standard of physical excellence et al. Perhaps it might not be undesirable to prevent the possibility of offspring from such besotted egotists? Be that as it may, however, they only advanced to an extreme the Jordan proposition. All of this, simmered down, is but individualism run wild—turned out Nebuchadnezzar-like to grass and affected by the loco weed it has found in the herbage.

Across the Atlantic a man died a short time ago whose memory our comrades of the Social Democracy should honor. It was in the pages of "The Red Republican," a brave little weekly, that George Julian Harney, who departed this life on the 11th of December last at Newcastle on the Tyne, was recognized as the "Last of the Chartists"—a designation to all English-speaking Radicals.



But Socialists have a special reason for being grateful to this sturdy soldier and servant of man and his freedom. He was more than a Chartist, thought meant much in the "forties" and not for Great Britain alone. Harney was then in his early prime and approaching his fortieth year. When he died he was in the eighty-first year of his splendid life. I know now of but two of his immediate contemporaries—as living—George Jacob Holycake—the founder of the secularist movement, who, a year or so older, still lives at Brighton and is yet active enough to have taken a leading part at Paris, October, '95, in an international congress of co-operationists, and William J. Linton, artist, engraver, poet, European republican and close friend of Joseph Mazzini, who, still older, lives and yet works in his American home, near New Haven.

Harney himself lived in Boston for thirteen years, from 1863 to 1876, when he returned to England. Among the recollections of my own boyhood the name and services of George Julian Harney are prominent, and one of the most cherished of my possessions is a rarely bound, thin volume. It contains half a dozen copies of the Red Republican, bearing date February and March, 1848, but in that meager compass is one of the world's epoch making documents. It is the famous manifesto of the Communists, prepared by Karl Marx and Frederic Engels. It was written originally in French, was translated into English and published simultaneously in both London and Paris. I have lost my copy of the French edition, but that only makes more prized the English one. Harney was the only man in Great Britain to publish this system-routing and civilization-changing paper. Harney went to prison—that was the loftiest badge of political honor in those days, as it will still remain for those who work and agitate for that economic security which alone is to make the maintenance possible of political liberty.

George Julian Harney was then one of the foundation builders of the Social Democracy in the old as well as the new world. He once edited in Boston, when it was worthy of the name, a weekly known as The Commonwealth. That paper was started by George Luther Stearns, who gave John Brown his arms and most of the money with which he was able to organize his attack in 1859 on Southern chattel slavery. I am not "scientific" enough as a Socialist or a student and worker, it will be seen, to forget the continuity of human endeavor or to scorn the memory of faithful men not yielding to the "class conscious" standard of bigotry and demagoguery.

Nothing seems more strange than the continued peans over merely material success, coming quite often from men and women who believe they are at least radical opportunists. Of

course the newspapers are the more frequent offenders—that's what they are made for, as a rule. I picked up the N. Y. Journal recently—strange medley that it is of good and evil, a sort of unclassifiable hashbean vision of current affairs—and glanced over its editorial columns. What struck me then was an editorial screed over the greatness of the Greater New York. It was asserted that "it has more inhabitants, more energy, more commerce and infinitely more education, wealth and manufactures than the United States possessed when the Fourth of July first became a national holiday."

"Yes," remarked a friend who sat near, "and it has also within its gates more of the poverty that degrades, of the wretchedness that defiles, of the vice that makes a man honor the swing, more of the crime which destroys, more of the bestial inhumanity that wears a veneer, than had the whole of the North American hemisphere when Arnold betrayed, when the Philadelphia Quakers were trading loyalists and New York merchants were tories, slavers and bucaniers." Then I read a day or two later of a great civic initiative where 95 per cent of the babies brought there die before they reach the edge even of childhood.

We are told of the increase of cotton and other factories in the South, but we are not told of the children under ten who work twelve hours per day therein for fifty cents per week, and there is only meaning for the loss of profit found in the fact that the manufacture of pig iron in Pennsylvania for wages cost thirteen per cent of the total return, while in southern furnace and iron mining sections it costs but six and a half per cent. What matters whether there's bread enough or if the dwellings of labor rest above the cloaca? But in spite of all waste and cruelty I hold with Robert Blatchford, that the "sentiment of man's love for man which has been so potent a factor in social evolution during the last century, is growing daily stronger and becoming daily more general. While the spirit of righteousness waxes stronger, the cause of righteousness cannot fail." Anatomy is a necessary feature of knowledge; analysis a desirable mode of reasoning. But let us not be cut to pieces by demagogues or "nibbled to death" by plimbers. The synthesis is the commonwealth; its upbuilding is for the common weal. There is no ruin in reasonable delay. Life is not made of gossamer webs, or built up by attar of roses. Socialism is not seeking a life of ease, but by noble struggle one of equity and security.

