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LABOR'S POLITICAL STRUGGLE

Notes Indicating the Progress of the World's Socialist Movement.

FOREIGN.

GERMANY.

The Socialists in the Reichstag have introduced a bill abolishing child labor.

The Socialists have gained five seats in the municipal council at Leipzig; they obtained 7,529 votes.

At the town elections in Schildesche, Westphalia, the Social Democratic candidate for Mayor received 82 votes, and the capitalist candidate—1 vote!

At every election held in Germany during the past few months the Socialists have been either victorious in the matter of winning seats or increasing their votes.

The editor of the Socialist paper at Bremen has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for criticizing the senate (i. e., the ruling body of the town, which is one of the old Hanse towns).

Since 1895 the Socialist vote in Wurtemberg has been doubled. It jumped from 32,000 to more than 60,000. The People's Party, until now the strongest party in Wurtemberg, has lost over 20,000 votes, which went to the Social Democratic Party.

For the first time since the German empire was formed, the Reichstag last week indulged in a free and open discussion of the Emperor's words and acts. Every party represented entered into the criticism without hindrance from the President of the Reichstag. This was a distinct victory for the Socialists which augurs well for the future of Germany.

According to the latest reports of the Executive Committee of the German Social Democratic party there are 76 Socialist papers in Germany, 51 of which are dailies. Besides these, the party possesses two comic illustrated papers ("Der Wahre Jakob" and "Der Sueddeutsche Postillon"), two illustrated belletristic journals and a scientific weekly ("Die Neue Zeit"), exclusively devoted to scientific articles and discussions. The trades union papers in Germany, which are in close touch with the Social Democratic movement, number sixty.

AUSTRIA.

The victory of Comrade Ignaz Daszynski at the Reichsrat election at Cracow, Galizia, releases him from a sentence of imprisonment, which had been passed upon him by the Austrian courts.

The little town of Harrachsdorf, in Bohemia, is celebrating a glorious Socialist victory. At the Reichsrat election our comrades carried the fifth "curie" (class of proletarian electors) by 223 against 6 capitalist votes, and the fourth "curie" (small house owners, etc.) by 45 against 5 capitalist votes.

BELGIUM

The Socialists of Belgium have introduced a bill in favor of manhood suffrage at the age of 21, and abolishing the system of plural voting.

CANADA.

Arthur H. Spencer, the Canadian Deleonite, denies that he is working for the Government. Says it's another Arthur H. Spencer, who lives in Nanaimo.

ITALY

The Socialists have decided to introduce several bills in the Italian parliament. One relates to the labor of women and children, one to the municipalization of public works, and one proposes to abolish the iniquitous system of the "domicilio coatto," by which the government can now take citizens without trial and compel them to live in other places.

Queen Helene of Italy is said to be a radical and insists upon the appointment of workmen to important governmental positions. She realizes that unless more power is granted to the workers, who are largely disfranchised, they are likely to stampede into the growing Socialist movement, or that the more ignorant and impatient may repeat the French revolution.

UNITED STATES.

The "Social Democrat" is the name of a new paper at Williamsport, Pa.

Dayton, Ohio, local has adopted resolutions declaring in favor of unity, and nominated Max S. Hayes for member of National Council.

In the future the Social Justice Lectureship of Chicago will hold its agitation meetings under the auspices of the regular organization of the Socialist party.

The various Socialist factions of Los Angeles met on Saturday night, December 29th, 1900, for the purpose of reaching, if possible, a common ground for future political contests in this State. A "Harmony Committee" has been appointed.

Enough signatures have been secured to warrant the organization of a Social Democratic branch in the East End of Cleveland, Ohio. The organization will be perfected at a meeting to be held Thursday evening, January 10.

The Outlook for December, reviewing the vote of the late election, says: "The only party which made

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ADULTERATION

Poisoning of the Food For Private Profit One of the Crimes of Capitalism.

The London correspondent of the New York "Evening Post," in this week's letter, gives some remarkable information upon the general adulteration of beer. Among other things, he says:

"In Manchester, Salford, and elsewhere some two or three thousand cases of arsenical poisoning and some deaths have occurred, and it proves on analysis that the poisoning is directly due to the beer consumed in these localities. One of the salient ingredients of this cheap beer is a preparation of sugar; one of the ingredients of sugar is sulphuric acid, and one of the ingredients of sulphuric acid is arsenic. The whole trouble arose from the fact that there was an undue proportion of arsenic in the sulphuric acid. In some cases, when the beer was analyzed, it was found to contain one-third of a grain of arsenious acid, that is to say, every pint and a half of beer would have its one-sixteenth of a grain of arsenious acid. Seeing that the pharmacopoeial dose of arsenious acid is from one-sixteenth to one-fiftieth of a grain, the seriousness of this discovery is apparent. Indeed, the consumption of nearly a pint and a half of this beer—and in Lancashire it is no uncommon thing for a workman to drink a gallon a day—involves the taking of a full dose of arsenious acid. And it is not alone in Lancashire that these discoveries have been made. Beer is, of course, the national drink in England, that is to say, the drink of the man whose only place of entertainment and refreshment is the public house, the man whose income is anything up to \$600 a year. And now that the scare has been started, alarmist reports are coming in from different parts of the country."

Commenting upon these facts London "Justice," the organ of the Social Federation of England, says: "Surely nothing could more clearly demonstrate the evils of private enterprise than the recent deaths through the adulteration of beer with a virulent poison, and the revelations which have arisen therefrom. The common idea about beer is that it is the product of malt and hops, but it appears that Manchester way, anyhow, malt and hops are entirely dispensed with in the manufacture of what is essentially the poor man's beverage. 'Don't rob the poor man of his beer' used to be a popular cry, especially at election times. Now, however, it seems that there is a conspiracy among the plutocrats who monopolize the liquor trade and recruit the peerage to poison him with it rather than rob him of it. There is a considerable scare about the matter, but there appears to be no intention to thoroughly investigate it, to bring anybody to book, or to visit with condign punishment those who have been guilty of deliberately poisoning an article of common consumption. It only shows to what a depth of moral depravity we have fallen when, apart from the fright due to the fatalities caused thereby, the wholesale poisoning of the people's food should be regarded with comparative complacency and provoke no indignation whatever. Not only so, but there is a tendency to actually put a premium on this dastardly method of profit-making by poisoning. The greatest difficulties are placed in the way of the inspectors who have been carrying out the adulteration acts, and when at any time poisonous food is discovered every possible means are used to hush the thing up and to shield the delinquent profit-mongers. Even when a conviction is secured the offenders are protected against publicity, and the deterrent effect which publicity brings, by the law of libel. Manufacturers of food may, it seems, poison their compounds with impunity, but any unfortunate newspaper which dares call attention to their nefarious proceedings will in all probability have to pay heavy damages for so doing.

