

# SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HERALD

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## STARVING MIDST PLENTY THE CAUSE AND CURE

The Few Have Appropriated to  
Themselves the Wealth of the  
Nation and the Many  
Cry for Bread

### THE HARDSHIPS OF WOMEN

The Bondage of Wage Slavery Upheld  
by the Votes of the Work-  
ing Class

By Francis M. Cox

If wageworkers were paid their fair proportion of what they produce there would be plenty in their homes. If this were done there would be plenty of money to spend by the masses, and the cry of "hard times" in all lines of industry and trade would no longer be heard. There is no lack in our land of the good provision of God to make all comfortable.

Over-production of both farm and factory is the complaint, and yet processions through the streets of our cities crying for bread. There is no real over-production, but the means to purchase has passed from the hands of the masses to the few who have appropriated to themselves the wealth of the nation.

How is it in this country? We have so much to eat that the farmers are complaining that they can get nothing for it. We have so much to wear that cotton and woolen mills are closing down because there is nobody to buy their products. We have so many houses that the builders are out of work.

"All the necessities and comforts of life are as plentiful as ever they were in the most prosperous year in our history. When the country has enough food, clothing, fuel and shelter for everybody, why are times hard? Evidently nature is not to blame. Who is?"

Men now living can remember when there were not half a dozen millionaires in the land. There are now five thousand millionaires, and several whose yearly income is said to be over five million. There are several capitalists in the United States who are worth from one hundred million to one hundred and fifty million, and some who even exceed that vast sum. Such vast sums can hardly be understood or comprehended. One hundred men, earning one thousand dollars a year each, would have to work one thousand five hundred years to earn as much as one of these richest men is worth. It would take a train of sixteen

cars to carry as much gold, each car loaded with ten tons.

What has become of the wealth of our nation? Nine thousand persons are worth twenty-four billion dollars. Thus less than ten thousand persons hold wealth enough to give every family in the United States a forty-acre farm worth not less than \$1,750.

Chauncey Depew says that "fifty men control the finances of this country and dictate its legislation." Instead of the sturdy thrift and independence of our forefathers, expressed in the grand utterance, "all men are created equal," we behold the spectacle of a few scheming minds grasping, appropriating, and manipulating the bulk of the wealth of the nation. This can be done only by appropriating the modest patrimony of the middle classes, and thrusting them down to a life of poverty and servitude to those who have appropriated their competence.

Let us turn to the wages of the laboring classes. In New York the daily wage of sewing women is fifty cents for fifteen hours' work, and yet there are people who wonder at the unrest and dissatisfaction among the wage earners. There are one hundred and fifty thousand women and girls in New York and Brooklyn who work from twelve to fifteen hours for fifty cents.

"When rich men and wealthy monopolies pay starvation wages, what is it but wealth feeding on poverty?"

We read about women who make twelve shirts for seventy-five cents, and furnish their own thread—in Chicago; about women who finish off an elegant cloak for four cents; about children that work twelve hours a day for a dollar a week; about some women who are glad to get the chance that offers six cents for four hours' work.

I am assured on what seems to be good authority that the "sweating" system is forcing men and women to work sometimes for thirty-three consecutive hours to avoid starvation. Street car companies demand long hours of service and reduce the wages to the lowest amount possible. The injustice is borne by those who must work or starve, until some new exaction passes the line of endurance, and then come the horrors of a strike, many times accompanied by bloodshed. My fellow workmen, when you strike again, strike at the ballot box, strike for the co-operative commonwealth and the government ownership of all the means of production and distribution, strike for Socialism, for so long as you vote to uphold the present capitalistic system, just so long you will be in the bondage of wage slavery.

### THE CALL

Men who do the nation's toil,  
Men who reap not gain or spoil  
From the workshop and the soil,  
Strike for liberty!  
Now's the day and now's the hour  
When to claim your rightful dower,  
Corporate greed and mammon power  
Must forever die.

Who would be a hireling slave  
To the plutocratic knave;  
Who would fill a pauper's grave,  
Let him serve me.  
Who for home and native land  
Now for justice firm will stand?  
Freedom's voice is near at hand,  
Calling for the right.