MARCH OF THE MACHINE.

New Machine for Making Tin Cans Which Does the Work of 80 Men.

A machine is now in operation in San Francisco which, with the aid of a small boy, will turn out 40,000 tin cans per day. An expert tinner can make 500 cans per day. Each machine, then, displaces 80 men, and gives work instead to a boy. Eighty families with nothing to eat; a hundred or more children without schooling or clothing, and in place of peace and plenty for these people we have an uneducated boy tending a machine. Under Socialism, where the object of work would be to furnish tin cans, these workmen would have their working time reduced 80 times, but their pay would remain the same as before. With the aid of this machine each tinner could produce as many cans in one day as he could by hand in 80 days. Therefore he would be able to work less than five days a year to create as much wealth as he had before been able to create in twelve months, and for which he had been paid an amount sufficient to support a family. This gives an idea of the possibilities of socialism, under which we work to supply our needs and not to pile up millions for idlers. As it is, however, I was not surprised to read in the same paper that the police of San Francisco were devoting considerable time to riot drills. This machine, you see, with other machines, is throwing the working people out by thousands and millions, and it behooves our good rulers whom we elected to be ready to shoot down the mob when starvation forces them to cry for bread.—Coming Nation.

THE COMING BAKERY.

New Invention Which Produces Bread Without the Aid of Baker or Miller.

Talk about Socialism being a dream! A baker's trade journal mentions a new process that will be put in operation in London shortly by a company capitalized at \$1,250,000 by which bread will be baked without the aid of miller or baker. The raw wheat is poured into the machine, water-soaked, converted into a pulp, passing through a mixer, after which the refuse is removed, and then other parts of the machine form loaves from one pound up, a continuous roller carrying the same to the bake oven. Only a few ordinary laborers are necessary to operate the machine, and a local baker declares that forty men could supply the whole city of Cleveland with bread by this new process. Sir Charles Cameron of Dublin and Dr. Otto Hohn of London, well-known chemists and scientists, declare that the bread is more pure and wholesome than that baked under the present system. The bread can be produced about as cheap as flour can be purchased now. Plants will be established in Germany, Austria and Belgium by the company. Of course the small bakery capitalists will be forced into bankruptcy, and the millers also, while the workers—well, they will have time to hunt for that prosperity that the politicians are prating about. Still the journeymen can benefit themselves by studying the question of collective ownership of the tools of production and distribution and by voting right.—Cleveland Citizen.

A PROSPERITY THERMOMETER.

The Immigration Register a Good Test of Industrial Conditions.

One of the best indications of the condition of business affairs in this country is the immigration thermometer at Castle Garden. A man may put on a stiff upper lip and say he feels well and that nothing is the matter with him, but when the physician inserts the tell-tale tube in his month and it indicates that his temperature is above normal, his true condition is revealed. So with the register at Castle Garden. When times are prosperous here, with plenty of work and good pay, the foreign element in this country load down the mails with letters to their friends across the ocean, telling them what golden opportunities await them here and bidding them to hasten over. But if the conditions are reversed, and the foreigner finds little work and poor pay, he hastens to warn his friends to remain at home. So the tide of immigration is a better test of the real condition than all the glowing pictures that are painted for political effect. In view of these facts the statement just issued by the bureau of statistics is interesting. According to the statement the number of immigrants who arrived in the United States during the three months of the present fiscal year was 49,296, which is a decrease of nearly 11,500 as compared with the same period last year.—Corner Stone.

CRIME TO REDUCE WAGES.

CASSON TELLS THE ARKWRIGHT CLUB SOME WHOLESOME TRUTHS.

The Wage of the Worker is the Standard of Civilization. Reduction hurts Employers as well as Employees.

The following scathing address, in answer to the Arkwright club's suggestion to reduce New England wages in order to meet Southern competition, was recently delivered by Comrade Casson at Lynn Labor club:

"The Arkwright club of Massachusetts, which is composed of manufacturers, has recently published a report, in which they suggest that all legislation in favor of labor should be revoked, and that the wages of New England operatives be reduced to a level with the wages paid in the Southern states. This is the Christmas message of peace and good-will, which the workers of New England found in their stockings.

"The members of this club are protectionists, but how do they expect the Dingley bill to protect us from the cheap labor of the South? They have taught us to blame foreigners for every reduction of wages, but in North Carolina, from which their figures are taken, 99 per cent are native born.

