

# DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 9, NO. 191.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1909.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

## MANUFACTURING PROSPERITY IN KANSAS.

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**I**F Kansas lay in New Zealand, the conclusion would be justified that the State Bank Commissioner's report, showing "\$145 on deposit in Kansas banks for every individual," was a sort of boom to attract immigration. As Kansas happens to be located in the United States, the conclusion is that the State Bank Commissioner is a sort of "puller-in" for the realm of Capitalism.

The total deposits reported by the State Bank Commissioner are \$160,000,000. This amount the Commissioner divides by the number of inhabitants of the State, and, presto, he makes out each the happy holder of \$145.

The Kansas Commissioner's theory has often been exposed in these columns with figures that will bear repetition:

Depew, as a Director of the New York Central, receives \$50,000 a year as his "wages," as he insists upon calling his swag. A laborer along the Central road receives \$1.25 a day, or \$7.50 a week, or \$225.00 a year. According to the Kansas Commissioner's system of ascertaining the average, or per capita earning on the New York Central, he would argue that, seeing that \$50,225 is the total earnings of wage earner Depew and wage earner Guiseppe Barbato, each of them earns \$25,112.50 a year!

If in a room, where there are 100 men, one of them has in his pockets \$199.01, and the other 99 men have a cent each in their pockets, the Kansas Commissioner would argue that, seeing that \$200 is the total amount of cash in that room, therefore there are \$2 in that room for every man.

The dodge is stale; it is a three card monte game that has lost its conjuring powers. The overwhelming number of persons in Kansas who have not their per capita, are not reimbursed by the dodge. It is moreover a dangerous dodge. It betrays the minimum that each person is entitled to, and it allows vistas of the

much larger per capita that would be enjoyed were Capitalism abolished, and thereby the system were done away with, the law of whose existence is to keep production down in order that prices may be jacked up.

If “averages,” or “per capitas,” could fill up pockets and deplete them, then there would be neither pauper wage slave nor gorged multimillionaire to plague the souls of the statistician manufacturers of prosperity.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.

Uploaded May 2010

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