By oppression's woes and pain,  
By the homes you tolled to gain,  
Righteous laws we shall proclaim  
Ere it be too late.  
Lay the proud usurper low,  
With your ballots strike the foe,  
Liberty's in every blow—  
Let us do or die!

Chicago. Frank Finsterbach.

### Justice Court Vultures

Though we doubt it, there may be as many as four or five Cook county justices who perform their functions in an upright, conscientious manner. The remainder are as fair a lot of blacklegs as ever picked a pocket or robbed a safe. They are the purchased tools of heartless collection agency vultures; they are in the paid service of large and small legal concerns; they can be influenced to send a decent man to jail or liberate a felon; they delight in annoying and terrorizing working people; they enjoy browbeating and tantalizing the hungry and the destitute; they fatten upon the indigent woman's bread and the starving baby's milk—they are pickle-brained villains who should be scourged from a twentieth-century community with the lash and the red-hot brand; no penalty that could be wreaked upon them would be too severe.—Chicago Journal.

### Lying Dead for Five Months

After lying nearly five months in an undertaker's establishment, the remains of Beverly Payne, ex-consul to this country from Liberia, who died in Chicago last September, were buried Saturday, under a compulsory order from the board of health. The body had been kept during this period at the undertaking rooms of Barnes & Barnett, 2207 Michigan avenue.

Payne was without funds at the time of his death, and the task of raising sufficient money to bury him properly was placed in the hands of Mrs. Sarah Adams, an evangelist living in Harvey. Acting under promises made by prominent colored men that Payne's body should have decent interment, Mrs. Adams, it is said, ordered a casket to cost \$400, and agreed to pay \$85 for embalming.

About \$150 of this amount was paid in a short time, but the remainder could not be secured, and the undertakers held the body until last Saturday, when Mrs. Adams appeared with an order from the health department to bury the remains. Barnes & Barnett deny they were holding the body because of the debt, but do not deny that it had remained in their possession since death.

### Small Reactionary Capitalists

In the eyes of the small reactionary capitalist the formation of the trust which displaces him means the destruction of civilization, but the introduction of the machine which displaces the laborer is of no consequence. He would reverse the course of history. He does not ask himself if this is possible; he takes that for granted. He believes his interests lie in pursuing this course, and this is to him sufficient warrant for his action. He is willing to go back to the stage of small production by destroying the trust if possible, but would utilize machinery to its utmost regardless of its effect upon the laborers. His program that of the crawfish. He would go backward if possible, reinvest himself with his petty privileges and prevent further industrial progress for all time to come. His efforts are as ludicrous as they are hopeless. As well go back to the stone age as to his small and crawfish methods of production. His class is as certainly doomed in its onward march of industrial development as the present system which he is trying to preserve. His interests are at variance with social progress and he must succumb to the inevitable.—Warren T. Beals.

British society, according to Lord Charles Beresford, has been eaten into by the canker of money. "From the top downwards, the tree is rotten. The most immoral pose before the public as the most philanthropic, and as doers of all good works. Beauty is the slave of gold, and intellect, led by Beauty, unknowingly dances to the strings which are pulled by Plutocracy."

The engineers estimate the cost of the Nicaraguan canal at \$167,117,000, without any margins for stealings, which, under one plea and another, will easily reach \$50,000,000.

## CENTURY OF SOCIALISM SAYS EMILE VANDERVELDE

Masterly Review of the Past Century Delivered at Brussels by the  
Great Belgian Leader

Translated by Mary A. McPherson, London

We are celebrating this evening the definite constitution of the new International, the culmination of the working class movement of the nineteenth century, and the point of departure for the decisive social struggle which will mark the coming century. As we wish to symbolize on this occasion the essential progress accomplished during the last hundred years, we began with the Marseillaise, and we finish with the International Song of the Workers. The Marseillaise was the triumph-song of the democracy, the song of Revolution, national only; it was the song of republican France defending its free institutions against the coalition of Europe. The International Song of the Workers is the anthem of the hopes of the proletariat. It is the hymn of the Socialist party, which, in its aims and aspirations, is as broad as the world. This fact is finely expressed in the essentially true saying of the Austrian Socialist party, where it declares that the labor movement "condemns national privileges as well as those of birth, sex and wealth, and declares that the fight against exploitation should be as international as are the claims of capitalism."

All over the world we see capitalist exploitation extending, nurtured in blood and degradation.

