

Social Democratic Herald

VOL. 1.

CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1898.

NO. 18

There is One System which is the Best; It is the System which should Exist for the Greatest Good of Humanity.

THE WASTE OF GOOD VOTES ON CAPITALISTIC PARTIES.

PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY DEPENDS ON THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

We ask workingmen to vote the Social Democratic Party ticket.

We believe it to be the best interests of workingmen to do so.

We also believe it is the best thing workingmen can do for society at large.

If a check is to be put upon the misuse of the powers of government, the votes of the working class alone can do it.

If government is to be changed from a power allied with plutocracy, enriching and protecting the few, to a power representing the whole people and protecting all, the votes of the working class alone can make the change.

No better conditions for the masses of the producing class will prevail while the industrial system which bestows wealth upon a few and want on the many is retained.

Our form of government has bestowed upon every adult male person the right to express at the ballot box his preference for public offices among a number of candidates.

These candidates are usually selected from the class which has been successful in a system that grinds the working class into the dust.

Go over the list of men who have been elected to congress at any time for thirty years past—or, at any time since the foundation of the government—and you find that your rulers have been bankers, landlords, lawyers, railroad presidents, speculators, stock-jobbers, capitalists, "colonels" and hoodlers.

There is nothing more certain than that so long as government consists of the kind of people named—the beneficiaries of a system that makes private luxury possible in a world of want and wretchedness—so long will present economic conditions continue.

Neither is there anything more clear than this: It is the workingman's DUTY, a social obligation resting upon every man, to use his political power for the good of the community and the freeing of society from the shackles and the slavery of capitalism.

This capitalist class will not do; their policies and the policies of old political parties are not equal to it, even if the capitalists were willing it should be done. The only power equal to its accomplishment is the political power of the people at the ballot box.

An adequate remedy backed by an intelligent purpose—that is the greatest need of the hour. Socialism presents the remedy. Put an end to private luxury and splendor; write across the record of capitalist savagery, "Tried and Found Wanting;" socialize the modern facilities of wealth production and distribution; make industry a social or public function, and through it transform a beggarly society with a few fabulously rich into a society of free men and women, with luxury and splendor for all.

All this can be done with the ballot. That instrument which has been called the palladium of the people's liberties, which has been used so thoughtlessly that by many it has come to be regarded as quite useless to any further progress, can be made the effective means of delivering the people from the hypocrisy, robbery and shame of existing conditions. Capitalism will be put down and forced to bow itself out, and society will be regenerated only by the people themselves. The means to accomplish this is now in the hands of the people. Events may, in the rapid changes which are going on, strip the working class of the power they now have, and such a possibility emphasizes the duty they owe to themselves, to posterity and to civilization.

But there are men who think that a vote given for Socialism is "a vote thrown away." Let us see: Why have you cast a vote for the past dozen years for the Republican or Democratic parties? What was your object? Have you believed that either of these

parties could really help you or your class? Have you believed that they could manufacture "good times?" Some of you, no doubt, believed all this, and honestly, too. But how stands the record? Have you been helped? Are you enjoying "good times?" Is the working class prosperous? The time was when miners were paid \$5 a day; now they get 42 cents. Is that progress? Is that prosperity? The time was when you were paid from \$2 to \$4 a day; now you are getting from 75 cents to \$1.25, and jobs are scarce at the reduced rate. In the parlance of the street—"that's no lie."

Very well; you cast your votes in 1884 for a democrat for president and elected him—in the belief that the democratic party would make "good times." Was it done? No. You cast your votes in 1888 for a Republican and elected him—in the belief that the Republican party would make "good times." Was it done? No. You cast your votes again in 1892 for a Democrat. Did you get "good times?" No. And in 1896 you again cast your votes for a Republican and you haven't yet found "good times." No, times have actually gone from bad to worse all of the time, and more men to-day than in 1884 find it difficult or impossible to earn an honest living.

How much more of that sort of experience must you have before you learn that for years you have been throwing your vote away? And why? Simply because you have given it to one of two capitalistic parties—parties controlled by the organized capitalists of the country and bound by the necessities of the case to legislate in behalf of capitalists. Your vote has been thrown away for years because you have not received what you believed and expected you would. It has been thrown away because the parties you voted for could not help you.

Political parties, my friend, do not own and control the means of life. The masters of the economic resources and utilities of the country are not the political parties, but the capitalist class; this class is also master of the political parties you have been supporting. The god of this class is Profit, and in an insane struggle for profit the consuming power of the people has been reduced to a fraction of its producing power, the field of productive employment has been limited, wealth has been concentrated in the hands of a portion of the community, and you and your class have all along given your votes to the political parties which, in turn, have given to the capitalists all they wanted—and what the parties haven't wanted to give the capitalists have taken. Your vote has been thrown away!

What a prodigious waste of votes we have had in this country! What a lot of money has been spent in getting and counting votes that never did one good thing for the masses of the people who gave them! What a fuss millions of workingmen make every four years in "throwing away" their votes to support a system that denies them the opportunity to make an honest living! What a peck of trouble workingmen have gone to in "throwing away" their votes so that a few in the community and the nation might revel in luxury! THE WORKINGMAN WHO GIVES HIS VOTE TO A CAPITALIST PARTY THROWS IT AWAY.

European cotton mills, as well as those of this country, have surplus stocks produced from the high-priced cotton of last year, says Dun's Review. In consequence, mills in the South have been closed, and where they are running there has been reduction of wages. But the delusion that the country is prosperous is kept up. The business failures last week, 226, against 219 for the corresponding week a year ago.

At a shoe factory in Lynn, Mass., a pair of ladies boots were made in 13 minutes. A notary public followed the operation, watch in hand. For this feat the boots went through the usual routine of the shop, but at exceptional speed. Fifty-seven different operations and 42 machines were concerned in the work, which required 26 pieces of leather, 14 pieces of cloth, 24 buttons, 24 buttonholes, 80 tacks, 20 nails, 2 box toes, 2 steel shanks, and 20 yards of thread.

THE DUTY OF WORKINGMEN.

The capitalist class, being controllers of the government as well as masters of the economic resources of the country, will disfranchise the producing class if they can. They have practically concentrated the wealth of the nation in their own hands; they have gained power over the judiciary and the law-making branches of government, and when they begin to realize that their power is in danger from the franchise in the hands of thinking voters, they will have schemes for restricting the franchise.

It reminds one of the story of little Johnny, who took his first sack of corn to the mill. Johnny's father sent him to the mill with the corn. The miller took his sack of grain, carried it into the mill, took out a little toll and put it in one box and a little and put it in another box. Johnny had never seen that before. He looked at the miller in astonishment and thought that he was stealing his father's corn. Finally, the miller took hold of the sack and emptied it into the hopper, as millers do, not noticing little Johnny; but Johnny was watching him, and when the miller threw down the sack Johnny grabbed it and ran away for home. The miller followed him down the road, but could not catch him and had to go back to see about the corn that was in the hopper. Johnny reached home excited and out of breath. His father said, "What's the matter, Johnny?" Johnny said, "Well, dad, that son of a gun down at the mill has taken every grain of your corn and give me a hell of a race for the sack!"

