

"The expropriation of the mass of the people from the soil forms the basis of the capitalist mode of production."—Marx.

The Social Democrat

"ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

"A State may be very miserable, even though a few individuals gather colossal fortunes."—Siemond.

VOL. V.

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NO. 18.

CURRENT NOTES.

THE QUESTION OF TAXATION AND ITS RELATION TO SOCIALISM.

Anniversary of the Haymarket Tragedy—The Tribune's Sectional Talk—May Day Demonstration.

The question of taxation, briefly alluded to in the last issue of the Social Democrat, has raised a point, and a Chicago comrade has taken the ground that the workers are in no wise concerned as to the rate of taxation or the manner in which taxes are laid, since, under the operation of the iron law of wages, the workers can in no event obtain more than a bare subsistence, and taxes must necessarily be borne by capitalists. The matter of taxation, then, interests only capitalists, and the conflict over methods of taxation can be nothing else than a conflict between different capitalist class interests—the welfare of the workers is not affected in any manner.

This is substantially the position taken by Ricardo in his "Principles of Political Economy and Taxation." The hypothesis on which the theory is based is framed in accordance with Ricardo's view of the "economic man"—that monstrous figment, so real to the minds of the Bourgeois economists, but never yet seen alive on the face of the earth.

But, theoretically, and as regards the final effect on the whole working class, the position is well taken, and Ricardo's contention that a tax on corn, for instance, will fall wholly on profits, since the worker is already receiving the lowest possible wages, is sound. It is the logical clearness of this contention that primarily gives force to the Socialist argument for an entire change in the existing basis of society.

However, Socialists make a mistake in erecting this theory into a hard and fast dogma, and advancing it without qualification. They are strictly correct in contending that no mere change in the methods of taxation can exert an appreciable influence to permanently better the lot of the workers, and no reform calculated merely to change the incidence of taxation has the slightest permanent value for them, but they are not correct in contending that the workers have no interest in methods of taxation.

Without going into a discussion of the iron law of wages, it may be said generally that wages will be determined by the standard of living, and will be high or low as the standard is high or low. This standard is, of course, determined by the necessities of the competitive labor market, but there is always a plainly marked tendency, except in the ranks of the "submerged tenth," to maintain a certain fixed minimum. Taxation may be so laid as to very materially affect this standard, and in this sense it has a pressing interest for the workers, since they are deeply concerned to protect their standard from deterioration.

Indirect taxes, taxes on consumable commodities, always raise prices above what economists term their "natural" level. This is true also of taxes on capital engaged directly in the production of consumable commodities. These taxes, then, always enter into the standard of living, and the standard arranges itself with reference to them. In this sense these taxes are borne by capitalists, since if they did not exist the standard, and so wages, would be lower. Being laid at a fixed rate from year to year, they are counted on, and tend to become a calculable factor in industry. Laborers adjust their expenditures with reference to their existence, and fight with capitalists to protect their wages from that standpoint.

Now, if government suddenly increases this class of taxes, the immediate effect is a rise in prices, and this very injuriously affects the workers, since it compels a reduction in their standard of living. In a period of rising prices wages are notoriously the last thing to rise. A case in point may be cited right here in Chicago, where prices of all staple commodities are rapidly rising on account of the war scare and prospects of increased taxation, but 1,500 stonecutters have nevertheless just gone on strike against a 25 per cent reduction in wages. As between this class of taxes and taxes on fixed incomes derived from productive capital, but from accumulated wealth, the Socialist must choose the latter. It is not, at all probable that any radical change in methods of taxation can be brought about under the existing system, and it is not clear how the status of the proletariat could be much improved even if it were brought about, but agitation of the question is nevertheless beneficial, because it tends to develop the point of view of the capitalist class.

Twelve years ago yesterday was a fatal day in the history of the labor movement in the United States and throughout the world. It was the date of the Haymarket tragedy.

As the years roll by the outlines of that terrible affair present themselves in clearer form, and the names of the martyred champions of labor's rights are coming to be revered, and their efforts in behalf of their fellow-men appreciated at their true worth. It is a noticeable fact that while the names of the guardians of law and order who suffered death at the Haymarket are entirely forgotten beyond the immediate circle of their friends and acquaintances, and there is no public demonstration in commemoration of their death, those who were wrongfully hanged on the 11th of November are far better known today than they were in 1886, and the procession that

LONDON LETTER.

EVOLUTION OF THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Decline of the I. L. P. and Rise of the New Worker's Union—New Branches of the Union.

(Special to the Social Democrat.) London, April 27, 1898. The English Socialist movement, or perhaps I had better say, the British Socialist movement, has made another great step forward, and like other great changes this has taken place in a manner so quiet as to be imperceptible as yet to any but close observers. Back in the early eighties, when H. H. Champion, John Burns, Tom Mann, Hyndman and Jack Williams were the unknowns who were preaching an unknown God, a little aggregation of Democratic workers was formed. In a few years the evolution of thought made this society change its name to the Social-Democratic Federation, representing the young Socialist movement in this country. But a great idea is like a growing boy who rapidly finds his clothes getting too small for him. One organization fails to give a sufficient expression of advanced sentiment and something bigger and, if you like, looser is wanted. The Socialist League, rendered eternally famous by William Morris' co-operation, and numerous isolated societies, were formed all over the land. Even the beginning of an Anarchist propaganda made itself apparent. And then, in 1892, came the formation of the Independent Labor Party, launched upon a wave of enthusiasm, and guided by many of the most splendid characters that the movement had produced. It collected practically all the Socialist elements outside the S. D. F., shook off an attempted annexation by the Fabian Society, and gave a voice and a form to the newer and bigger movement. As an organization it led British Socialism a long way on the road to ultimate success. But again the movement got too large for the best existing organization and the banner of the prophet is passing from the hands of the I. L. P. Not that the I. L. P. is going to die any more than the S. D. F. has died. But the day of its increase is past. When the pioneer plunges into the virgin forest he blazes his way by means of cuts in the trees, not that he wishes to return, but in order to mark a pathway along which all may follow. The Democratic Federation, the Social League, the Independent Labor Party are the indelible records which strong young Socialism has made in the dense forest of time.

These remarks have been occasioned by a general survey of the whole movement and they have been proved by the results published by the I. L. P.'s sixth annual conference held at Birmingham last Monday and Tuesday. There were only 88 delegates present, from 82 branches, although altogether 128 branches had paid up their dues and were entitled to send a total of 200 delegates. The report read by the National Administrative Council said that there were 206 branches established. Apparently therefore, 78 branches had not paid up their regular dues. The membership figured was not published, but is probably about 10,000 at the outside. The annual cash account showed that the total income had been \$3,295, and the expenditure \$4,130. This left a deficit of \$835, which, added to the loss brought forward from the previous year, \$425, made a total deficiency of \$1,260. The deficit is wholly accounted for by the special election account, which shows a loss of \$1,365, mainly over the Borsley bye-election. The National Council of the I. L. P., however, advanced no suggestions for paying off this loss and look forward to a further deficiency of \$800 at the end of the ensuing year.

The debate with regard to the proposed fusion or federation with the S. D. F. produced a resolution that the matter should go back to the branches for re-consideration. Discussion followed upon matters of local interest and then a body of resolutions which had been sent in by the branches upon points of administration and internal management were negatived, wiped out, in mass. A discussion took place upon the ways and means of raising funds for the next election and the most important suggestions dealt with the usefulness of co-operative trading on the part of the branches. In this connection the Leeds branch had made 20 per cent on its coal selling. A proposal to abolish the general secretaryship and appoint a bookkeeper instead fell to the ground, and John Penny was elected in the place of Tom Mann, who did not offer himself for re-election. Keir Hardie was re-appointed chairman of the party and France Littlewood treasurer. The National Council for this year will be composed of these three officials and Bruce Glasier, Pete Curran, Fred Brocklehurst, Ramsay MacDonald, Russell Schar and Mrs. Pankhurst. Leeds is to be the place of the next conference. With the signing of the Marseillaise the congress closed, and with its close we turn our eyes elsewhere for the future great progress of British Social-Democracy.

A very fair report of the proceedings went round the plutocratic papers and of course the labor press gave fuller details. I have not been able to ascertain the opinion of many of the leading I. L. P. members upon the state of affairs, but those whom I have seen are pessimistic. Fuller consideration will, I am

MERRIE ENGLAND.

ITS FAMOUS AUTHOR SENDS GREETING TO AMERICAN WORKINGMEN.

Robert Blatchford Pleads the Cause of International Brotherhood—The 'Real War Is Class War.'

The idea of fixing one day in the year as a universal "Labor Day" was to draw together on that one day, if on no others, all the workers of all the nations, into one family or band of sympathy. That race antagonism shall cease, and that the more deadly and bitter class antagonism shall be destroyed by the abolition of class distinctions is not the least of the hopes held by Socialists the world over.

It seems then, that in sending to you the first lines I ever yet sent to an American paper, and more especially since I am sending them as a contribution to the Labor Day issue of The Social Democrat, I can do no better than to use my space in the cause of international brotherhood. One would suppose from the tone and purport of the press in England and America that bitter rivalry, distrust and dislike existed between the two great English speaking nations. That there may be, lingering in the minds of some uneducated citizens on both sides of the Atlantic, some dregs of prejudice and vapors of malice I will not deny, and I fear that the noisy manifestations of ill-will and suspicion which sometimes break out in New York or London are too often the direct result of the folly or dishonesty of journalists, or of the intrigues of crafty wire pullers and unscrupulous financiers. I know, also, that you have large numbers of Irish immigrants, and their descendants in your country, and that these people have only too much reason to hate what they call "England."

Yet in face of these facts I claim that the prevailing sentiment of the English people toward America is a sentiment of respect, affection and admiration for a brave and clever people. The English are proud of America and wish her well. If in the past the relations between the two great nations have not been always cordial, that has been the fault, not of the English people, but of a small body of English capitalists, aristocrats and professional patriots, generally called "government" and "society."

It was not the English people who took the side of the South in the civil war. It was not the English people who fitted out hostile cruisers. It has never been the English people's wish to see the great American Republic shattered by internal conflict, nor hindered in its progress. I may go still further and claim that the wrongs which Irishmen have suffered have not been due to the ill will or tyranny of the English people, but to the small body of financiers, aristocrats and professional patriots who constitute English government and society.

There is every reason why the people of America and Great Britain should be friends, allies and comrades. There is no reason why they should be enemies or antagonists.

The real war the whole world over is the class war. It is the rich of the world, the idlers of the world, the financiers of the world, and the proud, vain, and ambitious of the world who stand as enemies all through the five continents to the world's workers.