### World Policy

The great American trusts are hypocritically threatening Cuban independence. Two hundred thousand soldiers, the passive instruments of the aristocrats of finance, are crushing under foot the republics of South Africa. And while the wounds of Armenia are still bleeding, without intervention on the part of Europe, the capitalist governments make a truce in their commercial antagonisms to fall upon China, showing themselves more Mongol than the Mongols, answering massacre by massacre and pillage by pillage. But these atrocities—however legitimate may be the horror that they inspire—must not make us lose sight of the great and growing transformation which has been taking place under our eyes during the last twenty-five years. The conquest of the world is being carried on by iron and by fire, and an international policy is succeeding a merely national one. The United States have just joined the concert of the powers. The six English colonies of Australia have formed an autonomous republic. The partition of Africa is about to end. The Trans-Siberian railway has traversed the whole of Asia. Everywhere capitalism penetrates, carrying with it exploitation and war; but everywhere Socialism is following in its wake offering freedom and peace. Japan had scarcely opened its doors to European parliamentarism, when a Socialist journal, which is sent to us every fortnight, was published in Tokio. It is only necessary to look through the bulletin of the Labor Department of Washington to be convinced of the fact that by means of coalition and strikes, salaries have tripled themselves in Japanese industry since the introduction of the factory system. Without overlooking the dangers and the crises which the internationalism of the market may give rise to, we may still hope that the competition of the yellow races, where small wages are balanced by inferior production, will make only temporary attacks on the standard of life of white men. Those who, in view of the triumphs of brute force, the aggravations of military service, and the disgrace of European colonial policy, are inclined to be pessimistic and to lose heart, have only to look back and compare the beginning of the 19th century with the position as it now is, and they will regain their confidence.

### Beginning of Nineteenth Century

One hundred years ago, the French republic, having in 1796 guillotined Babeuf and his friends who took part in the Confederacy of Equality, thought they had buried with them in the common grave of revolutionary ideas their child, Socialism, not yet baptized. The bourgeoisie, having torn up the Declaration of Rights, were satisfied with the Civil Code. Universal Suffrage had been abolished for some years. Absolutism reigned undisputed in all other lands. The noise of the cannons of Monongey submerged the groans of liberty. And at the very time when the revolution seemed dead, another revolution more destructive and more fruitful than all those which had taken place during eighteen hundred years was beginning in the depths of the social system, and was preparing for the advent of the class which is above all the most

revolutionary—the industrial proletariat. It was at the beginning of the nineteenth century, in fact, that, amid the tumult of the wars of the empire, the reign of the Machine commenced. This it was, the daughter of industry and commerce, which, giving a prodigious extension to the social forces which produced it, established the markets of the world, aided the concentration of capital, grouped the workers in towns, accentuated the antagonism of classes, and created modern Socialism.

It was this Revolutionary Machine—to quote the trenchant words of Lassalle—which transformed the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods; increased the productivity of the mining industry a hundredfold; metamorphosed the metal trade by substituting coal for wood and vegetable fuel; revolutionized the transport industry and communication by sea and land, by means of the locomotive, the steamboat, the electric telegraph, and, finally, produced a new system of agriculture by bringing to the markets of Europe the yands and the cereals of the whole world; a transformation without a parallel in history, and which took place almost entirely within the limits of the nineteenth century.

### The Genesis of Socialism

Postal reform, together with the general use of the rotary press, created cheap newspapers. The formidable network of railways, of trans-Atlantic lines of navigation, means of postal communication, submarine and overland telegraph, brought individuals and nations together, destroying local prejudice and contributing powerfully in developing the idea of a Social Conscience. The great industries, at first British, later European, pursued their triumphal march through the world, crushing out primitive forms of production, and gathering into factories a class of workers always increasing in numbers. Colossal fortunes were built up, and monstrous misery was evolved. Socialism owes its origin at the same time to the pity of the rich and the misery of the poor. Owen, Fourier, Saint-Simon, and the brilliant crowd of their followers preached the new gospel. The Chartist movement sprang up. All Europe was in a ferment. Then at the very moment when the revolution of 1848 brought together for the last time the bourgeoisie and the common classes for common revolutionary action, Engels and Marx collected and formulated in the Communist Manifesto the Socialist thought of the first half of the century, affirmed the principle of the class war, and gave the workers the formula of the International movement.