The capitalists control the government and the opportunities to live, and will give the working class a hell of a race for the franchise. The only way to prevent it is to organize intelligently and vote unitedly for the abolition of the capitalist system, and thus put an end to the opportunities of "the masters of bread" to appropriate the fruits of honest toil and strip the toilers of their political rights.

Use the ballot now as men charged with the duty of saving the republic and insuring a better civilization. That is the duty of American workingmen.

Aged Lizzie Brown appeared in Justice Gibbons' court at the Chicago avenue police station and asked to be sent to the bridewell on a \$75 fine. For the last ten years the appearance of the aged woman, homeless and without friends, has been as regular as the return of snow flurries, and from that, if from no other cause, the police realize that the cold season is at hand. She was given the fine and left the courtroom smiling.

The white-haired woman, now 72 years old, spends most of her time in the house of correction, for she is unable to do any hard work. The only friends she knows are the officials at the Chicago avenue station, and to them she goes whenever she wants to go to the bridewell. She is always allowed to set the amount of the fine, and it varies with the season and with her own inclination.—Chicago Journal.

A new magazine of constructive thought, to be known as THE COMING AGE, is promised by Mr. B. O. Flower, founder of The Arena. Associated with Mr. Flower in the editorial work will be Mrs. C. K. Reifsnider. The magazine will deal broadly with the fundamental problems which touch the true interests of humanity. The subscription will be \$2 a year, and the initial number will be dated January 1, 1899.

A member of the Socialist Party in Denmark elected to a municipal office and afterward to the National Parliament was found to have appropriated public funds. The capitalist press and government tried to keep the matter quiet, in order to secure his support as an agent within the Socialist Party. The Socialists, however, published the proofs of his guilt, and have expelled him from the party.

There is a firm of cotton goods manufacturers at Providence, R. I., who are in a position to tell how prosperous the country is. John H. Mason & Sons have just failed for \$810,000.

The workingman is the only fellow who goes without a square meal which he has earned, while another fellow eats a square meal he has not earned.

Laws that the rich make never protect the poor.

There's plenty of prosperity—in the palaces of the privileged parasites.

There is one way to break the force of centralized wealth, and that is to make a break for the ballot box and put a legal extinguisher on the system.

The expansion most needed is an expansion of the ability of workingmen to think.

Division among those who produce wealth on election day, means division of the wealth they produce among capitalists on every other day.

There is one way to destroy industrial tyranny and only one. It is to abolish private capital.

Nature has made no provision for the existence of people who are lazy and will not work. The capitalist system was needed for that.

Under the wage system the reward of the workingman diminishes with the increasing facilities of production. With the aid of machinery he gives to the wealthy an increasing amount of wealth and comfort, and takes for himself an increasing amount of want and wretchedness.

Remember the "factory campaign" of '96 and give the hypocrites a setback at the polls. This you have an opportunity to do in Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Missouri, etc., by voting the Social Democratic ticket.

When it is necessary for the employing capitalist to maintain his reputation as a philanthropist, he cuts down wages.

This "new" democracy racket is nauseating; it is cheap and meaningless gabble. The people might just as well agitate for a genuine monarchy, as to be taken in by a "new democracy" which proposes to preserve the capitalist system of industry.

The way to get rich is to be industrious and frugal. The already rich say so, and surely the rich should know.

It's funny, though, that millions of folks who are both industrious and frugal, are not rich.

It's a queer thing, too, that the class which is compelled to be industrious and frugal is poor.

The colossal humbug of the age is the claim that great fortunes are made by practicing industry and frugality.

Capitalists don't want the dear, patriotic people to own anything; the good-hearted, patriotic capitalists are solicitous about the dear public, and don't want it to waste money on a losing proposition.

There is no business in which capitalists engage that isn't a losing business—provided you take stock in what capitalists say—and they prefer to keep on LOSING rather than have the dear public own anything!

Funny, isn't it?

The United States has more penniless "sovereigns" than all the monarchies of Europe combined have ever known.

To have the power of protecting themselves and yet be continually subject to plunderers, is a distinction which American workingmen enjoy.

Capital, under the present system, must appropriate the "lion's share"—that is, it must take the surplus values created by labor—to preserve itself. Under this system it cannot do otherwise. That is why Socialists want the system abolished, because it is monstrously unjust.

Unity and an intelligent vote by the working class means shorter hours, better pay, more comforts, nobler living and true progress.

There are men who skin for a living, men who preach for a living, and men who work for a living. The skinner preys, the preachers pray, and the workers pay.

A vote for the Social Democratic Party is a vote for Socialism. When a man casts the ballot of our party he votes for a change in the system of society, for the abolition of the fleecing of labor.

Don't vote for Social Democracy simply because you are tired of the other parties. Put a deep purpose in your vote.

During the coming year, if you have not voted a Socialist ballot, you will have no right to kick against conditions. A vote for the old parties is a vote in favor of our present bad conditions.

Don't forget that after all it is the system that oppresses you and not your individual masters or master. If you keep this in mind you will act with better judgment. Mark Hann, unlovely type that he is, is only a natural product of a bad system of society. If you appease your feelings by making faces at Mark, you may forget to get in a whack against the system that produced him, when you vote on election day.

If you are the only Socialist in your town, so much more reason why you should vote Socialism. Cowards are brave in a crowd, but it takes a brave man to stand alone.

The Abolitionists kept shotguns in their houses to back up their contempt for iniquitous laws. You do not need to back up your views with a shotgun, a lawful ballot will strike the enemy with more terror, as soon as the workers get in the habit of using it in the right way.

Don't throw your vote away for the sake of a mere change of office holders. Vote for a live, deep, emancipating principle!

Remember that when the labor question is settled the whole social question will be settled. When labor emancipates itself it will then cease to be a class, for all men will then have to bear their fair share of the world's work. The present struggle is a class struggle to bring about an end to all classes.

The Socialists must strive to reach the point where their strength will compel the press of the country to notice Socialism and to discuss it as a political factor. The movement will then take like wildfire.

POSTPONED TILL AFTER ELECTION!

The threatened strike of the galvanizers of the American Steel & Wire Company, which involved 3,000 employees, is off. The reduction that was to take place November 1 has been averted.

The employees notified the company they would not accept the readjustment. The men having experienced a similar strike in Anderson, Ind., and Cleveland, O., were prepared for a fight. Several new elements entered into the local situation in Joliet.

The men declared that Gov. Tanner's action in mining districts in using the state troops to keep out imported labor had set a precedent that would prevent the repetition in Illinois of the importations of labor practiced in the Ohio and Indiana plants.