The Japanese or Russian artisan is nearer to and by all else more the natural friend of the artisan of America than is the latter's compatriot the Trust Builder, or the Corner Maker of New York or Chicago. The men in the American mines and on the American farms are more of kin and more of kind to the Lancashire spinner or the London coster than Lord Salisbury or Richard Chamberlain can ever be.

For the workers of the world are alike in their hopes, their aims, their sufferings, their hardships and their risks. And the capitalists and the landlords of the world are the fleecers of the workers in every country under the sun.

That the workers of all nations should be drawn and knit closely together is a consummation devoutly to be wished; but first and over all it should be the aim of every English speaking Socialist to weld into one mass the workers of the British Empire and of the United States of America.

Against the masses of old and new England united and in earnest no earthly power can prevail. With the American and English workers banded for Socialism the victory of Socialism is sure. In the hope that such a glorious union may some day be achieved I send you on Labor Day the cordial greetings of the staff of the little English Clarion.

ROBERT BLATCHFORD.

PROPERTY IS SACRED.

Jones—"You don't pretend to say that property is more sacred than life in this country, do you?"

Smith—"Why, of course I do."

Jones—"I would like to know how you make it out."

Smith—"That's easy enough. Uncle Sam can take a poor man, whether he is willing or not, and stand him up before the guns of Spain to have the life shot out of him, but when he wants gold to carry on the war he must not only get the rich man's consent, but he must pay his price for it. See?"

A new edition of "Merrie England" will shortly come from the press. Send in your orders for the best propaganda document ever issued.

WASHINGTON ON WAR.

THE OHIO LEGISLATURE HAS PASSED AN ANTI-TRUST LAW WHICH APPEARS TO BE VERY RADICAL, BUT MAY EASILY BE CONSTRUED TO APPLY TO LABOR UNIONS AS WELL AS TO FINANCIAL COMBINATIONS OF CORPORATIONS.

The manufacture of matches is a very strict monopoly in France and a fine of 1 franc per match is ruthlessly imposed on all contraband imports of the kind from abroad.

The Ohio Legislature has passed an anti-trust law which appears to be very radical, but may easily be construed to apply to labor unions as well as to financial combinations of corporations. If the law is carried out, it may cut both ways—just as an "unconstitutional" judge would decree.

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FOR PROPAGANDA.

THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD CALLS TO FUNDS TO SPREAD THE WORK OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY.

To the Social Democracy, Greeting: We are in need of funds to inaugurate a more vigorous campaign in the interest of the Social Democracy. More men are needed in the field and more literature must be distributed. It is therefore proposed to raise \$2,000 for this purpose at the earliest possible moment and we call for 200 volunteers to send us \$10 each to meet the demand.

The splendid victories of Milwaukee and Sheboygan indicate beyond all doubt the sweep of the movement. These advantages must be followed up by vigorous work and preparations must at once be begun for the congressional campaign this fall.

Two hundred subscriptions of \$10 each will give us \$2,000 and with this amount we can accomplish wonders. We appeal to each local branch and to each member to take this matter in hand.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the national treasurer and all will be acknowledged in the columns of the Social Democrat.

Comrades, the Social Democracy calls to duty and every nerve should be strained to meet the demands of the hour.

Earnestly hoping that the response to our appeal will be prompt and ample, we remain, Yours fraternally, EUGENE V. DEBS, JAMES HOGAN, SYLVESTER KELIHER, WM. E. BURNS, R. M. GOODWIN, National Executive Board, Chicago, April 12, 1898.

POVERTY AND MORTALITY. Mr. Neefe, the Breslau statistician, publishes an interesting paper, from which the following important facts are taken:

"In the year 1896 it appears that the death rate of the poorer classes was nearly three times greater than it was among the rich. The amount paid in rent is given as a criterion of means, the figures being as follows: "Out of every one thousand who paid a rent up to 300 marks, 20.7 died; out of every one thousand paying a rent of from 301 to 750 marks, only 11.2 died, and out of every thousand paying a rent ranging from 750 to 1,500 marks, only 6.5 died, the average being 17.6 persons dying to each 1,000 living."

According to these figures the mortality of the Breslau poor population is at least three times greater than that of the rich, but as a matter of fact it must be much greater, the deaths of servants, journeymen and persons who die in the hospitals not being included, and they in all cases belong to what are called the poorer classes. The same article shows that more than one-half of the children born belonging to the poor population died in babyhood, while the deaths of the children of the rich amounted to only about one-sixth of the total number born.

News from Moscow states that they are on the eve of a fresh persecution of the Jews. A Ukase modifying the passport law against Jewish students of pharmacy, midwifery, and medical science has already appeared, and apparently a desire exists to clear the whole of the Jews who were not expelled a few years ago out of the ancient capital of the Russian Empire.

The total population of London is five millions. Of these, 180,000 live four or more together in one room; 300,000 three in one room; 780,000 two in one room, and 950,000 one in one room. There are 700 to 1,000 acres of London slums which average 3,600 persons per acre. Far away in the East End are courts and alleys into which no stranger would dare to venture. They are veritable nests of thieves, haunts of crime and vice.

In Japan during the last year as many as 40 strikes, affecting 7,000 workers, took place, 20 of which were for an increase, and one against reduction of wages, and nine against condition of work. The results of these strikes were: 22 ended in success (21 for increase of wages), six in partial success, and four in failure to the strikers. In the remaining four the results have not been ascertained.

The Seventh Regiment, New York's famous infantrymen, have refused to volunteer into the service of the United States. The regiment's roster is made up of wealthy men. Nearly all of the Seventh's members are prominent in New York society.

By the 1st of next June there will be completed a telephone system from San Diego, Cal., to Nelson, B. C., a distance of 2,225 miles. This will make a line about twice as long as the longest line now in use—that from Boston to Chicago by the way of New York.

The state religion of Spain is the Roman Catholic, which is maintained by the government. The constitution permits non-Catholics to worship as they please, but they must do so privately and without making any public announcement of their religious services.

The most lenient pawnbroker's shop in the world is said to be the Mont de Pietà, at Rome, which has existed ever since 1555. It loans from 12 to 20 shillings upon good security without demanding interest, but 2 per cent per annum is charged upon all greater sums.

The revolutionary war cost \$135,193,703 and 30,000 lives; the war of 1812 \$107,159,000 and 2,000 lives; the Mexican war, \$74,000,000 and 2,000 lives; the Indian wars and other minor wars, \$1,000,000,000 and 49,000 lives; and the war between the states, \$8,500,000,000 and 544,000 lives.

Fall River Loom Fixers' association has decided to hold in good standing all members of military companies and others who may be called to duty until they return and if it be the lot of any of them to die in the service of the country their wives, mothers or nearest kin will draw the funeral benefits.

Anent the forthcoming convention of the Colorado Federation of Labor the Denver News says: "Labor has been left so often that it does not propose to take any chances again and in the coming election it will doubtless insist on the nomination of men by some one party, or by all parties, who will redeem their pledges if elected."

NEWS GLEANINGS

SHOWING THE TREND OF EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

New York's Crack Regiment Will Not Fight—Present Cost of the Cuban War—Population of London.

A boycott on a Westfield (Mass.) bicycle firm, growing out of the employment of girls in the buffing department, has been removed. The girls were discharged.

A gigantic deal has been completed in St. Louis, Mo., whereby the Continental Tobacco company, with a capital stock of \$50,000,000, has been organized to absorb all the plug tobacco factories in the United States.

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The number of licensed public houses, including hotels, taverns, and bars, in London is given at 14,000, with an average of fifty feet frontage, and placed side by side they would stretch a distance of 130 miles, or from London to Birmingham. Every day London drinks 5,500 gallons, or 44,000 pints, of wines, and 16,000 gallons of spirits.

The Cuban war has now lasted three years, and has cost Spain not less than \$350,000,000. It is said that 70,000 Spanish soldiers have been killed, wounded, and incapacitated for duty during this war. The strength of the Spanish army at home, and including her near-by possessions, is 100,000 men, which may be increased if necessary to 610,000 men.

The public schools of France have decidedly advanced during the last ten years. While the population has remained stationary, the number of school classes increased from 130,399 to 144,895, and the number of teachers from 132,216 to 151,563. Only one per cent of the classes number more than 70 pupils each, while 91 per cent have less than 50 pupils.

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SOCIAL FORUM

A MILLION VOTES IN 1900.

It is work that tells. Thousand's upon thousands of voters will join, vote and work with the Social Democracy just as soon as they know what Socialism is.

If each comrade in the S. D. would resolve to secure one new member each month we would have before 1900 a membership of 250,000, or about the membership of the Social Democracy of Germany. Such a force would mean at least 1,500,000 votes in 1900. In fact it is more than likely that it would mean 2,000,000 votes. Nothing is so important as organization. In such states as Texas, Kansas and Illinois there are 100,000 Socialists. What is needed more than anything else is to organize and crystallize that power.

Think of it, 200,000 Socialists in three states! If we had 100 men in either of those three states, or in any state, who would agree to contribute twenty cents a week each, we could pay an organizer, say \$10 a week and expenses to devote all his time to the cause. Suppose now we could add 25 good organizers and place them in 25 states, wouldn't we grow? Those 25 organizers would not only be the means of organizing 3,000 branches in the next twelve months, but they would so increase the circulation of the Social Democrat that our paper could be reduced to 25 cents a year. It's not so hard to win Socialism as we think, if we will only do what we can. Where is the first state to adopt this plan? F. G. R. GORDON.

WOMAN AND THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY.

I am glad to see that Comrade J. W. Brown has opened the way for a discussion of the "Woman Question" in the columns of the Social Democrat. Like Banquo's ghost, this question will not down, but when least expected confronts the political movements of the day.

Up to a comparatively recent period women have unquestioningly accepted what they have been taught to believe were the stern and unalterable decrees of fate—that mentally they were man's inferior, preordained in all things to look up to him and be guided by him. They have been content to take the back seat in life and obey the dictum that women, like children, should be seen but not heard.

But the liberalizing march of ideas and events, the stern facts of life, the pressure of advancing civilization, the increasingly fierce struggle for existence, have roughly dispelled these relics and illusions of an outgrown past. Woman has been forced into the arena of life to battle and struggle with man for the right to exist.

From the toil-worn slave of the slums burning the midnight oil in the almost hopeless effort to keep body and soul together, to the educated, cultivated woman, laboring in school, college, laboratory or at law, the same process is at work, a process that has broadened out the sphere of woman's activities and converted a weak, dependent creature into a strong, self-reliant, self-supporting one. The ancient myth of woman's natural inferiority and inability to rise above the domestic duties of home life has been swept aside with other rubbish of the ages. She has demonstrated her ability to labor, and with man, she has the right to exclaim, "to work is to worship."