"No doubt our total abstinence friends would suggest that the brewers who put arsenic in their beer are really benefactors of humanity; that beer is a poison in any form, and that if people can be deterred from drinking it by any kind of adulteration or poisoning, good will have been done. They would argue that it is only necessary for people to become teetotalers to give up drinking beer altogether, and the trouble would disappear; it would not matter a straw then if the beer were poisoned, as nobody would be injured by it since nobody drank it. Unfortunately there is no such solution of the difficulty. It is not only beer which is faked and adulterated with noxious drugs until it becomes a veritable poison. So-called temperance drinks are quite as injurious, generally speaking, as the worst imitation of beer that was ever put upon the market, and no kind of drink or food is free from the poisoners' art to-day. Boric acid, an undoubted poison, is used for preserving milk, and enabling profit-mongering traders to palm off stale butter, ham, and other articles of food for fresh. Salicylic acid, again, a poisonous drug, is used in lime juice, lemon juice, and some so-called British wines. Formalin, another very dangerous drug, is used for the adulteration of milk; while glucose, to which has been ascribed the arsenic found in the poisonous beer, is, it appears, largely used in the manufacture of cheap sweets and jams. It is quite clear, therefore, that, no matter what we may eat or drink, we always run the risk of being poisoned, in consequence of the filthy adulteration carried on under that private enterprise in which the one object sought is to make a profit for the individual enterpriser, and the last thing thought of is whether his product is likely to be useful or harmful to the community. And from this condition of things there is clearly no escape as

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FREE WILL

Blatchford Writes In London "Clarion" On Individual and Social Responsibility

I am not preaching a doctrine of futility and despair. I do not mean to suggest that a man must stand still from sheer lack of power to go forward. No man can stand still. Backward or forward he must go. Backward or forward environment will carry him.

But can he not help himself? Yes, within limits. Before I go any farther I will put in a letter from a Warrington parson:

"Dear Nungam: One word of comment on your statement in this week's 'Clarion,' viz., 'The prisoner is a victim of wrong, and his offense should be laid at the door of that false society which has made him what he is.'"

"But how, on your teaching, can you blame society? If heredity and environment have made the individuals of whom society is made up, heredity and environment have made society itself. Why, then, rave against a dishonest system, and a religion of cant and self-righteousness?"

"Your position is illogical. Heredity and environment count for much, for very much; but for how much God alone knows. But the power of self-determination counts for something, too. And you can never hope to improve the social environment until you persuade men that they can, in spite of being severely handicapped through heredity and environment, rise superior to their circumstances—to that which 'stands round' them. Do not let any one think that he has no responsibility either for his character or for the well-being of his fellows; but rather encourage one and all to be up and doing, be the living past or the surrounding activity what it may.

"Yours, with hearty good wishes in your splendid effort to awaken men to a sense of their responsibility—this teaching notwithstanding."

Well, I am surprised. How can an intelligent, educated man get so mixed over such a simple matter?

First, about Society. Of course, Society is what heredity and environment have made it. But is that any reason why Society should be right, or true? Of course, a murderer has been made a murderer by heredity and environment. But does that prove murder good? The conditions of Society in England today are cruel and unjust. Shall I not then say that they are cruel and unjust because I believe that the individuals comprising society are as good as they can be with their natures and their surroundings? I may surely pity and forgive a thief without at all approving of robbery. There is a great deal of cant and self-righteousness in religion. Shall I not say so? Why? The slums are vile; sweating is hateful; war is brutal; is it "raving" to say these things? Because I believe heredity and environment have made a man a scoundrel or a cad, shall I not call him by his name? Shall I not call a cat cruel, or a shark rapacious, or a hog dirty, because I know their nature is to be cruel, or rapacious, or unclean? I should not call a wolf "wicked" because he ate my lambs; nor blame a thief because he stole my watch. But I should regard the wolf and the thief as creatures to be watched and resisted.

The wolf I should shoot and the thief I should try to reclaim. So I say society is not built up on just lines. The system is dishonest and unwise; and it is our duty to try and improve it. Heredity and environment, which have left society imperfect, have also driven me and others into some attempt at reform. So much for the parson's first point.

The second point is a claim that "self-determination" counts for much. But what is self-determination? Whence does our determination come? Is not this quality also a result of heredity and environment? If it is not a result of heredity and environment, what is it? Surely a man's desire or his determination to perform an act is the outcome of one or of both of the two forces, heredity and environment. For he does the act either because it is his nature to do that act or because he has been taught to do that act.

We do not steal because we are not thieves by blood, and because we have been taught that theft is dishonorable.

But we do not make any part of our own original nature, nor can we evolve knowledge out of our own souls. What we are we owe to other men. I can read and write. I did not invent grammar, nor spelling, nor compositions, nor pens, nor ink, nor paper. I have a mind, but I got it from my ancestors; and I have some knowledge, which I got from other men's acts, or books, or words. If at the early age of one I had been dumped down in the Carribees, I might have been a cannibal. As it is, I am what my fathers and mothers and the British people have made me.

But, indeed, our friend gives his own cause away. For, what does he bid me do? He says: "You can never hope to improve the social environment until you persuade men that they can . . . rise superior to their circumstances." You see. The men have to be "persuaded!" And if we "persuade" men to fight and win, to whom is the victory due? Is it not due to us who found them in despair and gave them hope? Yes. It is due to us; and we are part of their environment.

And our friend bids me not to let anyone think that he has no responsibility. "but to encourage one and all to be up and doing, be the living past and the surrounding activity what it may." But, what the

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LABOR'S ECONOMIC STRUGGLE

Notes Showing the Strife Between Organized Labor and Capitalism

FOREIGN.

The makers of tulle at Calais are on strike. They are receiving subscriptions from the workers at Nottingham who are engaged in the same trade.

In New Guinea the class struggle has made itself manifest; the miners striking against a reduction of \$5 per week, imposed by the Proprietary Gold Mining company.

Statistics have been published relating to the number of workmen in Denmark who are trade unionists. It appears that 76.7 per cent of the men and 21.7 per cent of the women are unionists.

The international jury of the Paris exposition has awarded the grand prize of honor to the American Federation of Labor for its exhibits of trade union objects and methods, in the department of Education and Social Economy.

Labor troubles are feared on the docks at Antwerp, and possibly a repetition of the riots of 1893. Twenty Antwerp ship brokers have gone to Cologne to confer with their German and British colleagues as to the best means of protecting "commercial liberty" against the "tyranny of labor."