A still more potent influence was set to work when it became known on the streets that a big strike was imminent.

The republican politicians saw that it meant ruin for their county and legislative ticket. Not only that, but it meant an influence in labor circles throughout the state that might result in the defeat of the state ticket and the election of a democratic legislature.

The state committee was quickly apprised of the situation. It is even said that Gov. Tanner's aid was invoked and that the governor's influence with Col. Gates, Col. Lambert, and Col. Elwood, the three big wire and steel magnates, who are on Tanner's staff, was asked by the Republican state committee, who predicted the defeat of the entire legislative tickets in the state.

And so the reduction was postponed till after election!

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EXECUTIVE BOARD:
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CONTRIBUTING STAFF:
JOS. BARONDESS, F. G. R. GORDON,
VICTOR L. BERGER, FREDERIC HEATH,
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EDITOR—A. S. EDWARDS.

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SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

Missouri State Ticket.
For Judge of Supreme Court, Long Term.
ALBERT E. SANDERSON, St. Louis.
For Judge of Supreme Court, Short Term.
G. A. HOEHN, St. Louis.

For Superintendent of Public Schools.
JAMES A. RENDALL, St. Louis.
For Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner.
GEORGE J. STORZ, Kansas City.

Congressional Ticket for St. Louis.
For Congress, 10th District.
CHARLES KEEFER.
For Congress, 11th District.
CHARLES F. GEBELIN.
Organizer of Amalgamated Wood Workers.

For Congress, 12th District.
L. P. TOMSEN, Financial Secretary
of Central Trades and Labor Union.

St. Louis City Ticket.
For Judges of the Circuit Court.
JACOB L. FRANZ, J. C. WIBEL and
JOSEPH F. LLER.

For Judge Court of Criminal Correction.
ANTHONY LOY.

For Judge of Probate.
WILLIAM RUESCHE.

For Recorder of Deeds.
A. F. HAEUSSLER.

For Clerk of Circuit Court.
LEONARD STOLL.

For Clerk Court of Criminal Correction.
WILLIAM BRANDT.

For Clerk of Criminal Court.
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CHARLES SPECHT.

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MARTIN ERD.

For Assistant Prosecuting Attorney of
Criminal Correction.
W. H. SCOTT.

For Sheriff.
CHARLES F. MEIER.

For Coroner.
STANLEY D. PEET.

Wisconsin State Ticket.

For Governor.
HOWARD TUTTLE, Milwaukee.

For Lieutenant-Governor.
E. P. HASSINGER, Broadhead.

For Secretary of State.
THOS. C. P. MEYERS, Milwaukee.

For State Treasurer.
AUGUST MOHR, Sheboygan.

For Attorney General.
RICH. ELSNER, Milwaukee.

For Election Commissioner.
CHARLES RICHTER, Racine.

For Superintendent of Schools.
R. O. STOLL, Eau Claire.

For Insurance Commissioner.
E. H. ROONEY, Milwaukee.

Baltimore Congressional Ticket.

For Congress, 3d District.
CHARLES BACKMAN.

For Congress, 4th District.
WILLIAM FOX.

For Congress, 5th District.
C. E. TAILOR.

Massachusetts State Ticket.

For Governor.
WINFIELD P. PORTER, Newbury-
port.

For Lieutenant-Governor.
ISAAC W. SKINNER, Brockton.

For Secretary of State.
CHAS. H. BRADLEY, Haverhill.

For Treasurer.
CHAS. W. WHITE, Winchester.

For Auditor.
CHAS. L. GRIEVES, Amesbury.

New Hampshire State Ticket.

For Governor.
SUMNER F. OLAFLIN.

For Congress, 1st District.
CHAS. M. MELLEN.

For Congress, 2d District.
ED. E. SOUTHWICK.

New York Assembly Ticket.
For Fourth Assembly District.
M. LONDON.
For Eighth Assembly District.
LOUIS E. MILLER.
For Tenth Assembly District.
J. PHILLIPS.
For Twelfth Assembly District.
J. BARONDESS.
For Sixteenth Assembly District.
R. MODEST.

Terre Haute, Ind., Ticket.

For Judge of Superior Court.
SAM. M. YOUNG.

For Prosecuting Attorney.
CHAS. D. WILGUS.

For Treasurer.
CLARENCE E. KINGERLY.

For Auditor.
WM. EHRENHARDT.

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CHAS. R. WALTZ.

For Recorder.
JOHN S. KINGERLY.

For Sheriff.
H. STRUEMPFLE.

For Coroner.
ANDREW J. MELVILLE.

For Commissioner.
SAM. R. HOAR.

For Surveyor.
M. TURTLE.

For Joint Representatives.
FRANK STORZ and **JAS. O'NEAL.**

For Representatives.
OTIS M. SCHROER and **WM. C. CASEY.**

MIDDLE-HEADED WISDOM.

The National Prison Association has just been holding a convention in Indianapolis, and President Brockway, in his annual address, mixed sense with nonsense in the usual capitalistic style. Ninety per cent. of the crimes of the country, he said, were those punishable by imprisonment of less than one year, and then he added, with the true brutality of his class:

"More thorough treatment of this class of offenders would serve, no doubt, to increase for a time the resident population of the prison, a fact that would be heralded as discreditable, but in reality not so. Not idle courts and empty prisons, but rather prompt arrests, quick convictions and full prisons show the reaction of society against crime and show also a good moral tone, a healthy public sentiment. The more civilized we become the more laws against crimes we have; the more laws, the more of recorded crimes, and it is undoubtedly true that the criminal, as well as the poor, 'shall never cease out of the land.'"

Like the others of his class, who regard the present crazy social system as sacred, he put all his faith in the reforming of the criminals after they have become criminals, rather than in so changing the system as to stop the making of criminals. It didn't enter his head that the incentives to crime could be done away with. And yet he said in his address that "quite 90 per cent. of crimes are against property." Ah! you see, there is an economic reason back of crime, after all. And so it is plain that Socialism would wipe out at least 90 per cent. of the crimes we are now inflicted with—and also a good share of the other 10 per cent.

It is the want of the people that drives some to crime, and their degradation growing out of their poverty that inspires other forms of crime. But a prison congress made up of capitalists and capitalistic toadies cannot see this plain fact. They are willing to admit everything else than that the present system is the root cause.

Yet Mr. Brockway inadvertently said some wise things, too. This, for instance:

"With the increase of population and advancing civilization, human wants, and perhaps human needs, are greatly multiplied, and there is also an ever-increasing difficulty, because of competitions, to provide the means of living. Then the deprivation and dissatisfactions of the improvident class produces degeneracy transmitted to generation after generation, and more and more of the people become disqualified as well as disinclined to satisfy their wants by legitimate earnings. It cannot be said that an increase of wants is an evil, for it is not; on the contrary, the wants of mankind form the basis of all social progress, but the security of property is at the very foundation of society."