With this industrial change there has been a corresponding mental one. Woman has awakened to the realization of her inherent strength, responsibilities and rights. She knows there are no iron-bound laws of fate condemning her to hopeless mental sterility and imbecility, that whatever deficiencies may have marked her course in the past, they have been the result of brutal customs and equally brutal laws; that if servitude in one form or another has forever dogged her footsteps, that it was the sacred function of maternity that rendered her incapable of coping with man during a period when physical force reigned supreme.

The women who have caught the contagion of the times and inspired the bracing air of freedom demand that they shall stand on a footing of absolute civic equality with men. They claim the right of suffrage as a natural right inherent in citizenship, and as the only basis on which a republican form of government can stand.

The struggle all along through the ages has been for manhood suffrage as a means of wresting power from the hands of despotic rulers and securing freedom for the masses. For if "the voice of the people is the voice of God" the ballot is the expression of that voice in the onward march of the people to industrial independence.

In the mighty struggle now impending for the overthrow of the competitive system and the establishment of a co-operative civilization, women, co-workers with men, needing the protection of the ballot, even as man needs it, demand of the party that stands representing this great movement for justice, equality and fraternity, an explicit declaration of its intents and purposes in regard to the political status of woman.

The Social Democracy of America is supremely a liberty movement. To realize its liberty ideal, it must be also a human movement without distinction of sex, race or color, and to be a human movement, it must espouse the cause of woman.

The Social Democracy is asked to step outside the narrow limits of political bigotry and make the political emancipation of woman one of the issues of its platform of principles when it convenes next June. Should it do so it will range itself with the mighty, progressive forces of civilization and the soul of humanity will infuse its universal power into the movement.

But if it fails to rise to the heights of the occasion, if it allows cowardice and political expediency to undermine its foundation at the very beginning of its career, if it demands freedom and justice for man and disregards the claims of the wretched proletarian

woman at the very bottom of the social abyss, its doom is sealed. It will cut itself loose from all the vital currents of progressive life and become another political wreck, a ghastly mockery of what might have been.

Apart from the irresistible tendency of the age toward the realization of a social condition of absolute freedom, and the penalty and loss that must ensue in going counter to this tendency, let me say that no self-respecting woman capable of intelligently measuring the facts of the case can in any way sustain a movement that violates the first principles of justice.

Much as her heart may be in the work, she knows that "love's labor will be lost" and time thrown away in working for an organization that is doomed to failure. For this political movement for a higher civilization must include the welfare of every individual unit of that civilization. Failing to do so, it affords prima facie evidence of its unworthiness to enter the field as the champion of the race.

For the sake of the nation now trembling on the verge of a struggle such as the world has never seen, a struggle that involves the life or death of civilization, I, with others, earnestly hope that the Social Democracy will prove itself to be the answering cry to the needs of this solemn hour, that it will be the unifying force that will bring together the progressive elements of civilization, and unite them in a movement of such strength and power that the forces of evil, no matter how strong, will hurl themselves against it in vain. IMOGENE C. FALES. Brooklyn, N. Y.

REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT A FAILURE AND DEMOCRACY A FRAUD.

We have been for some time convinced that leading politicians, both Democratic and Republican, were drifting more and more toward centralization, and have lost faith, if they ever had any, in democratic principles; but we were hardly prepared to believe that the Congress of the United States would venture to openly proclaim this doctrine, and in spite of all past precedents, enact it into a law!

In the discussion of the bill authorizing the President to call out the volunteer forces Mr. Linney, Republican, North Carolina, offered an amendment providing that nothing in the bill should be construed to prevent companies and regiments from selecting their own officers. The tyrannous discipline of officers, he said, was more dreaded by soldiers than the bullets and bayonets of the enemy.

Mr. Grosvenor, Republican, Ohio, vigorously opposed the amendment. Its adoption, he said, would sow a seed of sin that would grow up to death. "If I desired to make the army which is to fight this war a caucus of ward politicians," he said, "I would adopt that amendment."

The amendment was defeated, both Democrats and Republicans voting against it. Aside from a question of policy there is a principle involved which is ominous to those who still believe in democratic or republican principles. If one hundred men who are willing to give up the comforts of home and offer their lives in the service of their country are not capable of selecting one of their number as captain to lead them, are five thousand citizens, many of whom would not do such dangerous service, capable of selecting a congressman to involve the nation in war and rob the people with taxes? Or are eight million capable of selecting a president to hold the purse and sword?

We would think not, and we are pretty certain that the people of Mr. Grosvenor's district are not. Who would be more likely to appoint a ward politician captain of a company than a governor or president who hold their positions by the aid of ward politicians?

It is the confidence that soldiers have in their leaders which enables the leaders to march them to the "cannon's mouth." It is likely that self-respecting, educated Americans, would have more confidence in an appointee they never saw than they would in a man of their own choosing?

Mr. Grosvenor, in order to bolster his oligarchical politics, misrepresents the facts of history. In all the wars which this country has been engaged, the volunteers elected their officers up to the rank of colonel. The regulars were commanded by appointed officers, all graduates of West Point.

Who ever heard of the brilliant achievements of the regulars in the last war? In the Mexican war Taylor won the first two battles with the regulars. With this exception the brilliant fighting was done by the volunteers, offered by plough boys, young lawyers and store clerks, of their own choosing.

In the war of 1812 the regulars achieved nothing so brilliant as Jackson's victory at New Orleans with the hunters of Tennessee and Kentucky, captured and colonized by men of their own choosing, many of whom could not write their own names.

If democracy is a failure in small organizations, it necessarily follows that it is a worse failure in large ones, and under this we have only a humbug of a country to fight for, and all self-respecting Americans had better let the immaculate powers that be appoint the soldiers as well as officers.

Gen. Walker, Republican, Virginia, said that his experience in the confederate army had taught him that an army that elected its own officers was wholly inefficient. He declared that all men were not brave. While all men would fight if properly disciplined and led, many could not be counted upon in the hour of danger when inefficiently officered.

This Gen. Walker, who, we suppose, was a commissary general, as we never heard of any fighting general of that name in the confederate army, deliberately lies and slanders his old comrades.

Was the confederate army wholly inefficient? It elected its own officers from colonel down. If Grant, or Sherman, or Sheridan, or Thomas, or bluff old Logan, had been present, the rules and etiquette of the house would not have prevented them from giving him the lie in his teeth.

"All men are not brave," very true, but are all appointees? And the appointing power is more likely to choose a coward than the men he has been raised among. Cowards are braggarts. They push themselves forward while modest merit waits to be called on. The Spanish government appoints all the officers of her army, and a few hundred ragged, half-armed Cubans, inspired by the ideal of self-government and democracy, has kept 100,000 of them at bay for over three years.

We wonder how these congressmen expect to ask their constituents to re-elect them this fall? Men destitute of faith in the ballot should not appeal to it.

But perhaps they won't and seek fat places by appointment in the commissary and quartermasters' department. J. T. M'COLGAN. Arcot, Tenn.

A WORD TO SCHILLING.

Having not yet exchanged the mighty pen for the ghastly sword, I will cast a glance at the peaceful mission of Social Democracy. And a peaceful mission it must be, for otherwise we will not succeed. There are hundreds of thousands of liberty loving men, good and true, not yet in our ranks, and of these we must make friends to get them in line, as enemies we never will. Let us therefore extend the hand of fellowship and the heart of fraternal love to the avant guard of Social Democracy, to our Populist brothers, for they have no place where to lay their head.

Comrades of Milwaukee, you have done noble work, but do not judge too rashly. You may tell me that your recent campaign was a local affair. So it was, but my German friend, Robert Schilling, has sent me a copy of his paper, with an article on "Social Democracy of America," under blue pencil, with instruction: "Read this," and I have read. As a result of my careful reading I address the following lines to friend Schilling personally:

You know, perhaps not, that in Pittsburgh there has been for years one of the most unscrupulous gangs of franchise grabbers and political jobbers, under a Republican administration, with the Democratic leaders as silent partners, getting a good share of the spoils. These Democrats all were of the rejuvenated stripe, a la Chicago platform, and will be in 1900—nit—and I bet my old hat against your linen duster that your Milwaukee Dems are an exact prototype, and with such you ask honest men to fuse. Friend Robert, you are hugging Beelzebub to escape the devil.

Let me wind up with a little parable. Read it carefully and then go out into your back yard and console your Teuton brain with a brick wall, and it will either make you a better man, or else you will hang your head in shame and never any more molest decent people.

Here is the parable: Once upon a time there was a great gathering of very wise men, and in their great wisdom they selected the wisest to preside over their deliberations. He was a staunch officeholder, and he had many friends in the great gathering. And he ruled with an iron hand, and none but his friends were permitted to dish out their wisdom, and in this they co-operated and decided that a friend of theirs "of the Platte" should preside over their great nation. But there were also patriots among these wise men. One of them, a scribe from a town on the great lakes, he protested, and jumped on to the platform, and he wanted to make a great speech, and he had blood in his eyes. He said the man from the Platte was not of their faith, and he was a —, but the other wise men would not let him speak any longer. They said he was not wise, and he came back to his seat, and with tears in his eyes wept and raved. It was an outrage he said; he said it was treason, and he went home, and somebody told him that those men that were not so patriotic and not so wise had more butter on their bread, and that was what he wanted, and he became an annex to the dimerats.

WM. S. TUESCHER. Allegheny, Pa.

SOCIALISM AND WOMEN.

Editor Social Democrat—The sentiments expressed in the article on "Woman's Political Enfranchisement" in S. D. of the 21st ult., by J. W. Brown are my sentiments in every particular. I trust the Social Democracy in June next will correct these deficiencies in its declaration of principles, and demand in its platform the political enfranchisement of all women.

Socialism must stand for equal rights for all, or else it is not worthy of success, nor can it be what it proclaims to the world it stands for, freedom, equal rights and privileges.

Socialists can not afford to ignore the enfranchisement of women. E. P. HASSINGER.

A NEW ARGUMENT.

Editor Social Democrat: Although some time has elapsed since the New York papers made themselves conspicuous by their silence when Brother Debs was there, it has struck me more forcibly than ever with Solomon's phrase that "There is nothing new under the sun."

Some one has said that ridicule is the last resource of the man without an argument, but the New York papers have demonstrated the fallacy of that, and under this we have only a humbug of a country to fight for, and all self-respecting Americans had better let the immaculate powers that be appoint the soldiers as well as officers.