It may be said that from that moment the history of Socialism was indissolubly linked to the history of the century. Hereafter all classes of privileges and vested interests made common cause against the workers, and armed the governments of Europe to combat Socialism.

### Resistance to Socialism

Socialism has been made the victim of special legislation in Germany, and in Australia its followers have been deprived of universal suffrage, gained at the barricades of the March Revolution; its chiefs have been imprisoned, its meetings prohibited, and it has been driven to insurrections or despair. Twice, in June, 1848, and in May, 1871, its adversaries thought it was crushed out. But twice it sprang again into existence, more strong and more vigorous. In 1864 was founded the first International; the new International which was proclaimed in 1889, and consecrated by the Festival of the First of May in succeeding years, was definitely organized on September 24, 1900. In future, we may affirm that it rests on an indestructible basis, consisting of the union of the National Labor parties which exist in all parts of the world, in all countries where capitalism has penetrated. Everywhere, in fact, from Russia to New Zealand, the workers are organizing themselves, publicly or secretly; everywhere under different forms, but with the same final end in view, Socialist Democracy pits itself against the old-established powers; it takes possession of political rights; it demands social reforms; it forces popes and emperors to make concessions in the chimerical hope of arresting its progress.

### The Century of the Workers

In all the domains of thought and action, in the works of artists as well as the songs of poets, in the books of the learned as well as in legal codes, in

(Continued on Second Page)

## DEGRADING INFLUENCE OF THE CAPITALIST PRESS

The Sunday Newspaper a True Representative of Our Shameless,  
Profane and Frivolous Civilization

By Isador Ladoff

The action of mind on mind, by the means of articulated sounds called language, belongs to the most subtle distinctions between man and animal. The degree of development of the language of a given human group is justly considered as a true standard of the stage of culture and civilization attained by it. Language—as a means of expressing desires, thoughts and ideas—developed along with the development of desires, thoughts and ideas, and is subjected to the same natural laws as any other manifestation of the human mind. A savage or degenerate man cannot have the desires, thoughts and ideas of highly cultured and noble types of humanity; hence the difference in their vocabulary, their language. Noble aspirations, deep thoughts and high ideals will necessarily be expressed in noble, deep and refined language. The reverence with which we meet noble aspirations, deep thought and high ideals is naturally transplanted to the form and shape they are clothed in—to the language. This explains the reverence and awe with which the ancients considered the so-called sacred books, or bibles; the reverence and awe with which the simple-minded man of the people still sincerely regards the Hebrew Bible. Only superficial spirits and men without principles may scoff at this reverence and awe. Thoughtful people, on the contrary, will look upon this fact as a sign of healthy moral conditions and try to transfer this reverence to a more worthy subject, from the myths and superstitions of a half barbaric age to the enlightened philosophy of life, of an age of science and art.

It was always a source of deep gratification to the writer of these lines to watch the implicit faith in printed matter expressed with touching childish simplicity, by Russian peasants for instance, when he considered the contempt with which every educated and cultured man is compelled to feel and entertain toward the prostituted press of our shameless, profane and frivolous mercantile civilization. And it occurred to him at such moments that the ignorant peasant, this simple child of a simple people, is, after all, better off morally and even mentally than the blasé inhabitant of a large metropolis, accustomed to swallow the filth and poison of a thoroughly degraded so-called daily press as a source of information about what is going on in the beautiful world, that is turned into hell by irrational, unjust and brutalizing social institutions. These institutions, founded on inhuman principles of gross materialism, of exploitation of man by man, of parasitism on one side and degrading, slavish toil on the other, of brute force on one side and mute subjection on the other, breed low aspirations, shallow thought, vulgar taste and coarse ideas in the ruling and ruled class alike. And this leads to a lowered moral and mental currency of the press, that always was and will be a true image of the actual spiritual condition of its age. Was and will be, we said. It would be, however, an injustice to say that the press of the present age actually represents a true image of the spiritual life of our time. Rather the reverse of it is the fact; it represents its distorted image, its hideous caricature.

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THE HERALD FORUM

\*Communications intended for this department must be brief, legibly written on one side of the paper only, and accompanied by the real name of the writer.