The only trouble with the above is that old chestnut about provident and improvident people. Providence and improvidence is not the secret of success or failure in life to-day. It may have formerly been, when opportunities were greater. But to-day hundreds and thousands are plunged headlong down into the abyss of misery and poverty by the labor-displacing machinery and by the blood-sucking mires of profit, interest and rent. That's where the solution lies, and it is there that the capitalist philanthropists and reformers refuse to look.

EVERY MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZATION CAN GET AT LEAST ONE NEW SUBSCRIBER TO THE HERALD; MANY CAN PROCURE TWO OR THREE; EVERY BRANCH OFFICER CAN EXTEND THE CIRCULATION OF THE PAPER. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL SHOULD DO THEIR UTMOST WITHOUT DELAY. LET US HEAR FROM THE MEMBERS AND BRANCHES AT ONCE.

FROM EUGENE DEBS' SPEECHES.

The following paragraphs are extracts from the speeches of Comrade Eugene Debs on his Eastern trip:

Working men have no cause to envy the business men, he said. They are carrying the same burden in a different form. The average business man has but small capital and limited credit. The struggle grows fiercer day by day, his profits lessen, his expenses increase as the result of competition. The specter of ruin, disgrace, bankruptcy, stares him in the face, and at 50, when he should be mature, his life has entered its decline. Business is war, one has to enlist for life, and there is no escape until death comes for the rescue.

A hardware dealer said to me after attending one of my meetings: "You might be a useful man but your work is in the wrong direction." At that time his business was prosperous. Within two years a competitor came into town and he was gradually driven into bankruptcy. I held another meeting there and at the close the same man came to me and said, "I am with you." He had seen the result of the working of this system.

This system is destroying itself. And Socialism will follow as the culmination of capitalism if not a word more be spoken. Competition will continue until the different interests have been harmonized in monopoly. You say destroy the monopolies. But the trust is an outcome of the competitive system, and you cannot destroy it by law. The trust is greater than the law. It can organize a debauching lobby in every state in the Union, dictate the appointment of the judiciary. The nets of the law are so set as to catch the minnows and let the whales go. Mr. Pullman was summoned before the same court as I. He had a whispered conference with the judge and got off; I tried the same plan and got six months.

I do not attack individuals. I oppose the system. A few men collect together property which they can never use, while the many suffer. No workingman can obtain employment unless he is willing to part with nearly all he produces. In the final analysis the competitive system ruins all, including the capitalist. The Socialist system is complained of as attacking property. It is not so. It is the capitalist system that attacks property.

I stand before you as a Socialist. Socialism is coming as surely as the stars shine above you. The capitalistic system teaches men to regard each other as scoundrels, the Socialistic system teaches men to regard each other as brothers. The capitalistic system is called the survival of the fittest. It is not; it is the survival of the slickest, the shrewdest. If you rob a man and are sent to jail you are at last given a chance to work. If the state can give you a chance to work after you commit crime, it can give you a chance before. Capitalism makes criminals of citizens. Socialism makes citizens of criminals.

It is labor that roils and beats out the red-hot iron for the use of man; that grows all the fleeces and makes therefrom a thousand fabrics; that feeds and drives the black cavalry of commerce, and shall not labor come to its own? As the mariner in southern seas looks at the southern cross bending to the south, and knows that the midnight has passed, as the Almighty marks the hour on the stars, so let labor take heart, for the cross is bending, and joy cometh in the morning.

The man who is engaged in this competitive struggle becomes mentally diseased. He sets out that he wants a moderate fortune; if he is successful, he wants more, he is never satisfied, his ambition becomes perverted. Money is not worth all this struggle, which deadens one's desire for the better things in life. It is better to help humanity than to hinder it in its struggles. With this faith we are organizing this movement in every village and city in the Union, organizing men who shall without compromise vote out the last remnant of capitalism, and vote in the Co-operative Commonwealth.

THEIR PREJUDICES REMOVED.

Eugene V. Debs had a new experience recently in Massachusetts, when he was invited to address a conference of ministers. The Springfield Republican, referring to it, says: Yesterday Mr. Debs by invitation of Rev. Mr. Bisbee, attended the Springfield preachers' meeting, where Prof. R. Watson Cooper of Wilbraham Academy read a paper on "Henry George; His Place Among Reformers." Mr. Debs was asked to join in the discussion, and after speaking briefly on Mr. George's high character, he presented the gospel of Socialism to the great interest of the ministers, who after he had sat down insisted on hearing him at greater length.

The entire population of the United States, scientists say, could live comfortably in the state of Texas.

AMONG THE BRANCHES.

BRANCH MEETINGS.

[Notices of Branch Meetings inserted for 25c per month.]
Colorado Branch No. 1, of the Social Democratic Party, meets every Sunday eve at Conservatory of Music, 14th and Arapahoe, Denver, Colo., 8 p. m. Halsey Butler, Chairman; Mrs. Marian Steele, Secretary.
Branch 1 of Illinois, Chicago, meets every Wedue day evening at Koch's Hall, 10-12 Randolph St. Frank Whitney, Roanoke building, secretary.
Branch No. 6, Indiana, meets first Saturday evening and 3 Sunday afternoon of each month, at Keichwain's Hall, corner Market and Noble streets, Indianapolis.
Branch 1 of Illinois, Chicago, meets every Tuesday evening at Koch's Hall, 10-12 Randolph St. Frank Whitney, Roanoke building, secretary.

Branch No. 2, Ohio, Cleveland, meets in Stengel's Hall, corner Monroe and Pearl streets, every Monday evening.
Branch 1, Philadelphia, meets every Saturday, 8 p. m., City Hall, North Plaza. The branch issues a call for a general conference of Philadelphia Socialists for Friday, 8 p. m., September 30, at 223 North Twelfth Street.
Branch No. 11, Milwaukee, meets second and fourth Wednesdays, at 614 State street. Jacob Hunger, secretary, 602 Chestnut street.

Branch 12, Milwaukee, meets every first and third Thursday of the month at Volkman's Hall, corner of Twenty-first and Centre streets at 8 p. m. Edward Koepfer, secretary.
Milwaukee Central Committee of the Social Democratic Party of America meets first and third Mondays at 8 o'clock sharp at 614 State street. Frederic Heath, secretary, John Doerfler, treasurer.

Branch No. 5 (Jewish) of Pennsylvania meets every Wednesday at 605 S. Third Street, Philadelphia, at 7:30. Discussion from 8 to 9. I. Gerson, secretary.

Branch No. 3, St. Louis, meets second and fourth Tuesdays at Thirtieth and Wyoming streets. Jno. Shepherd, 3416 Wisconsin avenue.
Branch No. 4, Milwaukee, meets every first and third Friday each month at Mueller's Hall, corner Twenty-third and Brown streets, George Moerschel, secretary, 778 Twenty-fifth street.