It reminds me of James Sheridan Knowles' tragedy of Virginia, where in the fourth act Virginia, leading his daughter, confronts the infamous Appius Claudius and silence greets him on his entrance. Virginia, perceiving this, opens with these words, which we also address to the mouthpieces of plutocracy: "Is silence our opponent? If so, it is a fit opponent to plead a cause too foul for speech."

All over this broad land in our large

cities may be seen men who are grand-sires, and women who are mothers, raise their palsied hands and quivering lips in piteous supplications for enough bread to sustain the flickering light of life within their emaciated bodies, and the response that greets them, silence! "If orators like these cannot move, the heart tongues surely must be dumb,"—or bribed. On the other hand speech never graced a cause more sublime than (ours) Justice. JAMES O'NEAL. Terre Haute, Ind.

MAN VERSUS PROPERTY.

Editor Social Democrat: There is in reality only one kind of capital, and that is mind; in other words, an effect of brain power by which so-called capital is produced. Therefore, the S. D. movement is building upon a real and natural basis, because mind-spirit is the real foundation of life and its issues, and not property. If property, per se, was the true basis, it would follow as a logical sequence that property was greater than man, or true manhood, which no sane man will admit.

It is said "The heathen in his blindness bows down to wood and stone." How does the millionaire who worships the golden calf compare with the other fellow? What does he care if a few lives are sacrificed upon the altar of mammon, when the laws of the land will uphold his property as being greater than a man's soul? W. L. WEST.

A CHANGE OF MASTERS.

Editor Social Democrat—In your issue of April 14 Allen Henry Smith criticizes those who are lukewarm as to Cuba, in which criticism he makes some big mistakes. The Cubans are not fighting for liberty, but for a change of masters. If you talked Socialism to the patriot Cubans they would laugh at you; and as they are certainly not fighting for Socialism they are not fighting for liberty, as there is no liberty without Socialism. New York. JOHN CONWAY.

PAT AND THE MACHINE.

WHAT THE MACHINE SAID TO PAT: Your hand, my part of flesh and blood. 'Tis yours to chew the bitter cud; To wear the yoke and feel the goad And furnish brawn to move the load.

I come to give your kind a lift: Issue of a superhuman gift. Equipped and ready at your call, Designed to help you, one and all.

I come to give your sinews rest: To calm the tumults in your breast: To part the clouds that you may see; In short I come to set you free.

WHAT PAT SAID TO THE MACHINE: Oeh, faith, your guff sounds very funny: Bedad, ye are no friend o' mine, Go tell your story to the boss; He shall take the gain, and I the loss.

How shall I feed my hungry brats, When men are worth no more nor rats? You take my job, you take my bread, And give me no return instead.

'Tis free indeed we are to starve, What freedom will no mate to carve? The dude and others of his frill, They take the crame, and we the swill.

Perhaps you take me for a boss: The baste that shares wid me the loss; He may be glad to hear you spake, His lead, 'tis true, you help to take;

And he receives both stall and feed, While I get nothing that I need: 'Way wid your promises so foine, Bedad, ye are no friend o' mine. —O. H. WILMARTH.

SOCIAL DEMOCRACY NOTES.

Socialism is our nation's hope. The workman who investigates Socialism will work for it. Whoever owns the means whereby we gain a livelihood owns us. Two years more, 1900, will see this country discussing socialism.

One thing is sure—the people are ready to be educated up to Socialism. Comrades, do your duty. Workmen sleep together, eat together, drink together, play together, work together, and then go to the ballot box and vote against each other. Funny, ain't it?

Gold standard bonds, free silver soup, high protection, free trade freedom, chattel slaves and wage slaves. What's the difference?

"Comrades, the very best work you can do is to get subscribers for your paper. Any comrade who is out of work can secure a job working for this paper."

Before the advent of capitalist large production the wealth producers owned three-fourths of all the wealth. Today they own about 10 per cent.

Gladstone says that invention doubles productivity every seven years. But our wages don't double every seven years.

The great department store is the natural result of the competitive system. To fight the effect, as the small merchants are doing in the great cities, is most stupid.

There are thousands of small farmers who will embrace Socialism just as soon as a clear presentation of Socialistic facts are made to them.

If you are a Socialist, act so, say so. Don't be afraid to be known as a Socialist. It is something to be proud of.

So you think the people are not ready for Socialism, well, that is quite funny. Think it over a minute. If the people were ready for Socialism, we wouldn't have any more hard work to do. We are fighting to educate the people to Socialism, and we ask you to help us. You admit that Socialism is a good thing. The thing to do, then, is to organize a branch of the Social Democracy. F. G. R. GORDON.

THE SPECTATOR.

The Spectator is a neat appearing weekly, with a very decided leaning toward Socialism, published at Santa Cruz, Cal. E. W. Netherton is editor and proprietor. He has secured the services of some very able assistants, and the Spectator is filled with excellent matter. This month will be begun a series of articles on mental science by Dr. G. W. Carey. These articles will be of absorbing interest and will well repay perusal. The price of the Spectator is \$1 a year. Address the publisher.

Place economy among the first and most important of republican virtues, and public debt as the greatest of dangers to be feared.—Jefferson.

THE CO-OPOLITAN.

A New Novel of the "Looking Backward" Type Which is Well Worth Reading. "The Co-opolitan" is a new and epoch-making book recently issued from the press of Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

It is a book which will be read by thousands of persons in this country and abroad. It is of particular interest to students of political economy as well as to the average reader. It is narrative in form, and unlike most of the novels of the "Looking Backward" type, it deals with the transition period and the methods of accomplishing the change from our present social state to the new order of justice, equality and fraternity.

Underneath the narrative form are considered questions which are of grave importance. The English and German political economists and social economists who study, as did De Toqueville, will find in this book fundamental questions related to our constitutional form of government treated in a comprehensive and masterly manner.

It should be translated into as many languages as was "Looking Backward," and should have as wide a sale. It will give those socialists who believe only in political action, and see no effectiveness in the economic colonization work of the Social Democracy, some pretty hard questions to grapple with, and much food for thought.

The story of the book is that of a number of persons in Chicago who form an industrial co-operative association. They obtain lands in the state of Idaho under collective ownership and operate them upon the principle of co-operative labor, thereby amassing great wealth.

The members of the co-opolitan association finally secure entire political control as socialists of the state of Idaho. They elect as governor the president of their association, and an overwhelming majority of both houses of the legislature is also secured.

They put in their own department stores in all the cities. An excessive bonded debt having been incurred on Boise City by the boodle politicians of former times, it was decided to let the bondholders foreclose and take the city, which was then in a new Boise City, which was built on scientific plans and architecture on collective lands outside the corporate limits of the old city.

This bold move, which showed a comprehension of our present system, struck dismay to the hearts of the bondholders, while the people who had moved to the new city rejoiced in their more beautiful and comfortable homes and absence of taxation.

A syndicate of London capitalists bought up these bonds secretly and at a low figure and sent a very nice gentleman as an agent to Idaho to induce the Co-opolitans to pay these bonds at par.

He prated much of justice and equity and contributed liberally to the churches, and finally was successful in inducing the leading preacher of the state, a man of great eloquence and conscientiousness, to take up the cause of the bondholders.

The whole question was fought out at a general election, at which the first president of the Co-opolitans, then a United States senator, exploded a bombshell by proving the benevolent gentleman from England, who had started this agitation, to be the smooth agent of the bondholders. Thereupon the preacher collapsed and vowed never to meddle in politics any more, which promise he kept.

There is one significant feature which this book brings out, and that is that it was found necessary after the Socialists got political control of the state of Idaho to keep their Co-opolitan Association to handle all economic matters. The state could not and can not under the present constitution of the United States do many things industrially which an individual corporation or association may do. He shows, and cites the constitution to prove, that no state may issue or emit bills of credit, while an individual or corporation is permitted so to do.

One state can not go into another state and operate a railroad therein, although individuals may organize a corporation within the limits of one state and operate within the limits of another.

There are many other constitutional and legal points brought out in this book which are of the gravest importance, especially to Socialists. It can be said without violating confidence that the writer, who conceals his identity under the nom de plume of Zebina Forbush, is one of the leading lawyers of the northwest.

Another feature of the book is worthy of note. It shows how, after the first few years had passed, and the full productiveness of their associated labors began to be realized, the competitive system gave way whenever they came in conflict with it.

The author recognizes the competitive struggle as warfare in which the weapons employed are the tools and instruments of production instead of sword and cutlass or shot and shell. An unarmed soldier is worse than useless, since he consumes his rations without rendering any service.

The greatest of all the questions of the present day, as shown in this book, is how shall we rearm the disinherited—how to put into their hands the economic weapons which will gain for them bread of life. Some persons tell us it must be done by force. But something more than force is needed. The Paris Commune overturned the old, but the people were not able to found new institutions on a just and enduring basis.

Some tell us that the change will be brought about by political methods—by majority rule. But economic conditions create and control majorities.

Some look wise, talk learnedly (?) of evolution, denounce co-operative industries or colonies as Utopian, "unscientific" and impracticable, point out the numerous failures of the past and pretend to quote Karl Marx, who, all agree, was one of the greatest exponents of Socialism.

The position of these "scientific" Socialists in effect is that none of the revolutionary army is to be armed with economic weapons until all can be.

The author of "The Co-opolitan" evidently believes in evolution, too. He is not, however, daunted by past failure, doubtless predicating that every success in the history of mankind has been preceded by many failures. Nor does he seem to be greatly overawed by the alleged opinion of Karl Marx, who, however great as a thinker, never witnessed any such conditions as exist in the United States today.

Besides, it was Marx himself who declared that the basis of all revolutions is economic, and that economic conditions control all others. If he was right in this, how futile all attempts must be to transfer the battle ground to the political arena alone, or to appeal to force while economically unarmed.

Our author evidently believes that even a few armed men are better than no soldiers. One thousand men equipped with the tools of industry can assist in arming another thousand and these two thousand yet another two thousand, and so on until all shall be clothed in the armor of economic security, and so the co-operative colony becomes the nucleus around which the future co-operative commonwealth shall be formed.

The position of the author in this respect appears to be greatly strengthened by the fact, admitted by all, that force of any kind, by a natural law, moves along the lines of least resistance. It would seem almost self-evident that the line of least resistance between wage-slavery and economic equality is along the line of co-operative effort applied to the natural resources of the earth. Certain it is that by this course we can gain the assistance and well wishes of millions who would bitterly oppose us if we were to postpone all effort to secure the tools of industry until we were to try and "take" all in a manner that, to the average man, would seem like a piece of rank injustice.

After a few years of co-operative industry has demonstrated the superiority of that system, millions of men will willingly surrender so-called individual rights, that, until then, they would struggle to the last to maintain.