The dock laborers' strike in Antwerp, Belgium, is assuming large proportions. It is estimated that over 30,000 men are out. The coal men have joined the strikers and business is almost suspended, very few outsiders having taken the places of the strikers, who are behaving in an orderly manner. It is said that the employers are bringing men from England to take the places of those on strike.

UNITED STATES.

Buffalo bosses have decided not to use the union label on their product.

The United Mine Workers spend over \$20,000 a month in missionary work.

Street railway strike in Scranton, Pa., is developing into fight of endurance.

During the fiscal year the Locomotive Firemen's Union gained 3,700 new members.

The Massachusetts eight-hour law has been crippled by a recent court decision.

The National Building Trades Council will hold its annual convention in Cincinnati, January 14.

The Page Boiler Works of Norwich have given their beloved employes what they voted for—a 20 per cent cut.

Lathers of New York won their fight for increased wages. An attempt will now be made to thoroughly organize the craft in Eastern cities.

According to Labor Commissioner Carroll D. Wright there are 3,500,000 men who are willing to work out of employment.

A call has been issued for the annual convention of the United Mine Workers of America, to be held in Indianapolis on January 21st.

Maryland is the latest State to join the procession to disfranchise the negro and illiterate vote. It is not stated that Mr. Bryan is protesting against the outrage.

In North Carolina children wage slaves are whipped for violation of mill and factory regulations. Democratic "friends of labor" control this highly civilized State.

Woodworkers in Corunna, Mich., organized one night, and the next day the shop was closed, and now people are wondering which side in this little class struggle will say "enough" first.

The trades unionists of Georgia are advocating another child labor law in the Legislature of that State. This time they will attempt to prohibit children under twelve years of age from working in the textile mills at night.

Quarterly report of Amalgamated Society of Carpenters shows that 2,598 members were admitted, bringing the total up to 65,756. Cash balance is \$1,010,276, increase of \$25,000 over previous quarter. This is a remarkable showing.

Sausagemakers in Philadelphia went on strike in a plant because the bosses searched them to see whether they had any sausages concealed about their persons when they quit work. Bosses probably suspected that they heard a bark.

Seven hundred women employed in the Smith carpet works at Yonkers, N. Y., suffered a reduction of 23 per cent, and to permit them to make up for the loss sustained their hours were increased from ten per day to twelve.

The report of the American Federation of Labor shows that 3,743 unions were chartered during the fiscal year, and affiliated with the A. F. of L., either directly or through their respective nationals or internationals. The gain in membership is 300,446.

The big smelters of Colorado have announced a reduction of from 75 cents to \$1 per day. The poor multi-millionaires of the smelters' trust see starvation staring them in the face, hence their effort to keep their heads above water by curtailing their cost of production.

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THE PROMISE OF THE NEW CENTURY.

At last the whirling cycle of the years has swung us into the Twentieth Century. We are taking up the toils and battles of a century which has been the inspiration of poets and the dream of prophets. Marvelling at the progress of the past one hundred years, men of intellect and imagination have scarcely dared to predict what wonders would be born in the years to come. Little as our forefathers, standing between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, dreamed of the phenomenal advance in civilization they were about to make, just so little do we, who turn now to greet the coming years, appreciate the great things they are pregnant with.

In order to get some idea of what may come let us glance rapidly backward over the past and see a little of what already has come. Prophecy, it is true, is a very dangerous enterprise; but, if we can discern in the course of events for the past one hundred years a steady trend in one certain direction, then, surely, we may hazard a prediction as to the result of such a movement and even be justified in urging present action to retard, guide or forward the evolution which seems imminent. Indeed, to do otherwise would be simply to refuse the wisdom of the centuries, to abdicate our position as intelligent beings, and resign ourselves to the hands of a blind fate. The basest ingrates would we be if we turned scornfully from the experience and knowledge which the agony and travail of the human race have placed at our disposal, to be borne unresistingly and lethargically whithersoever the unguided tide of time might flow. Our civilization has been made possible only by the active struggle of man to turn nature from a hostile, destructive force to a powerful, creative agency in the production of wealth. It is our bounden duty, then, to ourselves and to posterity to study the industrial phenomena of the past, to understand their logical sequences, and, our paths lighted by the social science thus acquired, to march intelligently forward toward the best goal to which the possible roads of the future lead.

There are two main ways in which we may serve mankind; first, in the various inventions of the mind which give to the world things of use and beauty; second, in the placing of these works of art and utility at the disposal of each and all. The first method of service can be accomplished by those able and so disposed almost independently and hence it requires no organization, no propaganda. But the second is dependent on economic conditions; it is, in fact, itself an economic condition. The distribution of the services which articles of use or beauty render is subject to economic laws. Economic laws, in their turn, are dependent on the industrial system. It is necessary, therefore, to modify or change the industrial system if we wish to affect the present distribution of those things that supply our artistic and ordinary needs. This change—this method of service is one that can only be accomplished through the will of the majority, and hence it demands of each and all who hope and thrive that they organize in a powerful movement for the conduct of a triumphant propaganda. This is at once the need and the promise of the Twentieth Century.

The past one hundred years have been filled with service of the first kind; but only the last ten of the century have witnessed any adoption of the second method. Marvellous, indeed, especially—nay, chiefly—in the industrial arts, has been the progress of mankind. Never before in the history of the world has invention succeeded invention, discovery followed discovery so rapidly as in the hundred years just gone. The use of steam and electricity has been established dwarfing space and annihilating time. Mechanical appliances have strengthened man's arm, steadied his nerve and made keen his sight until he can accomplish tasks a hundredfold as great, as daring and precise as heretofore. The mighty forces of nature are being subjugated to his service. Man is learning to wield the powers of the world.

To utilize the power which his brains have discovered for him, however, man's hands unaided and alone were all too weak. The individual has been too puny to wield the scepter over the industrial marvels that he has summoned into existence. He has been forced by the creatures of his own making to cooperate, to combine. If any feature of the industrial history of the past century, excepting invention, stands out more prominently than another, that feature is indubitably the development of organization, the growth of combination, the meaningful rise of all that is epitomized in the Trust. As the scope of man's power has increased he has been obliged to apportion out the separate tasks of life, to make use of specialization and co-operation.

We have, then, in the year of grace 1901, two important results of the past one hundred years—the machinery of wealth production, able to easily supply the people of the world; the method by which to handle that machinery. The problem of production has been solved, we must take up the task of a correct distribution of the wealth produced. Only too well have individuals demonstrated the power and advantage that resides in combination. We must learn the lesson they have taught and use it for the benefit of all.