"They have declared that the interests of labor and capital are the same, yet they assert that the workers must accept pauperizing wages to enable employers to become prosperous. Their report deliberately states that it is the intention of Northern manufacturers to undo and destroy the reforms of the past thirty years, and to put America back to where England was in 1830. Even admitting that the North cannot compete with the South, what then? Why should the only remedy be a reduction of wages? If wages must be equalized, why not level up, instead of down?

"Why not stir up the Southern wage workers to demand more wages and less hours? Why not send ten energetic labor organizers down South? Why not petition congress to establish a uniform eight-hour day, and a minimum wage of \$10 a week? Why not, as patriotic citizens, point out to the nation the danger of this new slavery in the South, and demand a second time the non-extension of slavery?"

"The wage of the worker is the standard of civilization. Every reduction means less demand for goods, and more bankruptcies among the manufacturers themselves. Every cut-down means a lower grade of citizens. Cheap workers always become illiterate drudges. Where have all our inventions come from? Not from the South. You can't raise inventors on \$4 a week. "In Massachusetts 6 per cent of the people are illiterate, but in North Carolina 56 per cent cannot read or write. Over 23 per cent of the native whites of North Carolina are illiterate. In this state there are 657 newspapers, and in North Carolina there are only 200. There are nearly half a million more books in our public libraries.

"The Arkwright club must remember that intelligence and speed count for something. In this state the average operative produces annually goods to the value of \$1,830, and in North Carolina the average produces \$1,115, or \$715 less than is produced here. "Even under the present conditions, capitalists want too much. The fabulous profits of the great monopolists have aroused them into a frenzy of emulation. If wages are lowered in the North, they will be forced down still lower in the South. The Arkwright club will next be sending a committee to China, and demanding a second 'equalization of wages.' Or they will discover that monkeys can be trained to run machinery and live on four cents a day, and they will assert that the national honor depends upon the immigration of monkeys and chimpanzees.

"The fact is that unless our manufacturers think more of the general welfare of the people, their private dividends, the nation will be forced to sanction such labor legislation as will turn over to the government the control of the whole factory system."

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Talk about Socialism being a dream! A baker's trade journal mentions a new process that will be put in operation in London shortly by a company capitalized at \$1,250,000 by which bread will be baked without the aid of miller or baker. The raw wheat is poured into the machine, water-soaked, converted into a pulp, passing through a mixer, after which the refuse is removed, and then other parts of the machine form loaves from one pound up, a continuous roller carrying the same to the bake oven. Only a few ordinary laborers are necessary to operate the machine, and a local baker declares that forty men could supply the whole city of Cleveland with bread by this new process. Sir Charles Cameron of Dublin and Dr. Otto Hohn of London, well-known chemists and scientists, declare that the bread is more pure and wholesome than that baked under the present system. The bread can be produced about as cheap as flour can be purchased now. Plants will be established in Germany, Austria and Belgium by the company. Of course the small bakery capitalists will be forced into bankruptcy, and the millers also, while the workers—well, they will have time to hunt for that prosperity that the politicians are prating about. Still the journeymen can benefit themselves by studying the question of collective ownership of the tools of production and distribution and by voting right.—Cleveland Citizen.

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRAT

Published every Thursday by THE SOCIAL DEMOCRAT OF AMERICA.

Subscription rates: One year, \$1.00; Six months, 60c; Three months, 35c.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION: Expires with Number on your Label. This number is 38.

LIST OF SOLICITORS: James O'Connell, Station A, 100 N. La Salle St.; E. H. Hart, 100 N. La Salle St.; James Sullivan, 100 N. La Salle St.; M. E. Kimminger, 100 N. La Salle St.

What are you doing to increase the membership of your branch? Says a Brooklyn correspondent: "The Social Democracy exhibits no signs of stagnation and the goddess of the sword and the goddess of justice are ever about our temple of justice."

Comrade Debs has received and accepted an invitation from the Rev. Thomas Dixon, Jr., of the People's Church, New York City to occupy his pulpit and discuss the social question from his (Debs) point of view.

As a result of Comrade Debs' recent visit to Toledo chapters have been started for two strong branches in that city within two weeks—and the returns are not all in yet!

Comrade M. T. Bruce of Texas Branch No. 3 Dallas, writes very encouragingly of the movement there.

The comrades are working hard, and contemplating the organization of a body of men and women to march to the Social Democracy office for the purpose of a great mass meeting for the purpose of discussing the idea was held on Sunday 2.

Now that the holidays are over, comrades all over the country should take hold with renewed energy and do their best to build up the Social Democracy.

The date of our convention is not far in the future; that will be an important, an epoch making affair, and the comrades should take a personal interest in seeing that every section of the American continent is well represented.