One feels after having read the book that the way to co-operate is to co-operate, and that it would be a crime not to begin an immediate crusade to recover the tools and instruments of production, without which we are as an unarmed host in the presence of an army of veterans equipped with all the arms and munitions of war.

The price of the book is only 25 cents (in paper covers), and we should be pleased to take orders for the same at this office. It would make a valuable propaganda work for our comrades who are interested in civilization, and we hope every one of such comrades will get a copy and read it.

The Amalgamated Association of Clothing Cutters and Trimmers of New York passed a resolution declaring that all those members who may enlist for the war will be exempt from the payment of dues during their continuance and also providing that benefits shall be paid to the widows of all those who may be killed. The custom tailors passed similar resolutions and so also did the patternmakers.

NOTE.—Five or more persons may apply for a charter. The admission fee is 25 cents per member and the dues 15 cents per month, for which each member receives a copy of the official paper.

Cut out this Application, and after filling out, send to SYLVESTER KELNER, SECRETARY SOCIAL DEMOCRACY, 504 TRUDE BUILDING, CHICAGO.

Children's Column

Address Communications to Ella Reeve Ware, 357 Deane St., Brooklyn. THE MAYFLOWERS. Sad Mayflower watched by winter stars, And nursed by winter gales, With petals of the frozen spars, And leaves of frozen sleet.

What had she in those dreary hours, Within her ice-rimmed bay, In common with the wild-wind flowers, The first sweet smiles of May?

Yet, "God be praised," the pilgrim said, Who saw the blossoms peer Above the brown leaves dry and dead, "Behold, our Mayflower here." —Whittier's Poem.

Here is a story written for our column by a little girl twelve years old.

THE MAYFLOWER.

Long ago, when the Puritans were crossing the bleak Atlantic in the good old ship, the Mayflower, they little thought of the hardships they would have to endure after reaching the shores of their future home.

After crossing the Atlantic they landed on the rocky northeast coast of America. Here they built a village or colony of huts, for they could hardly be called houses, so rough looking were they; and through the long cold winter they endured the great hardships with such patience as only good old Puritans could.

In April they planted the few seeds which they had brought with them, and then came a heavy snow-storm and cold weather, which killed the seeds. Oh, what a terrible time they had without bread! If it had not been for the friendly Indians they would all have died.

The next spring they did better, but we are talking of their first spring in this country. One day as the weary men were walking home from work they discovered a beautiful pink and white flower. They took it home and named it the Mayflower after their good ship.

This is why the beautiful and delicate trailing arbutus is sometimes called the Mayflower. GRACE WARE, Brooklyn.

Ella Reeve Ware, Dear Madam: I am a boy nine years old and expect I am a Socialist. My mamma and papa are both Socialists. Mamma says if we had Socialism that she would not be compelled to be nurse, cook and chambermaid. I think it would be enough for her to be a mother for me and my three brothers. Papa has a whole library of Socialist books. He makes Socialist speeches on Sunday. He says that if every able person worked with each other three or four hours a day that everybody could have all the good things they need. My mamma works ten or twelve hours each day, and papa ten hours each day, and we want a new horse and buggy so bad and cannot get it. If we could trade twenty hours for eight hours work and a nice horse and buggy to boot by getting Socialism I think it is worth working for.

LELAND LIPSCOMB.

I think Leland has a pretty clear idea of the true meaning of Socialism. Don't you?

MAY BASKETS.

Did you ever hear of the old custom of hanging May baskets on the doors of friends' houses on the morning of the first day of May? The children used to make pretty baskets and fill them with flowers and presents and surprise each other, and the "surprises" were ever so much nicer than April fool jokes.

Little Sammy Reid lived in the country near an old New England village, he walked over four miles each day to school, but he was so anxious to learn he didn't mind that a bit. He heard the children talking about their May baskets and the boys showed him some of their little sisters and other girls. One boy had a cute rabbit hidden away which he was going to fix a nest for of soft grass, in a square basket he had made himself, and the boy laughed over the surprise it would be for his sister when she opened the door on May day morning and saw something alive peeping out of her basket.

Sammy wondered what he would do to please his little sister at home. She was such a loving, happy child they all loved her and Sammy wished so hard that he could make her something very pretty, but the farm they lived on was old and poor, and they had a hard time just to get enough to eat and wear—pretty things were very scarce in that home. Sammy asked his mother what he'd better do, and she wished she could get them both a beautiful May basket, but she couldn't think of a single thing except flowers, and they are scarce in New England, so early in the spring. She told him how he might weave a basket from some reeds which grew by the river. Sammy was glad to know this, for he was afraid he couldn't even get the basket.

The night before the first of May he was out in the old barn looking for eggs, still thinking about Polly's May basket, when all at once he heard a faint squeaking noise, and after hunting all around he found deep down in an old barrel two of the prettiest kittens about two weeks old. Their mother had made their home for them, so when he saw them, for they would make Polly happier than anything else he could possibly give her.

Paradise Found

BY RUDOLPH LEONHART, A. M.

Author of "THE WILD ROSE OF THE BEAVER," "TONGUQA," THROUGH BLOOD AND IRON," "THE CHILDREN OF THE OUTLAW," "THE TREASURE OF MONTEZUMA," "DOLORS," "EITHER, OR," "ATONEMENT," "BRIDGING THE CHASM," ETC.

CHAPTER XVI. A MIGHTY BATTLE.

You know the fable of Hercules, I suppose? Well, when he was quite young, he came to the forks of a road, and didn't know which one to take. Here too, we have to deal with a giant, a multi-pedestrian, i. e., many-legged one, who has reached the forks of his destiny. Does he know which road to take? Time will show, for he must make his selection just one month hence. There are plenty of advisers offering their counsel and backing the same with money, arguments, threats, intimidation and the many other motors known as effective on such occasions. Again the Pitts and Foxes of the country are on hand. Again the nabobs of Gold street are in the arena, dragging their purses and coffers after them to quicken the intelligence of the voter.

A year ago, it was merely formation; now it is realization, employment. A year ago the nabobs came in disguise; this time they appear in all their glory.

Entire suites in the Golden Swan in Gloria have been engaged, and gentlemen and ladies clad in broadcloth and brocade and bewilded dress parade the porches and piazzas or ride in gorgeous carriages drawn by gaily caparisoned horses and driven by liveried servants.

Amongst these men are Caesar and Crassus, and amongst the ladies, Aurelia and Regina. Nor do these aristocrats confine their operation to Gloria. On the contrary, they let their light shine all over the state, expecting perhaps to dazzle in this way the people into obedience to their wishes.

Caesar and Crassus keep close company in these trips which sometimes land them in wild places far from their liking, and frequently more accidental than designed. The worst mistake in this line, however, is undoubtedly the visit paid to the reserve of the Good-faithists.

The friends had perhaps heard of the noble red man, the pattern of savage chivalry, the embodiment of innate virtue, the champions of horsemanship and the possessors of grace.

At all events their carriage entered the reservation about a week after the arrival of the occupants in Arcadia, two servants being the sole protectors at their disposal.

The reader may readily imagine what a sensation their arrival created in the camp. Young and old, male and female, flocked about the carriage, and very soon everything not absolutely fast and secure disappeared from the sight of the astonished guests. Seeing that attempts to appropriate the remainder of the outfit would be next in order, they ordered their servants to depart without delay; but they might have found some difficulty in making their exit, if suddenly a white man had not pushed the forward sons of the forest aside, and in a measure liberated the visitors.

"This ain't the Golden Swan, gents," he remarked with a coarse laugh. "It is a good thing that I came in time to stop these sassy critters, or you might have been compelled to foot it back to the railway."

"I am sure we are much obliged to you, sir," replied Crassus. "Won't you please accept this token of my gratitude? Perhaps you will be kind enough to confine your guardianship until we are out of the reach of these fellows."

Saying this, he handed the man a five-dollar bill, which the latter took, saying: "Wall, I don't care if I do, considerin' you owe me a little bill of old."

"What do you mean?"

"Well, I reckon I'll have to freshen your memory a leetle. Don't you know Jim Sneak, as had the pleasure of makin' your acquaintance in Plutopolis a couple of years ago?"

A light of recognition now flashed from Ego's eyes, but the emotion accompanying it did not appear to be of a very joyous nature, for his brow darkened, as he replied: "Ah, it is you, is it? I wouldn't have recognized you, if you hadn't told me. However, I recollect at the same time, that a certain foolish trick of yours came very near implicating me in a very unpleasant manner. You have done us a good turn, however, so we'll call it quits. Will you now have the goodness to conduct us from this den of vagabonds?"

"Be careful, mister; for some of them redskins understand English. I'll jist git my horse, and then we'll de-camp."

Sneak disappeared, but returned five minutes later on horseback, and with his assistance the travelers managed to make their departure without further mishap. Sneak accompanied them several miles. Then he stopped and said to Crassus: "May I ask for a few words in private, sir? 'Tis on a very important matter."

Ego hesitated a moment, but fearing that the spy would speak before the servants, if he refused, he reluctantly stepped from the carriage, walked a short distance and then said, turning to Sneak: "Well, what is it? Make quick work of it, for we have no time to lose."

"I'll be as short as I can," retorted the other. "I suppose you know that the commission you gave me a couple of years ago came nigh putting a rope around my neck?"

"I did not commission you to commit wholesale murder, sir," retorted the banker.

"Well, not in so many words; but you sartainly made some broad hints, as might have been taken that way."

"Well, not discuss that point. What is it can do for you now?"

"Give me the means to cut sticks. If I am captured I might be tempted to implicate a certain big bug from Plutopolis."

but he felt that the ruffian only spoke the truth, and that his confession would implicate him in a manner far from desirable. So he strove to control his impatience and disgust and merely said:

"I am on a visit here, and not in condition to respond to your demand. This is all I can spare at present, but if you really want to leave the country,—and I think myself, that such a course would be wise,—come to Plutopolis and call on me, prudently, of course, for I want no fuss, recollect, and I shall see what I can do for you."

He turned abruptly, being plainly anxious to cut short a very unsavory interview. Entering the carriage, he uttered the word of command, and the two nabobs sped on their way, glad to regain the more densely settled part of the state, and with it a feeling of safety and security.

The election: What a glorious chance to cover ourselves with immortal fame! Now we could report the bets on the issue, now the speeches pro and con. Now we might enlarge on the merits of the question, and now denounce the depravity of the various parties trying to influence the election. If we resist this temptation, if we content ourselves with the declaration that the Waterloo for the reactionary element was even more decisive than that of the year before, we trust that the reader will not begrudge us his unconditional approbation, and accord us his unstinted praise.