During the progress of the years there has steadily developed a class conflict. Industry and invention have piled up immeasurable stores of wealth for a few. Commerce and Science have joined hands to lay at the feet of a few every luxury the whole, wide world affords. Literature and Art, forsaking their honorable temples, have become bond servants in the palaces of the rich. The few rich have monopolized practically all the good things of the earth. Evil, want and misery only are the possessions of the poor. Rockefeller receives \$2,000 income every half-hour through the year. In San Francisco for one-half hour

in the year 2,000 people get enough to eat by Salvation Army charity. Plutocratic idlers spend hundreds of thousands for the pleasure of a yacht race. Poor men go insane from lack of work. The upper classes riot in luxurious debauches, the costliest wines and viands are gorged by swinish revellers. Workingmen and women are worn out by work and want, or, maddened by starvation, seek the suicide's grave. On every hand vice and crime grow like a deadly Upas tree, its roots deep sunk in the misery of the poor and blossoming in the sensuality of the rich. The world has become a battleground, and every man's hand is raised against his brother. Success comes to the cunning, strong and unscrupulous. The victors are ever tyrants and traitors.

But even in this chaos there is developing some order. The victors are combining to insure their victory. The vanquished are uniting to wrest back their rights from their plunderers.

Amidst the disorder, confusion and strife the immutable law of evolution works its way. The strife changes from the simple to the complex, from the disorganized to the organized, from the chaotic to the co-ordinated. Individual conflicts become the skirmishes of squads, companies and regiments. Skirmishes give way to mighty pitched battles between great organized armies. The class struggle assumes a definite shape. The proletarian army organizes industrially and politically, its every member co-ordinated, and the whole working like a machine, in its struggle for complete emancipation. The capitalist class forms its combines and uses every weapon to resist the assaults made upon its privileges. This we see about us at the present time. It is a condition which will be intensified in the next ten years, and must be abolished in the subsequent ten.

This, then, is the promise of the Twentieth Century: to see the end of slavery, to put a stop to the plundering of the people.

We have now at our disposal the means to produce ample wealth for all the people. We have mastered the method of co-operation to produce these things. It remains for us to see that the people enjoy the wealth which they produce. It remains for us to establish the co-operative commonwealth, in which justice will rule, in which truth shall be honored, in which virtue shall get its reward, in which fellowship shall at last prevail. We must achieve economic equality, that freedom and fraternity may be possible.

The bugle calls summon us to action. From every land the myriad-footed army of the Proletariat marches forward into battle. Men and women of heart and brain, will you lag behind? The cause of the poor and the oppressed, the cause of humanity, the march of human progress awaits us!

"Come! Let us join the only battle wherein no man can fail!

Where whoso fadeth and dieth, yet his deed shall still prevail.

Ah! Come, let us cast off fooling, for this we surely know,

That the Dawn and the Day are coming and forth the Banners go."

THE UNITY SITUATION.

No report has yet reached us of any action by the Chicago N. E. B., on the communication of the Springfield N. E. C. Through the Nebraska Socialist, however, we learn that Comrade Eugene V. Debs is now to all intents and purposes the sole obstruction to unity. It appears that Prof. Herron and Comrade J. Stitt Wilson, a representative of the Nebraska Socialist, we believe, Comrade Ricker, spent a whole day in conference with the N. E. B., except E. V. Debs, in a combined effort to secure an agreement to call a union convention of all Socialists.

At the conclusion of the conference the board had been brought to a favorable consideration of the proposition, Brother Theo. and Corinne Brown dissenting. These two agreed to lay the matter before their master, claiming they could not act without his consent. Says the Nebraska Socialist: "Comrade Debs (E. V.) went to Chicago a few days later, and at once the announcement went forth that there would be no union convention."—Public Ownership.

EVOLUTION THROUGH ORGANIZATION.

Man in his lowest state is an egotist, pure and simple. He acts for himself and for those in whom he feels a selfish and personal interest. As he grows toward a higher degree of intelligence he forms co-partnerships and organizes associations of individuals in order to have the co-operation of a larger number for some specific purpose. It is thus, that in proportion as the intelligence of the race increases, the more general will be the tendency to associate and combine. In other words, the tendency is toward co-operation.

Persons representing all of these tendencies are to be found in every community at all times. At the bottom of the scale we have the purely egotistic who prefer to stand alone without any reference to others, never combining with their fellows for any purpose except in most limited degree. Then a little higher in the intellectual scale, men begin to associate their efforts for a common purpose, and still higher in the scale we find the associations more powerful and comprehensive in their purposes. In every association of this kind for a common purpose, the individual member surrenders some portion of his egotism in exchange for the benefits of co-operation.

This tendency to organize, to associate and combine for a common purpose is always an indication of a quickening of the intellectual faculties, and as we go higher in the scale, this tendency will be proportionately accelerated among the people until it includes the entire mass for the benefit of every individual. This, when complete, will be altruism, which is our next step in progress. It is to this grand culmination that this tendency to combine is pointing. One class of people organize and associate their efforts to secure some advantage for themselves and to the extent that it is successful, other classes are compelled to combine for their own protection.—A. O. Grigsby in Equity.

Another trust is forming in New England. This time it is the brick trust. Forty yards are to be consolidated with the New York trust of 35 yards, controlled by Standard Oil money. Of course, the small plants will be shut down.

IN THE INDUSTRIAL ARENA

Address all communications to "Labor Editor Advance," Questions relating to trades unions, only, discussed and answered in these columns. All communications from wage-workers who are seeking the benefits of organization will be regarded as strictly confidential. Wage-workers who belong to any trade that is not yet organized, should send their names and addresses to the "Labor Editor." Anyone who can furnish a list of wage workers willing to organize should send the same to the "Labor Editor." These names will be classified into their respective trades and as soon as enough are obtained of any occupation, a meeting will be called and a union organized. All unions organized through the medium of the "Advance" will be affiliated with the Labor Council and the American Federation of Labor. Two millions of American wage-workers have bettered their conditions by means of trades-unions. A boom in Labor organization has commenced. If a union of your craft is organized join it. If not, send in your name.

Ten years ago, before the Social Democratic Party of America was even thought of, it was the custom with Socialists of the old school to speak, with bated breath, of the twentieth century. For long before the first day of January, 1901, the Co-operative Commonwealth would be an accomplished fact.

The twentieth century is here, but, alas! we look in vain for the era of human happiness, and peace, and justice, that was to descend upon us from heaven knows where, and in spite of our obvious unworth.

Class struggles, race conflicts, religious jealousies and national hatreds have turned the whole world into a battlefield, and all the resources of civilization—industry, the sciences and arts—are brought into requisition as a commissariat to the gigantic military and naval systems which man has toilsomely built up, with incredible folly, for his own undoing.