Congratulations from Washington

Allow me to congratulate you upon the splendid work of the convention of the Social Democratic party as recorded in the Herald of January 26.

The wisdom of the convention was shown in the vote for the consolidation of the Socialist forces of the United States.

"United we stand—divided we fall." No power on earth can now stop the onward sweep of a movement which is destined to bring peace on earth, good will to men.

Socialism and Anarchism

Socialism, owing to the misrepresentations of the capitalistic press, has been associated with anarchism to such an extent that many well-meaning people have confounded socialism with anarchism.

Socialism is a condition where every individual has an equal voice in the laws and equal opportunities for obtaining the necessities, luxuries and enjoyments of life.

Socialism means co-operation and the abolition of all competition, and therefore the shortening of the hours of toil, and the absolute "brotherhood of man," while anarchism means individual effort, long hours of toil, insecurity lest a stronger person, or clan, take away the fruits of individual effort.

I confess that the mad rush for gain, the open disregard for the rights of others, the selfishness, the competition, even to the death or annihilation, are very close akin to anarchy, and yet these are only the legitimate results of the competitive system.

Electioneering in Berlin

William Saunders has an article in the Ethical World of London on the methods of electioneering pursued by the Social Democrats of Germany.

"Determined to find out how electioneering is conducted in Berlin, or at least how Social Democracy can get its supporters in tens of thousands to the polls with such an absence of outward display in energy and excitement,

"This is all I can do. I would rather kill my poor wife and commit suicide myself than to take so much as a single meal at the town's expense.

The selectmen knew the spirit of the old man, and they also knew that he was telling the truth, so they accepted his offer. Thus, undoubtedly, a tragedy was averted—one of those crimes in lonely places, for which Maine has lately been noted.

would bring the candidate dangerously near the confines of the corrupt practices act, although the liquor was paid for by the partakers thereof.

Consolidation of Railroads

According to Mr. Leo Canman of the Chicago Tribune, whom the New York World calls "the best railroad news authority in the country," the following roads, aggregating 76,224 miles, are in the new combination:

Table listing railroad consolidations by mile and region, including New York Central, West Shore, Chicago & Northwestern, etc.

Maine's Poverty Belt

The bankruptcy of the town of Somerville, in Lincoln county, and the distressing conditions prevailing in the town of Otis, in Hancock county, where the chattels of citizens have been levied on to pay town debts, are notable examples of the helpless decay into which many of the smaller places in rural Maine have fallen.

A sturdy old farmer, whose place had run out and whose stock had dwindled to almost nothing, realized, after a particularly poor harvest, that starvation stared him and his wife in the face, and that he must do something at once.

"I would rather kill my poor wife and commit suicide myself than to take so much as a single meal at the town's expense.

The following program for winter meetings has been arranged by the comrades at Leominster, Mass.:

February 17.—Debate. Subject: "Resolved, That Leominster will be benefited by the public ownership of all its industries."

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

We thoroughly enjoyed a visit at headquarters last week from Comrade Raley Bell of St. Louis.

Branch 44, Illinois, meets at 3622 Wentworth avenue on the first and third Fridays of each month.

Eugene V. Debs looked in at headquarters last week on his way to and from a lecturing engagement in Wisconsin.

Several meetings under branch auspices in Chicago were unavoidably postponed on account of the great storm which prevailed all day last Sunday.

Comrade W. J. McSweeney, national organizer of the Social Democratic party, left Chicago last week for a short trip in Illinois preliminary to an extended tour through other states.

Branch 4 of Rockville, Conn., will have its first public discussion on Feb. 21. The subject will be "Why Are There Socialists?"

The latest addition to the Social Democratic press to reach us is Industrial Democracy, edited by Forrest Woodside and published at Colorado Springs, Col. The subscription price is 50 cents.

Branch 2 of Arizona, at Phoenix, has held a series of very interesting meetings since the first of the year, writes Secretary Johnson, and all the indications are good for a growing movement in that territory.

J. W. Brown will deliver a lecture at Good Templars' Hall, 881 Main street, Hartford, Conn., Sunday, February 10, 8 p. m., under the auspices of Branch 1, S. D. P.

The city central agitation committee of Greater New York meets every second Tuesday at 216 East Broadway, New York City.