CHAPTER XVII. CLEARING THE ROAD.

Great was the joy of the reformers, of all lovers of liberty, of all advocates of progress over the victory won. It assumed, however, more the character of intoxication, of deep, but silent rapture than noisy enthusiasm and more noisy demonstrations. The vexation of the defeated insignificant minority was even more silent. Here and there one could observe the putting of a few heads together, and the ominous shaking of some of them in prophetic warning of the unavoidable collapse of law and order, but these prophecies rarely took the shape of words, and even the reactionary press was guarded in its expressions of regret and condemnation. Expectation was the main current of sentiment, and even the most radical supporters of the new order of things were full of this feeling.

How could it work? What obstacles would the enemies of reform throw in the way to thwart its purpose and frustrate its designs? That such attempts would be made was the universal opinion, and the probability that such attempts would be made in the garb of law and order, gave the expectations a tinge of apprehension.

Augustus Progress, who had been elected governor of Arcadia, lost no time in setting the new machinery in motion. The new constitution provided for a board of three commissioners, charged with the delicate office of bridging over the cleft between the old and new, and the governor at once called upon these commissioners, who had been chosen at the election, to convene without delay in Gloria, to enter upon their work. Hugh Jean Teps and John Smith, alias Paul Blank were two of these commissioners, and no sooner had they received the summons alluded to than they started for the capital. They chose the Golden Swan for a temporary abode and when they traversed the hall, on their way to their room, a strange thing occurred, which deserves a minute mention.

Two ladies were descending the broad stairway mediating access to the second floor, and reached the last steps just as the two commissioners began to ascend them.

Suddenly one of the ladies uttered a low cry of surprise, then stopped and extending her hand to Paul, exclaimed: "Why, Mr. Zitroy, is it possible! What a surprise!"

Paul was in a dilemma, and saw no way out of it, so he made a virtue of necessity, seized the proffered hand, and said, gallantly: "I trust it is a pleasant one, Mrs. Croesus."

"How could it be otherwise? Aurelia! Aurelia! Don't be in such a desperate hurry! Don't you know your own cousin? Here is Paul Zitroy."

These words caused Regina's companion—for it was indeed Caesar's wife who had stopped Paul—to turn, and now Hugh saw a face which appeared familiar to him, the most beautiful face he had in his opinion, of course, ever seen in the world.

Aurelia at once saw that she, too, was in it, but the recognition of this fact certainly failed to embarrass her. On the contrary, a gleam of mischief flashed from her beautiful eyes, as she turned and said, gaily, extending her hand to her cousin: "Well, this is a surprise. How do you do, cousin? Bound for a spree?"

A minute before Hugh's eyes had had a feast. Now it was his ears which revelled in ecstasy. Was it possible! Did his sense of hearing deceive him, or did he really hear that melodious voice, that silvery laugh which had long since become the sweetest music in the world for him?

He had no time to arrange his confused thoughts, for now Paul said in reply to the girl's question: "On a business bum, yes, cousin; but, ladies, permit me to introduce to you an intimate friend of mine, Mr. Hugh Jean Teps. Hugh, this is Mrs. Caesar Croesus, and this my cousin, Miss Aurelia Croesus."

Hugh was so nonplussed that he would have restricted his acknowledgments to the mere raising of his hat and a respectful bow, if Aurelia had allowed him. She made a step forward, extended her hand, and said, merrily: "Glad to meet you, Mr. Teps. Your fame as an agitator has reached even

our aristocratic mansion. However, you are far from being a stranger to me, for a forty-eighth cousin of mine, Mrs. Sarah Jane Smith, has told me all about you."

By this time Hugh had regained his self-possession.

"Also of my inclination to idolatry?" he asked, with a smile.

"Oh, yes, of course, and about many other serious sins of yours. When I met her last, she requested me earnestly to step into her footsteps, in case I met you, and administer the lectures she found absolutely necessary. But here are Caesar and Mr. Ego. Brother, this is Mr. Hugh Jean Teps, the terrible anarchist. Mr. Teps, this is Mr. Crassus Ego of Pluto street fame. They say he can change lead into gold by merely touching it."

The newcomers merely raised their hats in token of acknowledgment, but while Caesar restricted himself to cold indifference, Crassus allowed a vague suspicion to occupy his mind, probably engendered by the open glances of admiration with which Hugh's eyes dwelt, nay, feasted, upon the beautiful features of Aurelia, who, on her part, certainly showed an increased animation, and looked at the agitator so very differently from what she did at him; in other words, in a manner which he would have given millions to have exercised upon himself.

He did not say anything about it to his friend, but Caesar certainly discovered an absent-mindedness quite foreign to the usual alertness of his associate.

That very evening, Crassus Ego proposed in due form to the idol of his heart, or, more correctly, to the possessor of the idol he worshipped with so much fervor, i. e., gold. We need hardly add that he received a polite, but irrevocable, refusal.

From that day Crassus Ego was a changed man. He avoided the gay company with which he had arrived, and three or four days later announced his intention of returning to Plutopolis, where, he said, urgent business required his attention.

We know that the reader does not like him any better than we; yet we must insist upon accompanying him to Fairville, where he leaves the train, hires a rig, and drives unaccompanied to the reservation of the Good-faithists, where his second visit excites again some agitation, though not so pronounced as the first.

He inquires for Mr. Sneak, and soon stands face to face with the spy.

"Get in, sir," Ego says, tersely. "I wish to talk with you."

The other obeys, slightly uncertain what to make of his patron.

"I was jist gettin' ready to call on you at Gloria," he says, as they roll away from the reservation. "But it would have been a risky business, the police being very anxious to make my acquaintance. So I am real glad you saved me the trip. Can I do anything for you?"

"For me? Not that I know of," replied Ego, looking nervously about, as if afraid of being overheard. "Not that I know of; but you certainly can do something for yourself. You told me the other day that you desired to expatriate yourself. Well, I stopped here on my way home to offer my assistance. To leave the country you need money, and I will give you a chance of earning it. You know of a certain leader of a certain movement obnoxious to my taste?"

"I think I do, Mr. —"

"Sh! No names, if you please. The leaves of these trees have ears to catch secrets, and tongues, too, when it comes to whispering them."

"All right, boss. You mean Hugh —"

"Didn't I tell you not to mention names, you —" Ego prudently swallowed the epithet.

"Now listen one moment," he continued, stopping the horse and eyeing his companion keenly and ferociously. "The day you bring me the unmistakable proof and evidence of that man's death, I'll give you the round sum of one hundred thousand dollars in gold or a draft upon any foreign land you may desire. Do you understand me?"

"I reckon I do," replied Sneak, with a nod and a grin.

"Then get out, if you please. I trust we shall meet at an early date. Good-bye."

COLONIZATION DEPARTMENT

CYRUS FIELD WILLARD, EDITOR. COLONIZATION COMMISSION — COL. RICHARD J. HINTON, Chairman. W. P. BORLAND, Treasurer. CYRUS FIELD WILLARD, Secretary.

REPORT OF RECEIPTS. Am't previously acknowledged, \$2,289.38. H. Schwandt, 10. Friend, Colo., 20.00. Ell Shore, 1.00. J. Hoefler, Branch 1 of N. J., 2.75. Friend, Mo., 1.00. Friend, Branch 10 of Illinois, 1.00. Annie Lane, 10. Lella B. Johnstone, 10. Friend, Conn., 50. F. L. Soper, Branch 3 of N. H., 1.00. Total, \$2,317.66. W. P. BORLAND, Treasurer.

NOT IN KANSAS.

There seems to have been some misapprehension in the minds of some of our members.

In spite of an express statement that the commission had deemed it advisable for the legal holding of land to incorporate under the laws of Kansas, some members have understood that we were to locate the first colony in Kansas.

This is not the case. It was decided that under the present competitive system, it was necessary to have some legal entity to hold the title of the land and property which might be acquired.

Under our present system the land could not be held by individuals except as partners, and as the Social Democracy of America is not incorporated it would be simply regarded as an association of individuals acting as partners.

The collective ownership of the land and machinery of production and distribution was a necessary factor to be observed. This is preserved in the corporation form and we simply take the corporation form and extend it to its logical conclusion so as to include all.

The collective ownership is preserved by not issuing any stock to individuals, but by placing all the stock in the hands of trustees composed of the members of the National Executive Board and Colonization Commission of the S. D. of A., and representing the collectivity of that organization.

It is proposed to issue bonds of a small denomination at a low rate of interest and sell the same to our members and to others who are desirous of seeing the Co-operative Commonwealth established.

The reason why Kansas was selected as the state to incorporate in was because its laws were more beneficial to such an enterprise than any other state.

Its courts are more sympathetic to Socialist ideas than are those in other states. Its chief justice and, in fact, the majority of the supreme court of that state avow themselves to be Socialists, while the executive and legislative branches are much more favorable toward Socialist ideas than those of any other state.

The corporation so organized has broad and sufficient powers to locate colonies in any of the states and in some of the states, a company organized in another state receives more favorable consideration.

Colonies will sooner or later be established in Tennessee, Washington and Colorado, as parts of a great plan in which the strategic importance of all the states outside the plutocratic states have been duly considered. Idaho and Kansas may be added later.

It makes no difference which state is selected first. The main purpose of concentrating Socialists in sparsely settled states will not be abandoned even if we should start in Tennessee as a beginning.

Our members should bear in mind that we have full reports on all the various sections of the country, and possess sources of information superior to any one person in the organization.

When the decision is finally made our reasons for so doing will be fully and carefully placed before our membership.

From all over the country come words of commendation for our course in keeping our plans secret until the time was ripe to place them before our membership. Open and secret attacks have been made not only by capitalist influences, but also by those masquerading under the name of Socialists.

It has therefore, been necessary to refrain from saying too much until the title deeds of the land we have under consideration are placed in trust for our benefit. When this is done our members shall know all.

It may sharpen the intellect, but while "it puts him on, it takes him off."

We had as well license opium dens as whiskey dens—free love as free liquor.

The harém could be made as bewitching to the libidinous as the saloon is enchanting to the bibulous.

We produce things for use; but for a good use. We should not produce men and women for the seraglio; nor whiskey and brandy for the saloon. The treating habit is vicious and promotes drunkenness.

The person of independent will, if such person should be sensitive, would be about the first to get drunk to show such independence.

I don't see any wrong in sumptuary laws when they relate to the whole people, as they should be intended to regulate the cost of living, only in the abstract, to prevent willful or unavoidable waste. I think people have this confounded with feudalism.

If sumptuary laws are wrong, restraining laws, or laws of regulation, are right.