MISSOURI STATE TICKET.
For Judge of Supreme Court, Long Term.
ALBERT E. SANDERSON, St. Louis.
For Judge of Supreme Court, Short Term.
G. A. HOEHN, St. Louis.
For Superintendent of Public Schools,
JAMES A. RENDALL, St. Louis.
For Railroad Commissioner,
GEORGE J. STORZ, Kansas City.

ST. LOUIS WOODWORKERS.

Cabinet Makers' Union, No. 12, of St. Louis, a branch of the Amalgamated Wood Workers' Union, addressed the following appeal to the central organized body of trades unionists in that city:

To the Central Trades and Labor Union of St. Louis:

Brethren:—We, the members of Cabinet Makers' Union No. 12, a branch of the Amalgamated Wood Workers' Union, beg leave to submit for your kind consideration the following resolution, hoping that you will adopt the same and thereby uphold the honor and dignity of your central body as a true and fearless representative of the organized wage-workers of St. Louis.

The Social Democratic Party of America, organized by such brave men as Brother Eugene V. Debs, at its National convention held in Chicago, in June, 1898, adopted the following as part of its platform:

"The trade union movement and independent political action are the chief emancipating factors of the working class, the one representing its economic, the other its political wing, and both must co-operate to abolish the capitalist system of production and distribution.
"The solidarity of labor connecting us with millions of class-conscious fellow-workers throughout the civilized world will lead to International Socialism, the brotherhood of man."
"We hold the trade union movement to be indispensable to the working people under the prevailing industrial conditions in their struggle for the improvement of their conditions, as well as for the final abolition of the wage system; we further recognize the urgent need of thorough organization among the workers.
"We recommend an honest co-operation to that end to the members of the Social Democratic Party of America, by becoming members of the unions in their respective trades or callings, or of the Federal Labor Unions, and striving to organize all such trades as have heretofore not been organized and assist the organization of labor in every way possible;
"In order to more effectively resist the encroachments upon labor we advise organized labor to combine into national and international unions, pledging ourselves to extend to them all possible assistance to accomplish this end.
"We encourage the movement of organized labor for the establishment of a legal eight-hour workday and the Saturday half holiday, and we condemn the modern white slavery of the sweating system."

"Brothers of the Central Trades and Labor Union! We hold the time has come when organized labor must show its true colors not only in the economic, but also in the political field. We therefore instruct our delegates to your honorable body to submit the following resolution for your approval:

"Whereas, we hold that the position taken by the Social Democratic Party of America toward the trades union movement is a correct one and should be fully appreciated by every honest union man.
"Whereas, we believe that much good will be accomplished by the honest co-operation of the Social Democratic Party, or any other bona fide labor party, with the general trades and labor movement, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Central Trades and Labor Union of St. Louis heartily extends the hand of brotherhood and solidarity to the Social Democratic Party or any other bona fide party, that is upholding and fighting for the principles on the lines set forth in the above clauses of the Social Democratic platform.
"Resolved, That in our opinion the working people of this country should not hesitate one moment to cut loose from the old capitalist boodle parties and give their moral and financial support to the political class struggle of labor.
"Resolved, That we hail with joy the cheering news that our brothers, the trades unionists of England, Scotland and Ireland, at their annual congress held in Bistol, England, about a month ago, have taken exactly the

NOTICE TO COMRADES

Our friends all over the country will be anxious to learn of the results of our first campaign, and we urge the branch officers in every community where the S. D. P. has had a ticket, to send the earliest possible information to headquarters.

A new branch has been organized at Nashua, N. H., by Comrade Howie of Manchester.

In the 12th Assembly District of New York, seventeen open-air meetings were held by comrades of the S. D. P. last night.

Splendid meetings have been held in the principal cities of Massachusetts, and the reception given to Eugene Debs has been most cordial.

Comrade Eugene V. Debs goes for one night to New York to speak in behalf of the S. D. P., and Joseph Baronness' candidacy for the state assembly.

A new branch was organized at Whitman, Mass., by Comrades Haile and Debs. The friends there are enthusiastic and the branch, organized with the best quality of union workmen, has excellent prospects.

Comrade Debs addressed meetings at Somersworth, N. H., Amesbury, Mass., Fitchburg, Mass., Newburyport, Mass., Haverhill, Mass. To-night he speaks at Beverly, Mass., New York City on the 6th, Hartford, Conn., on the 7th.

The St. Louis comrades had a grand demonstration Sunday, October 30, at the Bohemian Gymnasium. An appreciative audience of nearly 1,000 was in attendance. Comrades Anna F. Smith of San Diego, Cal., Comrade Charles F. Gebelein, national organizer of Cabinet Makers, and Comrade Seymour Stedman of Chicago, were the orators. Everything considered, the organizer regards it as the most encouraging Socialist demonstration that has been held in St. Louis during the last five years.

SANDERSON, Organizer.

BRUTES FOR GOVERNORS.

A new Montjuich has been instituted by the infamous Austrian government. The Munkas, a newspaper of Fünfkirchen, reports of the sufferings experienced by political prisoners in Croatia, Austria. During the recent elections several persons, including some Socialists, were incarcerated by the government. They were given salted herrings and allowed nothing to drink. They suffered so much from thirst that they drank their own urine. They were compelled to run round their cells until they fell from exhaustion, were beaten with a dog's whip, and tortured so that two of their number expired from their sufferings.

All this inhuman cruelty took place in order to make the prisoners confess imaginary crimes. These revelations have been made by the chief editor of the Sloboda, a paper published in Agram. Of the 67 prisoners who were arrested with the editor, ten have died, and as many more are expected shortly to be relieved by death from their sufferings.

same position as proposed in the above resolution.

Respectfully submitted by
Cabinet Makers' Union, No. 12, of St.
Louis, Branch of Amalgamated
Wood Workers' Union of America.

WISCONSIN STATE TICKET.

For Governor,
HOWARD TUTTLE,
Milwaukee.

For Lieut.-Governor,
E. P. HASSINGER,
Brookfield.

For Secretary of State,
THOS. C. P. MYERS,
Milwaukee.

For State Treasurer,
AUGUST MOHR,
Sheboygan.

For Attorney-General,
RICH. ELSNER,
Milwaukee.

For Election Commissioner,
CHARLES RICHTER,
Racine.

For Superintendent of Schools,
R. O. STOLL,
Eau Claire.

For Insurance Commissioner,
E. H. ROONEY,
Milwaukee.

WISCONSIN.

As election day grows near our comrades are quickening their energies and putting in every stroke possible toward making our canvass a fruitful one. One especially good result of this activity is the "coming out" of certain local speakers, who have heretofore felt diffident about appearing as teachers of the eternal truths of Socialism. Nothing promises so much in our movement as the increase in the number of speakers, especially those who have prepared themselves by close study of social science.