Social Democrats are often roundly denounced for devoting their efforts to the amelioration of the conditions of labor and the inculcation of class-consciousness. Every one knows that workingmen are bad; in some countries dirty as well. Preachers do not hesitate to tell us that they are wicked; artists, that they lack refinement; men of letters tell us that they do not appreciate literature, and retired cattle-rustlers find it difficult to keep their feet from trampling over the well-trimmed lawns of civic virtue and respectability. There are some crimes, however, that cry aloud for vengeance, that can not be laid at the workingman's door. He does not send missionaries to foreign countries, with prayers on their lips and cupidity in their hearts, to save the heathen's soul and rob him of everything else. He does not send armed mercenaries to wage wars of extermination—always in the name of good government—against peoples rightly struggling to be free. Nor does he, invoking the great god Business, poison the people's food supply and build universities and churches from the red-handed spoils of adulteration. These are crimes, not of the workers but of the capitalist class. There is evidently room for improvement even amongst the pillars of society, and the task of reforming them is cheerfully recommended to the Fabian Socialists, Christian Socialists, Utopians and Rose-water Anarchists who talk about the millennium, but live without work.

There is no room for pessimism, however, when we reflect on what the working class has already accomplished towards its own emancipation. The Social Democratic Party, a dream fifty years ago, is now the biggest political organization in the world; and it has never once swerved from its ideal of abolishing capitalism by making the working class supreme. The trades-union movement, a century older, bitterly opposed at every step by all the powers of capitalism, and led to defeat after defeat by Judases in the pay of capitalism, is stronger and more powerful than ever before, rescuing section on section of the proletariat from the crushing exploitation of the sweat-shop and building in unions and federations of unions, city, state and national—soon to be international—the real foundations of the new social order. Trades-unions are not at the present time socialistic in America. How could they be, when the vast majority of the workers of this country voted for McKinley and Bryan at the last election? There is no doubt, however, that long before a majority of the workers of this country are Socialists, organized labor will have declared for independent political action and will support the Social Democratic Party as loyally as the trusts and corporations rally to the aid of the Republican and Democratic parties.

Names are coming in so rapidly from wage-workers who are dissatisfied with their present conditions of employment that it is safe to say that there is not an industry in San Francisco in which the workers would not prefer the tyranny of a trades-union to the benevolent despotism of the employers as expressed in low wages and long hours. Lists are being industriously circulated, and in a short time two organizations will be launched in this city as a result of the new policy introduced by the *Advance*. Read the instructions at the head of this column, note the change of address and lend your practical assistance to the industrial organization of your fellow-workers.

At the last meeting of the Labor Council, a supplementary call for the State Convention was ordered issued, giving a seat to all locals of International or National Unions affiliated with the A. F. of L.

At the request of a committee from the Shoe Repairers', Brewers' Union Local No. 7 resolved to fine any member \$5 who patronizes any but union repair shops.

The cloakmakers have won a victory. At the last meeting of the Labor Council the boycott on Siminoff & Co. and The Golden Gate Cloak and Suit House was raised, the places having become unionized.

Bakers' and Confectioners' Union Local No. 24 wishes to announce that it will hold a regular meeting Saturday evening, January 11th, at the usual hour, in Turk Street Temple. Officers for the ensuing year will be elected. All members are requested to attend.

By persistent agitation the Labor Council has at

last compelled the attention of the Board of Health to the unsanitary condition of the quarters in which the men employed in dairies are compelled to sleep. The Board has instructed Attorney J. J. Dunne to prepare an ordinance compelling dairymen to provide more sanitary accommodations.

The funeral of the late E. L. Clapp, who was at the time of his death president of the San Francisco Labor Council and member of the Musicians' Mutual Protective Union, occurred on Sunday morning from the Musicians' headquarters in Union Square Hall. The attendance was very large, comprising the officers and members of the Musicians' Union and the Labor Council. Addresses were delivered at the bier by W. MacArthur and J. D. Pierce. Edwin Lewis read the ritualistic service. The funeral cortege was headed by a band of over 120 pieces. The pall-bearers were: F. P. Barnett, J. E. Schelling, B. W. Smith, Gustav Rowan, W. C. Kittler and J. H. Amme.

Next Monday the California State Federation of Labor will meet in Pioneer Hall. Much interest is being taken by organized labor of the various cities of the State in this convention, which is expected to be one of the most important gatherings ever held in California.

The details are in charge of the local Labor Council, which has issued a call to every eligible trade union in the State.

The main object of the meeting is to form a permanent State federation. In addition recommendations will be made as to legislative measures in which organized labor is interested.

The local Labor Council has given considerable attention during the past few months to the preparation of certain legislative measures, such as anti-child labor, anti-injunction, employers' liability, employment agency and the blower system bills. These have been approved by the various labor bodies affiliated with the council. It is believed that they will be indorsed by the next convention and that steps will be taken to have them enacted into laws by the Legislature. The committee that is arranging the details of the convention is composed of Walter MacArthur, B. W. Smith, R. I. Wisler, Arthur Andre, A. Dijean, T. E. Zant and August Iten.

The difficulties that have existed for several months between the mill-owners of the city and the Building Trades Council are likely to be adjusted in a short time.

Something over a week ago the Builders' Exchange appointed an Arbitration Committee, consisting of John D. McGilvray and Messrs. Wilson and Masso. Their efforts have been rewarded with considerable success, and the announcement was made last night that the fight is nearly at an end.

One of the members of the Council said yesterday:

"The mill-owners in the beginning of this fight were, we think, honest in their belief that there did exist many matters other than the eight-hour-day proposition and the demand for employment of union men in their mills, but these were the prime reasons for their shutting down and refusing to run their situations on an eight-hour basis. Time has shown, however, and we believe to the satisfaction of the mill-owners as well as to everybody else employed in the building industry, that the Building Trades Council desired nothing further than what their original request called for. This being true, the Builders' Exchange and all other institutions engaged in the building business should see to it that a speedy settlement of this controversy be brought about, since it means so much to the welfare of this city and State. The persons on both sides appear to be willing that there should be an early settlement, and it will be to the advantage of all concerned if there be no delay."

ON THE WAY TO SOCIALISM.

A tomato canning trust organized in Cincinnati is controlling business in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

The four big Bible printing houses in England have formed a trust and raised the cost of "the book" 25 per cent. Salvation is going up—skyward.

"Coaltime" is a new discovery in Canada. It is claimed it will secure one-third more of energy from coal than now, or guarantee saving of 33 per cent.

Able lawyers claim that the recent decision of the Supreme Court of New York in the ice trust case paves the way to declare the anti-trust law of that State unconstitutional.