It is no more sumptuary to refuse to foster drunkenness by liquor drinking than by opium smoking.

Many would prefer freedom of love to freedom of drink. They are two evils. They are promoters of each other, and the two together promote indigence and death.

"Headstrong liberty is lashed with woe, There's nothing sadder under heaven's sky."

Dear Comrade: The last Democrat at hand. In it I find many good things to consider. You ask how shall the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors be handled. I would say for one, not at all. I have been a total abstainer for thirty-four years and have suffered no evil consequence therefrom. No, do not destroy any of the food products of earth, that God designed to save life, to distill beverages that destroy life and create more misery than anything that ever befell the human race.

Dear Comrade: At the regular meeting of Branch 13 last Sunday we elected one of our members, Orlean McComb, to be our pioneer in the colony. He is a young man, carpenter by trade, sound and healthy, a thorough Socialist and an uncompromising advocate of co-operation.

More I cannot say (I would if I could). I might say right here that every one of our members is a mechanic of some sort. We have carpenters, stone workers, metal workers, a practical gardener who is well founded in Botany and one of our boys is local superintendent of one of Ohio's best insurance companies. I, myself, am a shoemaker and we have a cigarmaker, so you see we are pretty well hooked up. We have dropped some members, but in every case it was for the good of the branch. Of course every one of us is anxious for colonization news, but we are not grumbling. We fully realize the magnitude of your task and there is not one here who would not be better satisfied to wait another year than to make a false start now. Toledo is a very hard town to work in—everything is saturated with the rankest kind of politics and any new party is supposed to be tarred with the same stick, but just wait until we get something definite to go on and we will certainly make Toledo howl for Socialism of the right kind, but they are all in one branch and it seems to be very hard to get any of them to attend the other branch meetings. Fraternally, ROBERT CLARK.

Dear Comrade: I am much pleased with the action taken by the Colonization Commission and am truly gratified that they have kept secret their plans until such time as they have their plans all complete, so that monopoly, our enemy, could not get in and break up our plans, which they will try to do.

I wish that I could help in the call for \$10, but it is impossible at this time, but I have a plan for keeping the commission, which I will unfold to you later. Fraternally yours, G. N. THOMPSON, Santa Paula, Cal.

I should rather write a poem On the homeless Prince of Peace, Than be author of Time's epic Which enshrines embattled Greece. I should rather now be able To observe the Golden Rule Than be Fame's warred soldier Fledgling in West Point's gory school.

I should rather do the bidding Of the ethics Christ laid down In His sermon on the mount, Than reduce Havana town; For I hear the wall of sorrow In the wake of war's red torch, And I see want's starving orphans Beneath famine's fever-scorch.

Lo! I hear the wail of widows For the death of their loved ones, I behold grief-stricken mothers Weep their sacrificial sons; On the altar of War's Moloch, Their own avices is not quenched, Though the blood of slaughtered heroes Has Cuban valleys drenched.

O'er from earth Greece's rapine banish, Bid War's crimson standard cease; Quick! recall the Gallian, And inaugurate His peace; Then the world will smile in plenty, And the widow sing for joy, Even the mother's heart be happy, When she thinks of her dead boy.

I should rather wield a ballot To repel the war god, Mars, Be a helper in Right's forces, Than to loiter among the "stars," Red with carnage, where the ages Find a climax in our day, To defeat the ends of Justice; But let come the S. D. A., R. FLETCHER GRAY, M. D., Warsaw, Ill.

Tom Mann, the English Socialist and labor organizer, has been in Spain and France lately organizing international labor unions. From the latter country he had been expelled on a former visit under penalty of imprisonment if caught again; but despite that he succeeded in doing work in several French seaports.

Municipal elections recently held in Copenhagen, Denmark, resulted in a victory for the radicals and Socialists who control 21 of a total of 36 seats in the city council. The Socialists have 9 of the 21 seats of the radical majority.

The drinking habit may not be an entirely unmixt evil, but its bad results transcend any good it may do, far too much to call to our aid Neal Dow and the Bible to portray them.

Alcohol is required in the human system, but may be supplied by food; an abundance and variety being necessary to this end. We also need alcohol after succumbing from fevers, drowning, for young children and other sicknesses, and accidents. Therefore, we should manufacture alcohol and sell it for medicine, but not liquor, and sell it as a beverage.

Liquor is insidious in its lurkings among the convulsions of the brain. And it's the unsuspecting, good-natured, liberal-minded and intellectual that it unwill; not the unfair, bad-natured, sordid-minded and mediocre. Those worn with care of it had better beware, too.

The drinking of intoxicants breeds failure. A successful robbery no more than a successful preventing of it can be accomplished with it.

BOOKS.... YOU SHOULD READ.

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CHICAGO, MAY 5, 1898.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION Expires with Number on your Label. This number is 54 NO PAPER SENT ON CREDIT.

LIST OF SOLICITORS. James Osterling, Pullman, Ill. E. L. Harris, West Superior, Wis. W. K. Gordon, St. Louis. James Sheldon Ingalls, Chicago, Ill. M. E. Kleiminger, Chicago, Ill.

PROPAGANDA FUND. Two hundred contributions of ten dollars each are called for under this head, for the purpose of putting organizers in the field, and distributing literature, to extend the scope and influence of the work of the Social Democracy.

War is just as good as free silver to raise prices. Send in a few subscribers to the Social Democrat.

'Merrie England' and 'Three in One,' send for them both.

ARE YOU A PATRIOT? Organize a branch of the Social Democracy.

The true course of the evolution of trades unionism is toward Socialism.

The 'man on horseback' looms up darkly out of the present war situation.

Your country needs your services, not to fight for Cuba, but for humanity at large.

The way to get rid of the evils of the trust is to make the trust a public function.

All monopolies are natural; they are the legitimate offspring of competition.

When Social Democracy takes control of governmental affairs war will be impossible.

War means more debt, more misery, a tighter hold of capitalism on the conditions of existence.

The scientific way to gain industrial freedom is by making full use of political freedom.

Our last edition of 'Merrie England' is a gem. Send for one hundred copies and go to work.

Increase the circulation of The Social Democrat; that is the best service you can do for your country.

Rent interest and profit are three robbers of labor which must be abolished before man can be free.

There should be no flinching in this time of trial, but united and determined we should march on to victory.

Enlist under the banner of Social Democracy; it will give you, not thirteen dollars a month, but all you make.

Another member added to your branch is another step towards the conquest of the country for Socialism.

Democracy in industry is the complement of political Democracy. The one cannot truly exist without the other.

The war scare should not divert the energies of Social Democrats from the pressing business of Socialist propaganda.

The convention is almost upon us. Don't forget your duty to the organization; see that your branch is well represented.

Send for literature and keep the ball rolling; the Spanish war will soon be over, and the industrial war will again forge to the front.

interesting than war news in the very near future.

Single taxers want economic rent to be absorbed by society. So do we; but we go a step further and say that monopoly rent should be absorbed by society also.

Our battle cry, 'Proletarians of the world, unite!' should not be drowned by the shibboleth, 'Cuba Libre.' Let the good work of emancipation go on, and keep your eye ever on the main chance.

The military excitement now pervading the country should not blind Social Democrats to the necessity for keeping up a persistent agitation for Socialism. The propaganda work of the Social Democracy must not be neglected, and our members should not forget their duty.

Notices of several May-day meetings were received too late for insertion in last week's issue. Comrades should remember that we go to press on Tuesday, and copy should reach this office not later than Sunday to insure its insertion in the issue of the current week.

A May day celebration was held at Puritan hall, 995 Washington street, Boston, on Sunday, May 1, at 8 p. m. The address was delivered by Charles H. Matchett, S. L. P., candidate for president in 1896. There was singing by the Scandinavian Social Democratic club chorus. An admission fee of 10 cents was charged to defray expenses.

Comrade F. G. R. Gordon addressed a May day meeting on Boston Common. The meeting was under the auspices of the City Central Committee of Boston. Another meeting at the same place will be held from 3 to 5 p. m. on May 8th, during the progress of the Massachusetts state convention. It will be addressed by Comrades Carey and Gordon.

The grievance of the metal polishers against the Lozier Manufacturing Company, which has been in existence for over seven months, has been satisfactorily adjusted, and the boycott against the bicycles made by that company has been removed. President Lynch of the Metal Polishers' Union has issued an official circular announcing the settlement of the grievance and the removal of the boycott.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE UNION. The Massachusetts States Union will meet on Sunday, May 8, 1898, at 10 a. m., at Homestead hall, 724 Washington street, corner of Kneeland, Boston. It is earnestly hoped that every branch in Massachusetts will be represented. MARGARET HAILE, Secretary.

NEWS FROM SEATTLE. Local Branch No. 3 of Seattle is forging to the front. Most of the members and many outsiders are taking an active interest.

A very interesting meeting was held April 26. Comrade McKernan was the speaker of the evening and delivered one of the fine, searching addresses for which he is noted on the principles of Social Democracy. The evening was enlivened by the reading of a poem by the author, Dr. P. W. Vail, and a fute solo by A. G. Burns. SECRETARY BRANCH 3.

ST. LOUIS MEETINGS. Our St. Louis comrades are holding very interesting meetings every Friday evening at the hall of Branch No. 1, 1223 North Broadway. The speakers and subjects for the month of May are as follows: Friday, May 6, John F. Lloyd; subject, 'How Can We Organize the Tolders for the Social Democracy?'

May 13, Harry Vrooman; subject, 'Christian Socialism.'

May 20, Albert E. Sanderson; subject, 'The Mission of Social Democracy.'

May 27, Dr. Shattinger; subject, 'The Colonization Plan of the Social Democracy.'

The comrades extend a general invitation to the public to be present at these meetings, and invite questions from the audience. The meetings are called to order promptly at 8 p. m.

MILWAUKEE NOTES. Milwaukee, May 1.—Paul Grottkau is in Buffalo, N. Y., today, where he makes the May day address. Anton Palm, Social Democrat, made the German address at the celebration here today under the auspices of the Federated Trades council. Before returning to Wisconsin for organizing work Mr. Grottkau will speak at Cleveland.

On Tuesday last Paul Grottkau addressed a meeting of brewery workmen out in the Menominee Valley end of town, and a temporary branch was organized. Another meeting will be held in a few days for permanent organization, when a charter will be applied for. The meeting Tuesday evening was held at Trost's hall, and it is expected that the new branch will have a charter membership of about eighteen.

Branch No. 1 held its annual election on Friday evening and chose the following officers: Theodore Zander, chairman; Joseph Buechal, vice chairman; Eugene H. Rooney, secretary; Edward Ziegler, treasurer; and David White, organizer. During the summer months the branch will return to the original plan of holding two meetings a month. HEATH.