A fine meeting was held by Branch 9, Chicago, last Saturday night at Milhorn's Hall, Sixty-third and Center avenue.

The second annual entertainment and ball will be given by Branch No. 6 of Chicago (German), for the benefit of a proposed weekly paper, at Hoebner's Lower Hall, 710-714 Blue Island avenue, Saturday, Feb. 16, 1901.

There will be a special meeting of branches of the Social Democratic party in the 29th, 30th, 31st and 32d wards of Chicago, Friday night, February 8, at Uhlhorn's Hall.

Comrade Elizabeth H. Thomas, who came from the east last August to assume the duties of assistant secretary to the national campaign committee, left Chicago last Saturday for Milwaukee, where she will take charge of the work of state secretary.

Debs in Wisconsin

The lecture trip of Comrade E. V. Debs in Wisconsin last week was signally successful, at every point overflowing audiences being in attendance and the greatest enthusiasm manifested.

The Referendum

The blank forms for reporting the vote of members on all questions submitted by the convention will be forwarded this week.

Propaganda at Leominster, Mass.

The following program for winter meetings has been arranged by the comrades at Leominster, Mass.: February 17.—Debate. Subject: "Resolved, That Leominster will be benefited by the public ownership of all its industries."

April 7.—"How to Bring About Socialism," Dr. Howard A. Gibbs of Worcester.

April 21.—Open debate, with questions and answers. Subject to be announced.

The meetings are held on the first and third Sunday afternoons of the month at Grand Army hall.

NEW BRANCHES

- California, one. Illinois, one. South Dakota, one.

NATIONAL FUND FOR ORGANIZATION

Table showing contributions to the National Fund for Organization, including Wm. A. Cunnea (\$10.00), John Simon (\$1.00), etc.

ALL SORTS IN LINE-O-TYPE

A Socialist has been elected deputy at Milan to the Italian parliament.

Berlin has opened a new century with a uniform rate of two and one-half cents fares on its street cars.

The Socialists of Denmark have elected 226 members of municipal councils. This shows great progress, as only 40 were chosen in 1884.

In the five electoral districts of Vienna the Socialists obtained 100,223 votes, and Dr. Adler, though defeated, received 6,000 votes more than in 1897.

A new stamping machine is being put in postoffices—one that stamps and postmarks between 35,000 and 40,000 pieces of mail matter per hour.

The "Soo" canal was built and is owned and operated by the United States. It carries 50 per cent more tonnage than the Suez canal.

The shoe manufacturers of the country are planning the establishment of a national shoe company to dominate the distribution of shoes to the retailers.

Prince Roland Bonaparte says he is a "Socialist," and he thinks it would be well if every one in Europe could adopt at the same moment a Socialist regime.

A western newspaper figures it out that the increase of wages in the hard coal region of Pennsylvania amounts to \$4,200,000 a year.

There is a sect in Hungary called the Nazarenes, who, like the Russian Dukhobortschi, and the English Quakers, will have nothing to do with military service.

Sir Sanford Fleming, one of the principal promoters of the Pacific cable, has written an open letter to Hon. William Mulock, postmaster-general of Canada, in favor of the state-owned telegraph service encircling the globe.

A dispatch from Manzanillo, Cuba, says: "General Wood is taking care of the interests of the Cubans in every possible way."

Mrs. Emma Hausknecht, of 315 Washburn avenue, Chicago, died at the County Hospital, Jan. 24, a suicide. A week before Mrs. Hausknecht shot herself.

The Book You Need: PRINCIPLES OF Scientific Socialism By Rev. Charles H. Vall. Author "Modern Socialism" and "National Ownership of Railways."

SEND ORDERS TO THEODORE DEBS, 126 Washington St., CHICAGO. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LIBRARY. Karl Marx, Capital. Cloth. 40c.

PAMPHLETS. F. Lassalle—What Is Capital. 10c. H. M. Hyndman—Socialism and Slavery. 10c.

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY RED BOOK. Edited by Frederic Heath. Printed on Plate Paper. Handsomely Illustrated.

A HISTORY OF SOCIALISM IN AMERICA. Covering 76 pages, with portraits of Robert Owen, Etienne Cabet, Wilhelm Weitling, etc., etc. ALBERT BRISBANE. The first American agitator, with portrait.

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