Armour, the meat baron, is going to put an end to the salt trust's robbery, so far as he is concerned. Armour has just purchased salt wells near Detroit and will save unto himself \$250,000 a year.

A New York daily paper, in treating the subject at great length, shows that the American tobacco trust has raised prices 116 per cent, absorbed all the big factories, and drove jobbers by the score out of business.

The Swift-Armour concern has now taken possession of the egg market. They have made \$500,000 in a short time, and their profits have only begun. By this corner they will also increase the sales of their meat products at advanced prices.

Insane From Lack of Work.

"Oakland, Dec. 29.—Because of threats to kill his family and commit suicide, Wm. Lamb, 28 years old, residing at 760 East Fourteenth street was today taken before the Lunacy Commissioners and committed to the State hospital. Lamb's relatives said he had been subjected to hardship and exposure while looking for employment. He had brooded over his failure to find work and since his return home had become violent."

What a terribly bitter commentary on the campaign of prosperity and the howl of the "full dinner pail."

Readers of *ADVANCE*, do not forget the Grand Entertainment and Ball that is to be held on Saturday evening, February 2nd, at 323 Turk street, for the benefit of your organ, the *ADVANCE*, and of the Socialist movement on the Pacific coast.

Correspondence.

ADVANCE solicits correspondence from anywhere in the world upon all subjects of general interest. The shorter the communication, the more likely it is to be published. Write on one side of paper only. Write with pen. (Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized. The appearance of an article in these columns does not commit the editor to its views.)

Looking Through Colored Glasses.

In looking over the Advance of December 22d, I see the Social Democratic Herald is in great grief; it fails to see the silver lining to what it regards as a dark and threatening cloud. But there is a silver lining to the Herald's cloud, and it need not bring much strain on its eyes to see it. The Herald ought to be able to see that Socialism gains nothing by keeping in office a man here and there, who is powerless to reflect the beauty and glory and brightness of Socialism. When astronomers announce the appearance of a very bright orb in the heavens, the world looks up with confidential certainty of seeing its light. When our papers announce to the voters of the country that we have captured a town, city or county, the great masses exclaim: "There; now the Socialists have a chance to show what they can do!" And what can they do in such narrow grounds? Nothing, absolutely nothing, except to grant favors to a few individuals, and the longer such isolated cases are continued in office, the more injury will they work the cause. It is not the purpose of Socialism to favor individuals; we work for collectivities, and not for units; though we must work through the units to reach the collective, and this we are trying to do.

If The Herald will look about him, if he will let his eye sweep the whole country, instead of resting it on the one little spot of Haverhill, he will doubtless see a great gain in the Social Democratic vote. What good has come to Socialism by applying healing salves to a boil on the tip end of one finger, while blood poison has set in through the whole organism? We have lost no ground in Haverhill; the capitalists' party must now do as well or a little better than our party was able to do under existing conditions, conditions over which they (our comrades in office) had no control, or else suffer overwhelming defeat a little later on. In either case, we lose nothing, but shall gain. Where we elect our men to office by enormous majorities, they will have power and courage to do something; if the old parties are compelled to pass some Socialist measures, we have also gained.

Take off your colored glasses, Mr. Herald, and then you can see something. Eureka, Cal. Frank Reed.

Grand Mass Meeting.

Eureka, Cal., Dec. 24, 1900.

Editor Advance: Under the auspices of the Social Democratic Party, a mass meeting was held in K. of P. Hall, Sunday evening, December 23rd, Hon. P. H. Ryan, a resident lawyer and fluent speaker, addressed the meeting on some of the issues of the day. His sentiments were grand and the delivery super-fine; but as to how the better condition is to be brought about, he did not even attempt to outline. Mr. Ryan is a Democrat by political training, though in sympathy with our work to the degree that it would bring about better conditions for the laborers, but seemingly not to the degree that is advocated by us. We had quite a large attendance, much larger than at any inside meeting of the Socialists heretofore held in the city of Eureka. As often as the speaker voiced the cardinal doctrine of the Socialists, he was loudly applauded by the whole audience, showing the growing feeling in the hearts of the great masses.

The meeting was a grand success from start to finish, and had it not been for the senseless roar from the throat of a little pinched up, Johnny Bull-headed Deleonite, nothing but pleasant dreams would have followed the whole proceedings. The speaker, not being well posted in our movement, inadvertently got the names of the two Socialist parties mixed up. This angered the bull; it was a special red rag, that had the effect of working up more anger to the square inch, in his narrow hide, than anything else could possibly have done. To speak of the Social Democratic Party as the "Social Democratic Labor Party" was too awfully insulting to let pass by unnoticed! After the speaker had finished and left the hall, the bull rose up on his hind feet; he roared and snorted, he puffed and spouted, as only a bull and a whale could do. It was the most disgusting noise the people of Eureka had ever faced; the bull made no argument, he just roared; for it is well known that he is no talker, and it would be well for him to know that he makes no converts to Socialism. Those who know him best seek to avoid him most. Can this assertion be proved? Let proof be asked for, and the bull would roar no longer in these parts, for he would get his eyes open to the fact that he is known as an insane crank and freak of nature.

The meeting closed by an interesting talk by Comrade Rutledge, most of the audience remaining to catch his last words. M.

The Passing of the Competitive System

There was never a time within the memory of the present generation that the competitive system has shown greater signs of dissolution than the present. Among the capitalists competition is a thing of the past; it is only among the working classes and small capitalists that this reckless vying with one another still exists. The large capitalists within the last few years have gone into what are termed "trusts," and by so doing have concentrated their energies so as to be able to produce far cheaper than before. In this manner, they are able to put commodities on the market at such figures that make it ruinous to the small producer. It needs no occult power to foresee the end of the smaller fry. People who were employers of labor only a short time ago are swelling the ranks of the proletariat at such a rate that the middle class will soon be a thing of the past.

The very wealthy in their greed for gold are unconsciously pulling the very props that have sustained the capitalistic power. The middle classes were always law-abiding citizens; now that they find themselves in the ranks of labor that love for law and order is liable to be cooled off considerably. They were in a sense an exploiting class themselves, and now to be exploited by those above them will go hard with them. That the proletariat has got a good stock of intelligence by their being thrown into its ranks cannot be denied. It was hard for some of these people to realize that they belong to the working class. It

was a bitter pill to swallow, but most of them are now taking it with good grace, especially since the results of the last election proves to them that the great champion of the middle class was unable to stem the tide that is carrying them on to their destruction.

Socialism has recruited many able workers from the ranks of the middle class within the last few years. On the whole the movement is showing a healthy growth. People are studying the subject now who a few years ago looked upon it as too ideal or Utopian for practical purposes. The very men who today are striving to prolong the competitive system by overworking themselves and their employes see the hopelessness of the fight. But so odious does it seem to them to enter the ranks of militant Socialists that they wish to hold on as long as possible, and like the gallant captain, sink with the ship.