LECTURE AT TERRE HAUTE. Comrade Debs will deliver a lecture at the Grand Opera House, Terre Haute, Ind., Tuesday evening, May 31, under the auspices of the Central Labor Union. The subject will be 'The Coming Nation.' A general admission fee of 25 cents will be charged, and 50 cents for reserved seats, and the proceeds will go to the library fund of the Central Labor Union. All the labor unions and the Social Democracy are working hard to make the meeting a grand success.

Now is the time to begin organizing for the fall campaign.

COMRADES, ATTENTION!

Since assuming the position of national treasurer my time has been so fully occupied with matters immediately connected with the office that I have not had time to make suggestions to the comrades in relation to the financial affairs of the organization.

Upon this subject I wish to say: The work which shall be accomplished by this organization depends to a great degree upon the amount of financial support which is given by the members. The fifteen cents per month dues are small, therefore comrades must be active in increasing the membership and in having the dues paid to local treasurers. Treasurers of local branches must be prompt in remitting to national headquarters. Do not wait for a notice. From the economic point of view, time and money are wasted in notifying local branches to pay dues.

Each member should be active in assisting the local treasurer to collect dues from dilatory comrades. If a member is unable to pay dues two or three of the more fortunate should cooperate in paying them for him or her.

A call was sent out some time ago for contributions in addition to dues for the general movement. We need financial assistance to enable us to forge ahead more rapidly. Those of you who can will send in \$10 each. If you can't do that take up a collection. If you can't raise \$10 in the collection, raise what you can. Send it on and remember the Lord loveth a cheerful giver.

Don't forget that while it costs from \$300 to \$1,000 for every shot fired from the great guns of the men-of-war during the Espano-Americano debate, that you can get 'Merrie England' for six cents per copy, two copies, ten cents; twelve copies, fifty cents, etc.

Look at the book list on page 3 and order plenty.

Get some subscribers for the Social Democrat. Everything counts.

Remember there is a regular expense in connection with the running of the national headquarters that must be met.

Our organizers in the field must be provided for. We should have and will have fifty or more of those permanently at work, so do your full duty. Make prompt returns. Make all money orders or remittances for admission fees, dues, subscriptions to Social Democrat, books, contributions, etc., payable to

Yours fraternally, JAMES HOGAN, National Treasurer.

THE CONVENTION.

Tuesday, June 14, 1898, will mark a new era in labor struggle for emancipation in America. On that date, the first convention of the Social Democracy will convene, and the temporary organization be made permanent. In many respects this gathering will be the most important of its kind ever held in this country. It will firmly plant the American branch of the great international socialist tree and permanently fix in the minds of the people the mission of the Social Democracy. The issue is collective instead of individual ownership of the earth, and freedom instead of slavery for mankind. The battle is between capitalism and socialism. There is no middle ground, and there can be no compromise.

Each member and branch should fully appreciate the importance of this convention and understand that upon their work and conclusions during the next few weeks will depend to a great extent the success of the cause not only in America, but throughout the world. Every branch should be represented, and each member do his or her full share in extending the influence and scope of the organization.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS.

The generous response to the President's call for volunteers to prosecute the war against Spain with bullets and bayonets has prompted us to issue a call for a hundred thousand volunteers to fight the battle of Socialism. At no time since the birth of the Social Democracy was there more need for earnest, active work than at the present time. Our forces should be well organized at every point, with each comrade at his post and on the alert for recruits. A systematic canvass should be made for new members and your friends and neighbors solicited to subscribe for the Social Democrat. See to it that your own dues are paid promptly, and remind the other comrades of your branch that although the amount is small, our work depends upon the dues of our membership, and your report and remittance should be forwarded promptly on or before the 5th of each month. In spite of all opposition we are bound to succeed and the obstacles placed in our way will but increase our ardor and strengthen our determination to press forward.

With Socialist greeting to exploited and oppressed humanity, let us enlist in the great cause, and work for that better day when war will be no more. SYLVESTER KELIHER.

POVERTY THE MOTIVE.

Death by a cannon ball is infinitely preferable to slow death by starvation, hence the rush of poor tramps to join the army. Poverty, not patriotism, is their motive power.

In the army they are sure of their 'grub' and a place to sleep. It is a regular picnic for the unemployed millions of poor men. JOHN CONWAY.

SUGGESTS CO-OPERATION.

Believing in a co-operative commonwealth, and as a Social Democrat, I find it very logical to co-operate whenever possible. Having two branches of the S. D. in this locality, and working separately, it is inconvenient for both. We, the members of branch 4, waste our energy in order to pay hall rent and expenses, while branch 2 can not make effective propaganda by meeting at a private house, the residence of Comrade Strobel. I propose that these two branches should work together and do more agitation with less trouble and expense.

L. GOLDEN, No. 4, N. J. Newark, N. J.

A SONG FOR THE GOOD TIME.

Sing of the 'good time coming'— Fancy you hear its drums, And life'll be all the brighter For dreaming the day would dawn!

Sing of the 'good time coming'— Sing why you come, And life'll be all the brighter For dreaming the day would dawn!

Some where the 'good time' marching With the rippling flags and drums; But sing—and the world will blossom If never the good time comes!

Notwithstanding the war excitement the interest in Social Democracy continues unabated. Two excellent branches have been organized during the past week, and the large charter list in each case is evidence that a goodly portion of our people do not forget the oppression here at home—even for war. Verdi, Nevada, starts off with 21 charter members, and Salt Lake City, Utah, with 23. These branches promise an early and rapid increase in membership, and are sure to make their influence felt in the West.

In the laying of asphalt pavement a new machine to expedite the work has been put on the market. With one man to operate the device, the work of 18 men can be done. Thus the common laborers of this branch of industry will soon be emancipated from arduous toil.

MEETINGS OF LOCAL BRANCHES

(Notice of meetings will be published under this head for 25c per month.)

CALIFORNIA. No. 1, San Francisco, meets every Sunday at 2 p. m., at 809 Market street. The general public is invited to attend.

No. 4, Oakland, meets the first Sunday of each month, on or before the full of the moon, at 2 p. m., in Mattison's hall.

COLORADO. No. 1, Denver, meets every Sunday at 3 p. m., at 1715 Cass street.

ILLINOIS. Cook County Central Committee of the Social Democracy, meets 2d Saturday of each month at 19 E. Madison street, Chicago. Corresponding secretary, Seymour Steadman, room 604 Trude Building.

No. 1, meets every Sunday, 2:30 p. m., at 195 East Madison street, Chicago. Good speakers. Everybody invited. Free discussion. Note change of hall.

No. 5, meets every Sunday at 3 p. m., at 324 South Halsted street.

No. 5, meets 2d and 4th Tuesday of each month at 8 p. m., at headquarters, 1143 Michigan ave., near 115th st., Chicago. E. A. Weeks, 235 W. 115th St., Secretary. Note change of hall.

No. 6, Chicago, meets Friday, Feb. 4, at 102 W. Ohio st., and alternate Fridays thereafter at 8 p. m.

No. 3, meets 2d and 4th Mondays at 8 p. m., 323 street and Centre avenue, Chicago. Business meeting for members only 1st Sunday of each month at 10 a. m.

No. 10, meets third Wednesday at 231 N. Clark street, Chicago, at 8 p. m.

No. 21, meets every first and third Mondays, 7:30 p. m., at Social Turner Hall, 184 East Chicago and Paulina street, Chicago.

No. 22, meets second and last Sunday of each month at 8 p. m., at Treasurer's Hall, N. W. Cor. Armitage and Nebraska aves., Chicago.

No. 24, meets every Sunday at 3 p. m., at Ayer's Court, Chicago. Public invited.

No. 25, meets every Friday evening, southeast corner Sedgwick and Siegel streets, Chicago, at 8 p. m.

INDIANA. No. 1, Terre Haute, meets 1st and 2d Sundays of each month at 2 p. m., at Central Labor Union hall, 625 Wabash ave. Ladies are invited. P. K. Reinbold, Chairman. Ed. Evinger, Secretary.

No. 3, Richmond, meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays evening, at Germania hall, non-evolution Society, corner 6th and Main streets.

MARYLAND. No. 2, Baltimore, English Branch, meets every Wednesday at 8 p. m., at 1605 East Baltimore street.

MASSACHUSETTS. No. 1, meets 3d Thursday evening for business, and every second Sunday for lecture and discussion, at 74 Washington st., Boston. Secretary's address 1945 Washington st.

No. 6, Lynn, meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at Wagon Wheel, corner Tremper and Central streets, Lynn, Mass.

No. 8, Roxbury, meets every Thursday at 8 p. m., at 64 Warren street, Room No. 1, for business and education.

No. 11, Malden, meets at Complar Hall, Pleasant street, every Sunday evening at 7:30, for business and discussion. Secretary's address, cor. Pierce and Knollin streets.

MISSOURI. No. 1, St. Louis, meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at 1223 N. Broadway.

No. 2, meets every 4th Tuesday at 10th and Wyoming sts., St. Louis. M. Dorn, secretary, 193 Lamont street.

NEW JERSEY. No. 1, meet every Tuesday. Club rooms are open for friends also on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, 356 Pacific street, Paterson.

No. 2, meets every Wednesday evening at 8 p. m., sharp, at No. 5 Clinton st., Newark. Good program. Visitors welcome.

No. 4, meets every Tuesday at Progressive Labor hall, corner Jersey and Montgomery streets, Newark.

No. 6, Paterson, meets 2d and 4th Friday of each month at 8 p. m. Club meeting every 1st and 3rd Monday. Club room is open every evening at 25 Main street, room 11.

No. 7, Paterson, meets 1st and 3d Thursday of each month at 8 p. m. Club meeting last Monday in the month at 256 Main street, room 11. Club room open every evening.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. No. 1, Exeter, meets every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, in room at Rockingham Socialist Club No. 4, Merrill's block, up one flight, Manfred Tebbetts, Secretary. The club rooms are open every night and Sundays and the public is cordially invited to call and see us, and all workmen will be welcomed to our branch meetings.

NEW YORK. The Greater New York City Central Committee of the Social Democracy of America, meets every Saturday at 8 p. m., at its permanent headquarters, 85 E. 4th st., St. Paul Willis Hall, Nicholas Aleinikoff, secretary, 87 Nassau street, New York City.

Combined lectures of Branches 7 and 12, Brooklyn, held every Sunday evening at Erie Hall, 435 Broadway, at 8 o'clock, sharp. Musical program. Club meeting every 1st and 3rd Monday. Club room is open every evening at 25 Main street, room 11.

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