Within the past few days our party has covered the walls of Milwaukee with a big two-sheet poster to the voters. It runs about as follows:

VOTERS' ATTENTION!

Do not vote for the party of trusts and monopolies and the exploitation of labor. Don't vote for the Republican party. Don't vote for the party of peanut politicians, organized ignorance and the 16 to 1 humbug. Don't vote for the Democratic party. Don't vote for the party of fusion, of treason to voters, for the party that has sold out to the capitalist parties everywhere and every time it found a buyer. Don't vote for the People's party! Vote for bread and butter. Vote for yourselves, your wives and children.

Vote for the emancipation of mankind. Vote for the Social Democratic Party of America.

A smaller poster, designed to meet the conditions in the towns of the state, has also been gotten out through private subscription, and will be plentifully posted. The party has also issued a leaflet in German to accompany our platforms, which are printed in English. We are spreading our literature in all directions.

One of the saddening features of the campaign in Milwaukee was the appearance a few evenings ago of Eltweed Pomeroy of New Jersey as a speaker for the pops. By speaking in favor of the pops, when a Socialist party was in the field, shows Mr. Pomeroy's true colors. Not only is he not for us, but he is against us. The workers who are trying to emancipate themselves by means of the ballot can now be on their guard against Mr. Pomeroy's honied phrases, for he is not interested in their struggle—his interests are with the revolting middle class. It is clear that this great referendum enthusiast is a reactionary and not a revolutionist. He is soiling his hands by having anything to do with the pops in Milwaukee, for they are running a very shady campaign.

NEW HAMPSHIRE TICKET.

For Governor,
SUMNER F. CLAFLIN,
Manchester.

For Congressman—First District,
CHARLES H. MELLEEN,
Somersworth.

For Congressman—Second District,
ED. E. SOUTHWICK,
Nashua.

According to the Fanulla, the total number of newspapers arbitrarily suppressed—both temporarily and permanently—during the recent Italian troubles mounts up to 116, of which by far the greater proportion was naturally Socialist and revolutionary. There were 52 Socialist papers, 25 Catholic, 10 Republican, 8 Anarchist, 1 Monarchist, 1 Anti-Unitarian, and the remaining 19 of unascertained political views.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE TICKET.

For Governor,
WINFIELD P. PORTER,
Newburyport.

For Lieut. Governor,
ISAAC W. SKINNER,
Brookton.

For Secretary of State,
CHARLES H. BRADLEY,
Haverhill.

For Treasurer,
CHARLES W. WHITE,
Winchester.

For Auditor,
CHARLES S. GRIEVES,
Amesbury.

For Congressman, Sixth District,
ALBERT L. GILLEN.

For State Senator, Fourth Essex District,
JOHN C. CHASE.

For Representative, First Essex District,
JEREMIAH J. REARDON.

For Representative, Fifth Essex District,
JAMES F. CAREY.

CAREY'S ADDRESS TO THE VOTERS.

I enter the contest for representation in this district in the name of the same cause, guided by the same principles, and animated by the same hope in behalf of which I appealed to you during the last municipal election, a hope of a higher and grander life for mankind, possibly only through the application of the principles of the cause which I have sought to advance and to defend, the cause of International Socialism, represented in this contest by the Social Democratic Party, whose nomination for representative I have accepted.

My acts as one of your representatives in the city council are not hidden behind the veil of a secret ballot. They are open to your investigation upon the records at city hall. I have evaded no obligation. I have shirked no responsibility. My voice and vote were upon every occasion on the side of the forces that make for justice and governmental purity; and I have sought to place upon the side of progress all the power that the city possessed.

This power, limited and abridged as it is at best, is being rapidly reduced to the minimum by enactments of the legislature, of which the act passed this year, lessening the power of control over street railways by city councils, is but one of the many examples that might be cited.

For this reason, and further because the essential principles of Socialism can only be applied through the medium of the higher governmental powers, my comrades of the Social Democratic Party have placed me in nomination as representative, in the hope that in the statehouse the cause that seeks the reign of industrial equality and economic justice by the inauguration of the Co-operative Commonwealth, may have at least one voice to present and defend its claims, one vote to sustain its demands.

Whether or not this will be done, rests with you, citizens of Ward 5. If elected, I shall go to the statehouse prepared to defend the principles of International Socialism, enunciated and affirmed by the Social Democratic Party of America. If not elected, I shall bow to your will; but I shall continue to labor in the future as I have in the past, for the abolition of wage slavery, the end of class rule, and the substitution of industrial order and peace for the present economic anarchy and strife.

JAMES F. CAREY,
Social Democratic Candidate for
Representative in the 5th Essex
District (Ward 5), Massachusetts.

SOCIETY WOMEN VS. SEWING WOMEN.

Too much cannot be said in commendation of an enterprise undertaken by a number of women of the highest standing in New York City.

They propose to start a co-operative tailor shop for the manufacture of ladies' gowns, directly under the supervision of the patronesses of the establishment.

The idea was suggested by the hopeless strike in which the Ladies' Tailors' Union has been involved for some time, and the consequent revelations as to the sanitary conditions that prevail in these shops.

The conditions under which the business is to be operated are: An eight-hour working day; fair wages; profits to be devoted to extending the business, and cash prices.

If the idea is carried out—and that seems pretty well assured—the women will no longer be obliged to pay the exorbitant prices now prevailing, their gowns will not be suspected of harboring the germs of infectious disease, and the workmen will receive a wage large enough to provide a clean and decent living.—New York Journal.

Congress voted millions for war, but it doesn't vote very much for peace. A capitalist congress is willing to spend the people's money on increasing the army and navy, but it hasn't time to vote for bread for the starving people. That would be too much like Socialism!

OLD AND NEW.

Long have the poets vaunted, in their lays,

Old times, old loves, old friendship,
and old wine;
Why should the old monopolize all
praise?
Then let the new claim mine.

Give me strong new friends, when the
old prove weak,
Or fall me in my darkest hour of
need;

Why perish with the ship that springs
a leak,
Or lean upon a reed?

Give me new love—warm, palpitating,
sweet—

When all the grace and beauty
leaves the old;

When like a rose it withers at my
feet,
Or, like a hearth, grows cold.

Give me new times, bright with a
prosperous cheer,
In place of old, tear-blotted, burdened
days;

I hold a sunlit present far more dear,
And worthy of my praise.

When the old creeds are threadbare,
and worn through,

And all too narrow for the broadening
soul,
Give me the fine, firm texture of the
new—
Fair, beautiful, and whole!

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

McKINLEYS' BROTHER HAS A PULL.

William Astor Chanler of New York, in a public address, charges that Abner McKinley, the president's brother, had made a pile of money during the war by acting as attorney for a number of clothing firms which had obtained contracts from the secretary of war for supplying uniforms for the soldiers in the field.