Today the evils of this cutthroat competition are sounded from rostrum, pulpit and press, so that there is a regular campaign of education going on among the masses. The very subsidized capitalistic press comes out every little while with an editorial favoring socialism in order to feel the pulse of the people. These and the sad experiences resulting every day from the system we live under is only preparing us for a change which cannot be very far off.

Josephus,

Labor's Political Struggle.

a decided gain was the Socialist. The aggregate vote of the Socialists this year was approximately 140,000, or just four times their vote in 1896."

Our Alderman-elect at Newburyport, Mass., Comrade Alfred Pearson, received 1,215 votes against 1,096, which were cast by the united capitalistic voters for a Republican. Comrade G. W. Hussey was elected to the Common Council in the Fifth Ward.

Comrade Robert Rives LaMonte's stay at the helm of the Haverhill "Social Democrat" was short. A letter informs us that he has relinquished the captaincy to become supercargo in a bark headed for New Zealand, where he goes to study industrial and labor legislation.—"Public Ownership."

Preparatory to holding their conference in St. Louis, the mid-road Pops are writing letters to their party papers and expressing views as to what should be done. There is a strong sentiment expressed in favor of reorganization and a "union of all reform forces," while a positive minority favors joining the growing Socialist movement.

The Social Democratic party of Minnesota has gained an official standing by casting 3,546 votes, or more than 1 per cent of the total of 316,311, for its candidate for Governor, Comrade Lucas. Our party has doubled its vote in Minnesota since 1898, whereas the S. L. P. vote has been reduced to 1,329, or about 50 per cent of the vote two years ago.

The New York "People" has issued a beautiful New Year's greeting—English and German—which represents the workers at the very brink of the precipice, their desperation turned to hope and cheer by a vision holding aloft the torch of knowledge, the emblem of the Social Democratic party. In the lower left corner is Charlotte Perkins-Stetson's beautiful "Ode to Labor."

The Social Democratic party is growing apace in Massachusetts. It was not on existence in the last Presidential election, but it gave 8,262 votes for its gubernatorial candidate in 1899. This year its polls show an aggregate of about 16,000, or something like 4,000 more than is necessary to give it a recognized party standing. It is evident that the Socialist organization must be reckoned with hereafter by our politicians. It is something that can no longer be laughed at.—"Boston Evening Journal."

The Socialist and labor organizations of Chicago and all over the country feel keenly the loss of a true comrade and friend: Michael Britzius, who died at Denver, Colorado, at the age of 57 years. Comrade Britzius, who was born at Trier, Germany, came to New York when a boy of six years. When seventeen years old he joined the labor movement as a cigar-maker and became a well-informed and faithful Socialist. Later he settled in Chicago, and there he stood for thirty-seven years in the front ranks of organized labor. In 1893 he stood as Socialist candidate for Mayor of Chicago and received 2,064 votes. Having been ill for a long time, he went to Colorado in the hope of benefiting his condition, but the end soon came. His body was brought back to Chicago and cremated on December 23.

Labor's Economic Struggle

The lockout of the cotton mill operatives in Alamance county, North Carolina, has been ended. The men were driven out of the the company houses, and being unable to stand living with their families in the open fields, were compelled to accede to the demands of the mill owners.

Six hundred and eighty-eight strikes were officially noticed during the fiscal year, involving 213,190 members, says the annual report of the A. F. of L. Of this number 455 were won, 74 compromised, 106 lost and 53 pending. The number of persons benefited were 217,493, and 11,257 did not receive a substantial benefit.

A canvass of the cotton mill operatives in Augusta shows there are employed 449 children under 12 years of age, and of this number only 116 can read and write. This indicates that about 75 per cent of the white children of Georgia in the city cotton mills districts are, under present conditions, condemned to lives of total ignorance.—Ex.

Supreme Court of Illinois has just handed the union people of that State a nice little Christmas present in the shape of a decision annulling the law to prohibit employers from discharging workers for joining labor organizations. The court held that the act was "special legislation" in that it placed some employers at a disadvantage.

Textile workers are bidding farewell to "trade autonomy," having probably encountered enough defeats. Representatives from the mule spinners, the loom fixers, carders and pickers, weavers and clash tenders met in Washington and organized the American Federation of Textile Operatives. Other branches of the industry will also join the new amalgamation.

Pennsylvania newspapers are almost a unite in predicting another great strike in the anthracite coal fields in April. One paper says some of the operators are openly violating the agreement entered into in October, and that all the operators have made it plain that they will fight. It is thought that when the struggle comes the bituminous miners will also be called out, and that fully 250,000 men will be involved. The miners are well organized, with the exception of about 30,000 in West Virginia.

ADULTERATION

long as private enterprise rules. Adulteration acts have proved absolutely useless. The only remedy is Socialism, under which food will be produced for people to eat, and not as means for poisoning some for the profit of others."

These words might with equal truth have been written in America. Nowhere in the world, indeed, is the adulteration of food carried on more shamelessly than in this country. We have not forgotten the "army beef" exposures of two years ago—and if any had forgotten them, the memory was recalled by the recent announcement that our pious President has taken pity upon Egan, the defender of this rascality, and reduced his sentence to ten years' suspension with pay—or, in other words, rewarded him with a ten years' vacation with pay.

It was the common soldier that had to eat the rotten beef. And so everywhere, it is the poor—those who are compelled to buy the cheapest foods—whose lives are endangered by the adulteration of foods and beverages.

Laws against adulteration have so far accomplished little, and such laws are likely to accomplish little in the future, because they do not strike at the root of the evil. The motive for adulteration is fixed in the system of competition and of production for profits. The criminal practice is not likely to be rooted out until our economic system is changed—until we cease to carry on industry for capitalist profit and make public service the sole aim.—New York People.

FREE WILL

good year. What have I been doing these ten years but just what our friend here counsels me to do? Have I not always preached resistance to wrong? Have I not always preached self-help, self-culture? Have I not always begged the people to struggle for reform?

How can it be supposed that I am in favor of a counsel of despair? How can any thinking person assert that since we are creatures of heredity and environment it is useless to employ our will? Against heredity we have no weapon; nor can we mould or use it. But environment can be changed, because we are part of it. It is because we believe in the tremendous powers of environment that we do try to teach and to move our fellows. It is because we know the power of environment that we advocate the abolition of the slums and of the evil system of commercialism and self-interest. It is because we know what wonders for evil or good environment can work that we believe in education, in organization, in exhortation and advice.