Branch 3 of Missouri, located at St. Louis, has decided to give a family entertainment on February 6.

Comrade Ashplant's "Heterodox Economics vs. Orthodox Profits" advertised in our book, is a little work which we can recommend very highly.

Socialist or other organizations on the Pacific coast can secure lectures on Socialism by addressing the secretary of the local branch of the Social Democracy at Seattle, J. B. Fowler, 2224 First Avenue, Seattle, Wash.

Kansas is rapidly falling into line. At Stratton, in that state, a new branch has just been formed, and the comrades are active all over the state.

Our Houston comrades have suffered a great loss in the death of Comrade M. Mohan. Comrade Mohan was an earnest worker in the cause of humanity, and a power in the trade union movement.

Comrade Debs is meeting with good success in the South. As a result of his visit to Rome, Ga., on Jan. 7, a strong branch with 48 charter members has been organized.

The fact that there are in this country nearly a million Socialists who are voting against Socialism ought to show us the importance of organization.

Our Eastern comrades are still active. Brocton, Mass., reports a new branch, and other branches are being formed all through the Eastern States.

The members of Branch 9 are doing magnificent work. A persistent agitation is being conducted, and a series of public meetings is being held at Uihorn's Hall, corner Sixty-third and Center streets.

Comrade Uihorn is a member of Carpenter's Union No. 521, and at a regular meeting of the union he introduced a motion to have the union order the Social Democracy sent to each member for a period of three months.

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The New Time in its January number sounds the keynote of the opposition to the current plans of President McKinley and Secretary Oake.

Twenty-five illustrations, including several striking cartoons, are scattered through the pages of the January New Time. This magazine has passed the 50,000 mark, and is a power to be reckoned with.

Large numbers of Wealthy and Educated People are Taking a Stand in Favor of the Wage Workers.

Two things indicate the wonderful influence of Socialist educational work in the large number of people, not Socialists, belonging to the well-to-do and educated class.

The meeting of the Cook County Central Committee, on the night of Jan. 8, was well attended, and much important business was transacted.

Branch No. 5 is making a splendid record. It contains some of the best material of all kinds will be distributed to all kinds of workers.

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The Social Democracy and the NEW TIME will be sent together to a TV address in the United States or Canada for the small sum of \$1.25 a year.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES SOCIAL DEMOCRACY OF AMERICA

We hold that all men are born free, and endowed with reason, and that the rights of man are not inalienable.

The obvious fact that our despotic government, and by extension, all governments, are based on force.

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MEETINGS OF LOCAL BRANCHES

California: No. 6 San Francisco, meets every Sunday at 2 P. M., at 900 Market street.

Colorado: No. 1 Denver, meets every Sunday at 3 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Illinois: Cook County Central Committee of the Social Democracy, meets at Saturday afternoon, 204 Trade Building, Chicago.

Indiana: No. 3 Indianapolis, meets every Sunday at 2 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Massachusetts: No. 1 Boston, meets every Sunday at 3 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

New York: The Greater New York City Central Committee of the Social Democracy, meets every Saturday at 8 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Ohio: No. 1 Cleveland, meets every Sunday at 3 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Pennsylvania: No. 1 Philadelphia, meets every Sunday at 3 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Tennessee: No. 1 Nashville, meets every Tuesday at 8 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Texas: No. 1 Houston, meets second and fourth Saturdays, at 8 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Washington: No. 1 Seattle, meets every Friday, at 8 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

Wisconsin: Central Committee of the Social Democracy, meets every Friday, at 8 P. M., at 10th and Broadway streets.

There can be no well-founded basis for a future restoration of a present institution.—Ador White.

UNION THE MADE BRAND PANTS AND WEAR UNION MADE OVERALLS CLOTHING. THE UNION-MADE OVERALLS ARE MADE BY Sweet, Orr & Co. GUARANTEED NEVER TO RIP.

STRENGTH AND SOUNDNESS. So is the weak, sick body made STRONG AND SOUND WHEN FED BY Malt Extract. THE "BEST" TONIC. It is a strengthening, refreshing TONIC for the body, nerves and brain.

DAHLBERG'S EYE REMEDIES. Sure Cure for all Diseases of the Eye. The following are a few of the many cures effected in London: Mrs. H. N. Gosson, the great Socialist lecturer, and Alfred Mitchell, one week. He, altered pupils, never fail—give them a TRIAL.

Don't Stop BACO Tobacco. ORIGINALS RATTWAY KEVIN ASSOCIATION WALK BELL'S SEV. WALK BELL'S SEV. WALK BELL'S SEV.

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