Mr. Chanler says that in many cases the clothing thus supplied was made of cheap and worthless material which fell to pieces when exposed to the rain. He insisted that it would be the duty of the next congress to investigate the methods by which these contracts were awarded.

It has been a matter of common knowledge in New York for more than a year that Abner McKinley was doing a paying business by acting as attorney for claimants and contractors in the various departments. He was formerly an attorney at Canton, O., but soon after the election of his brother William to the presidency he removed to New York, where he opened a law office in Wall street. About the time that President McKinley took hold of the helm of state Abner McKinley went to Washington and established himself at the Ebbitt House.

He remained in Washington during the extra session of congress in the spring of 1897 and returned to New York again last fall. He was in Washington almost continuously from the time congress assembled last December until the peace protocol with Spain was signed. During the winter he had a good deal of business in the interior department. In one mining case from Colorado he received a fee of \$20,000, and he also collected another princely fee for looking after the interests of a wealthy ranchman in New Mexico.

When the trouble with Spain began Abner McKinley transferred his attention to the war department and it was a matter of common talk that he appeared as attorney for most of the successful contractors. Some time in May last he was said to be interested in having awarded to a New York firm a contract for supplying clothing to the amount of about \$50,000. It turned out afterward that a responsible Philadelphia firm had submitted a bid \$10,000 less than that of the New York manufacturers.

The Philadelphia concern threatened to make trouble, but was finally silenced with the promise that it should have a good contract for supplying clothing as soon as another award was made. The promise was kept and the Philadelphia dealers secured an award at even better figures than had been obtained by their New York rivals. This method of paying "hush money" prevented the exposure of a gigantic scandal.

N. R. Bimberg of the National Equipment Company, 12 East Twenty-third street, New York City, manufacturers and dealers in uniforms, has signed a statement, involving the name and influence of Abner McKinley, brother of the president, in securing contracts for army equipment. He says he bid on 100,000 uniforms, but when the bids were opened they were thrown out and the contract re-advertised. He claims his bid was the lowest and says:

"While I was watching the opening of one of these contracts a man who was known as a go-between in the war department matters snapped his fingers at me and said: 'You have not got the right influence.'

"He said he was a great friend of Abner McKinley, the brother of the president, and that he could get me a number of contracts. I agreed to meet this man and we talked over matters. Then he brought to me a form of contract drawn by a law firm. According to this agreement I was to pay a certain percentage to

this go-between, and it was explained to me that this sum would be necessary in order to secure the influence of Abner McKinley."

WHAT THE MILLIONAIRES ARE DOING.

What are the millionaires doing with their money? Geo. W. Vanderbilt has bought 30,000 acres of land near Asheville, N. C., and has put up a mansion, the foundation of which cost \$400,000. The top of a mountain was leveled off to make the site. This vast estate is to be devoted to tree culture and game preserve.

John Jacob Astor has a similar estate in Florida.

Dr. Webb, whose wife was a Vanderbilt, has a fine country seat on the east side of Lake Champlain, containing 30,500 acres. He also has another estate in the Adirondacks, consisting of 153,000 acres, a large part of which is to be fenced in to contain moose, elk, and deer. Another son-in-law has an estate adjoining Dr. Webb's, in the Adirondacks, which contains about 100,000 acres.

Mrs. William H. Vanderbilt has eight sons and daughters, and their combined wealth is said to exceed \$300,000,000. Her eldest daughter, Mrs. Elliot F. Shepard, has built a most beautiful mansion, containing about 200 rooms, at Scarborough, on the Hudson.

The late Jay Gould's country seat contains 1,000 acres. With its marble mansion it cost over a million dollars. George Gould has a notable summer seat in the Catskills, with 2,300 acres of mountain forest. Part of this is enclosed by a fence of thirty-two strands of barbed wire, within which are kept herds of elk and deer, besides pheasants and other small game.

Ex-Governor Morton, twenty times a millionaire, has a place at Rhinebeck, N. Y., where 1,000 acres are under artistic cultivation. His barn is 500 feet long and cost nearly a million dollars.

Austin Corbin has a vast estate in New Hampshire, containing 26,000 acres. He has had thirty miles of barbed wire fence placed around his park, at a cost of \$70,000, and has placed within reindeer from Labrador, wild boars from Germany, moose from Montana, elk from the northwest, deer from the Maine forests, partridges from Virginia, and hares from Belgium.

William Rockefeller has started out to beat all others in a private park and game preserve. It is on the Pocantico Hills, N. Y. It is said that twenty years' labor will be required to complete his plans for making the finest private park in the United States, if not in the whole world. The house, Rockwood Hall, has already cost \$1,500,000, but very much more is to be spent upon an elaborate scheme of landscape gardening. The property extends from the hills to the river, where it has a frontage of a mile. Over a dozen farms and country seats were absorbed to form the tract. One residence that cost \$200,000 was torn down because it interfered with the view.—Harriet E. Orcutt.

THE PRESS AND ITS SLAVES.

Among that large section of the public, who, without definitely committing themselves to Socialism, yet entertain a good deal of sympathy with our ideas, the progress of Socialism is grievously impeded by the misrepresentation of the press. Readers of orthodox newspapers hardly ever see the word Socialism, except in conjunction with some epithet of contempt and hatred, and Socialists are almost invariably represented as self-seekers, or as enemies of the human race. A brilliant side-light has been thrown upon this matter, recently, in a letter from an American journalist that was printed in the London Clarion.

"In my weekly instructions," he says, "I am strictly forbidden to mention anything favorable to Socialism and Socialists, or utter one single word of praise in favor of any labor reformer whom the corporations condemn. And I am not to utter one word of complaint or of accusation against railroad companies, nor any other great incorporated industry. I must not say hard things of John D. Rockefeller, nor against Carnegie. I must not advocate less hours of labor, nor insist that labor-saving machinery has displaced men and women in the manufacturing world, nor harp on child labor, nor write disrespectfully of the millionaire church members, nor advocate any change whatever in present conditions. If I can entertain the public without touching on any of the above forbidden subjects, my position will remain open, and I can earn bread for myself and loved ones; but if I allow the suppressed truth to leak out, I will be turned out to swell the ranks of American tramping."

"How despicable it all is! Our enemies must be hard pushed to resort to such tactics as these; and yet their conduct is but another token of the growing strength of Socialism. Verily, the fear of the rich is the hope of the poor!"—Commonwealth.

Let no man fear the name of "Socialist." The movement of the working class for justice by any other name would be as terrible.—Father William Barry.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

The Social Democratic Party of America declares that life, liberty and happiness for every man, woman and child are conditioned upon equal political and economic rights.

That private ownership of the means of production and distribution of wealth has caused society to split into two distinct classes with conflicting interests, the small possessing class of capitalists or exploiters of the labor force of others and the ever-increasing large dispossessed class of wage-workers, who are deprived of the socially due share of their product.

That capitalism, the private ownership of the means of production, is responsible for the insecurity of subsistence, the poverty, misery and degradation of the ever-growing majority of our people.

That the same economic forces which have produced and now intensify the capitalist system will compel the adoption of Socialism, the collective ownership of the means of production, for the common good and welfare, or result in the destruction of civilization.

That the trade union movement and independent political action are the chief emancipating factors of the working class, the one representing its economic, the other its political wing, and that both must cooperate to abolish the capitalist system of production and distribution.

Therefore, the Social Democratic Party of America declares its object to be the establishment of a system of co-operative production and distribution, through the restoration to the people of all the means of production and distribution, to be administered by organized society in the interest of the whole people, and the complete emancipation of society from the domination of capitalism.

The wage-workers and all those in sympathy with their historical mission to realize a higher civilization should sever connection with all capitalist and reform parties and unite with the Social Democratic Party of America.

The control of political power by the Social Democratic Party will be tantamount to the abolition of capitalism and of all class rule.

The solidarity of labor connecting us with millions of class conscious fellow workers throughout the civilized world will lead to International Socialism, the brotherhood of man.

As steps in this direction, we make the following demands:

1. Revision of our antiquated Federal Constitution in order to remove the obstacles to full and complete control of government by all the people, irrespective of sex.
2. The public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines.
3. The public ownership of all railroads, telegraph, telephone, all means of transportation, communication, water works, gas and electric plants, and all other public utilities.
4. The public ownership of all gold, silver, copper, lead, coal, iron, and all other mines; also all oil and gas wells.
5. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production.
6. The inauguration of a system of public works and improvements for the employment of a large number of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose.
7. All useful inventions to be free to all, the inventor to be remunerated by the public.
8. Labor legislation to be made national instead of local, and international where possible.
9. National insurance of working people against accidents and lack of employment and pensions in old age.
10. Equal civil and political rights for women, and the abolition of all laws discriminating against women.
11. The adoption of the Initiative and Referendum, and the right of recall of representatives by the voters.
12. Abolition of war as far as the United States are concerned, and the introduction of international arbitration instead.

The Social Democratic Party of America does not hope for the establishment of social order through the increase of misery, but on the contrary expects its coming through the determined, united efforts of the workers of both city and country to gain and use the political power to that end. In view of this we adopt the following platform for the purpose of uniting the workers in the country with those in the city:

1. No more public land to be sold, but to be utilized by the United States or the state directly for the public benefit, or leased to farmers in small parcels of not over 640 acres, the state to make strict regulations as to improvement and cultivation. Forests and waterways to be put under direct control of the nation.
2. Construction of grain elevators, magazines and cold storage buildings by the nation, to be used by the farmers at cost.
3. The postal, railroad, telegraph and telephone services to be so united that every post and railroad station shall be also a telegraph and telephone center. Telephone service for farmers, as for residents of cities, to be at cost.
4. A uniform postal rate for the transportation of agricultural products on all railroads.
5. Public credit to be at the disposal of counties and towns for the improvement of roads and soil and for irrigation and drainage.

SOCIALISM IN RUSSIA.

About the two Socialist Federations organized in Russia I was right when I wrote you that the lack of news did not imply their disorganization by the recent arrests.

The manifesto shows that the Socialists are conducting their propaganda in the regular English style. The men must be taught to organize in trade unions before they are fit to take up municipal or imperial questions.

The following are some of the most interesting passages:

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.

Comrades! Nearly forty years have passed since the Russian people became free from the dominion of the serf-holders. The time when the serf-holders could do with us whatever they liked is over long ago.

Comrades!! There is no more miserable life than that of an unskilled laborer! But he is not the only one who suffers. . . . The time when skilled workmen received good wages is gone.

They read journals, books, and periodicals, and gather from them what is going on in the world, and by what means to make human existence happier. . . .

the workmen of many Russian towns elected delegates, who met and decided to form one federation or party, which is called "The Social Democratic Labor Party of the Russian Empire."

The manifesto ends with an appeal to the local workers to join the organized section of their comrades. Of course, no names are attached to this appeal.

Another Socialist message, dated September 29, comes from St. Petersburg. Its contents are of a very sad character. It is a list of incarcerated persons and those awaiting deportation on suspicion of "political untrustworthiness."

If we take into consideration that the 150 arrested, above mentioned, comprise St. Petersburg alone, and that extensive raiding and arresting was in activity recently in Warsaw, Lodz, and in the south of Russia, we must conclude that the imperial peacemakers in international politics are pretty militant within the Empire against unarmed people.

MAN VS. MACHINE

[Col. Robert G. Ingersoll has written a good many foolish things on the subject of labor and capital, but the following is one of the finest gems in the whole list of labor literature, and so we can forgive him the other things.]

Invention has filled the world with competitors not only of labor but of mechanics—mechanics of the highest skill. To-day the ordinary laborer is for the most part a cog in a wheel.

The other day I heard a man say that it was impossible for thousands of good mechanics to get employment, and that in his judgment the government ought to furnish work for the people.

On every side men are being discharged and machines are being invented to take their places. When the great factory shuts down, the workers who inhabit it and gave it life, as thoughts do the brain, go away, and it stands there like an empty skull.

The capitalist comes forward with his specific. He tells the workman that he must be economical—and yet, under the present system, economy would only lessen wages.

Capital has always claimed, and still claims, the right to combine. Manufacturers meet and determine prices, even in spite of the great law of supply and demand. Have the laborers the same right to consult and combine? The rich meet in the bank, club-house or parlor.

How are we to settle the unequal contest between man and machine? Will the machine finally go into partnership with the laborer? Can these forces of nature be controlled for the benefit of her suffering children? Will extravagance keep pace with ingenuity? Will workmen become intelligent enough and strong enough to become the owners of machines?

In the days of cannibalism the strong devoured the weak—actually ate their flesh. In spite of all the laws that man has made, in spite of all advances in science, the strong, the heartless, still live on the weak, the unfortunate and the foolish.

It is impossible for a man with a good heart to be satisfied with this world as it now is. No man can truly enjoy even what he earns—what he knows to be his own—knowing that millions of his fellow-men are in misery and want.

In a world filled with millions and millions of acres of land waiting to be tilled, where one man can raise the food for hundreds, millions are on the edge of famine.

Are the "laws of supply and demand," invention and science, monopoly and competition, capital and legislation, always to be the enemies of those who toil? Will the workers always be ignorant enough to give their earnings to the useless? Will they support millions of soldiers to kill the sons of other workmen?

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LIBRARY.

The following list of books is by no means complete, but it contains many of the ablest works on Economics, Politics and the Labor Movement.

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crowned idleness, forever fall on its knees, and will the lips unstained by lies forever kiss the robbed impostor's hand? Will they understand that beggars cannot be generous, and that every healthy man must earn the right to live?

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