If I thought nothing could make any difference I should not try to win men to Socialism. It is because I know that men can be altered by their environment that I keep on preaching the religion I believe.

As for the will and self-culture: who can suppose me capable of believing that a man must remain as he is born. I know that a man may develop his mind, as I know that he may develop his muscle. I know that a man may learn to curb his passions as he may learn to control his voice. Have I not told you that I am a trier? I learnt to shoot as I learnt to write, by dint of hard work and resolute effort. What I do any man may do—if he wishes to do it. But the wish—the desire—resolve—what we call the will, is either an inherited quality or the result of teaching: which is environment.

A human child has courage, energy, and emulation. Brought up amongst American Indians he will strive to be a great warrior or hunter; brought up in a religious English home he may strive to be a great preacher or divine; brought up on a battleship, he may become a famous sailor. Heredity gives him certain powers; environment directs them.

Heredity gave me certain qualities of mind and soul; environment made me a soldier, a writer, and a Socialist.

Well, I have converted other men to Socialism. Why? Because they could not help it. For though a man be a Tory yet he must change his faith when he hears what to his mind is the truth. His mental powers and personal nature being of a certain kind, a certain sort of argument convinces him. He cannot help himself, he must believe what to him seems true. This is one of the ways in which environment affects us.

No; I do not ask men to sit down in despair. I beg them to rise up and work. I tell them that, once they know it, they have immense powers of self-development. They have power to go the right way. But first they must have legs to walk and a guide to tell them which way to go. The legs they get from their ancestors; the directions on their course they get from books and men.

Now, is that plain enough? Or is there any argument that can shakemy claim that men are creatures of environment and heredity, worthy neither of praise nor blame because they are what they must be.

For it is true that a man may fight and overcome the difficulties that encompass him. But he can only do that by virtue of heredity—in which he has no hand—and of environment, which moulds him for better or for worse.

Subscribers, Exchanges and Advertisers, please take notice that ADVANCE has changed its quarters and address from 117 Turk street to 1236 Market street, Murphy Building, Room 134. Telephone Folsom 1301.

FOR SOCIALIST UNITY.

Saginaw, Mich., Dec. 20th, 1900.

Dear Comrades: The following resolutions, which were adopted by Local Saginaw, Dec. 15th, 1900, are submitted to you with the request that you bring them before your Branch or Local for action at the earliest possible opportunity. The question of Socialist unity is one that demands the immediate consideration of every comrade who places faith in Socialism above fealty to faction. Shall we longer permit the misdirected ambitions of leaders to keep asunder the rank and file, who have no aim but the triumph of the cause? The plan herewith submitted to secure a union of Socialist forces is one that can cause no offense to the most sensitive. It is a request on the part of the dues-paying members that both "National Headquarters" act in accordance with their expressed desire to advance the coming of the co-operative commonwealth. The day of action is at hand. The Social Democracy owes a duty to the toiling masses which is incomparably more sacred than any fealty to leaders, however loved. Will you be equal to the occasion? Will you join the Saginaw Socialists in an earnest endeavor to bring order out of chaos, to the end that the Social Democratic Party may achieve the destiny that lies just a little way ahead?

CLARENCE NEELY,
JOHN KORTAN,
ALBERT A. YAEGER,
Committee.

Whereas, The unity negotiations between the Socialist parties respectively represented at the Rochester and Indianapolis conventions have failed to effect complete organic unity; and

Whereas, Under the most trying conditions, the entire membership has worked together harmoniously during the recent campaign, thus proving that the time is ripe for complete unity; and

Whereas, Division and dissension both cripple our propaganda and disgust and repel our sympathizers; therefore be it

Resolved, 1. That the members of the Social Democratic Party through their respective National Executive Officers, call a Joint National Convention, to be held at Cincinnati, Ohio, not later than June 1st, 1901.

2. That since both organizations claim to have about the same number of members, the basis of representation shall be 1 to 50, or a major fraction thereof, provided that each local or branch shall have the right to at least one delegate.

3. That each delegate shall have only one vote.

4. That upon the opening of the convention, both parties give up their separate existence; that the party officers of both parties surrender their offices to the convention, and that the present Secretaries of both the existing National Executives turn over all their official books, documents and party property to the Secretary of the convention immediately upon the election of such Secretary.

5. That if both of the National Executives shall refuse to issue this call on or before March 1st, 1901, to their respective organizations, according to the terms herein provided, we shall sever our affiliation with them and maintain an independent State organization until such time as complete organic unity is effected between both factions, and that in the event one of the said National Executive Committees manifests its willingness to call such a convention, and the other refuses to do so, that we then affiliate with the party standing for such convention.

6. That each Local or Branch which officially indorses these resolutions, shall sign the same and forward one copy to the Secretary of its State Committee, and one to the Secretary of each National Executive Committee.

Chairman.

Secretary.

Local or Branch,

Hard Times Make Criminals.

There is a relation between prosperity and morality, between poverty and crime, says a writer in the capitalist "Evening Post." It is not affirmed that the rich are generally virtuous, or that the poor are generally vicious and depraved. Luxury has its moral diseases as certainly as penury.

The vices of the rich have their source in selfishness, and are such as extravagance, gluttony, ostentatious pride and deficient social sympathy. The vices of the poor spring largely from physical wants, such as hunger and thirst, from conditions unfavorable to virtue, or from desperate need.

Every great panic, every period of commercial depression, bringing with it industrial stagnation, is marked by an immediate increase of crime. But note this, that the majority of those who join the ranks of the criminals during hard times are offenders against property rather than against person. That is, their crimes are such as men commit who need money to buy food and to support their families, and not such as have their motives in brutal passions.

Prosperity is not a purely material consideration. It touches the ethical life of the people, the integrity of manhood, the character of citizenship. To close the mines and mills is to open the jails and prisons. To silence lathes and looms is to drive honest men to deeds their own souls abhor. The safety of the State is in the material welfare of the people. The very word "Commonwealth" indicates a community of prosperous people in which the weal of each is the care of all.

"Prosperity" was well exemplified on Christmas day in Chicago. A turkey dinner was given to fourteen thousand new boys, who otherwise would not have been able to participate in the festivities. Hearst's Chicago American fed six thousand of these children whose ages ranged between eight and sixteen. These little fellows work long hours to sell papers like Hearst's, which contain articles condemning child labor. But "charity" covers a multitude of sins.

Kaiser Wilhelm recently filled out his census formulary by describing his occupation as "German Emperor and King of Prussia." It is doubtful whether he will be able to hold the job down for another ten years. The national "trust" engineered by the Socialists may decide that his services can be dispensed with before that time.—Workers' Call.

ADVANCE CULLINGS.

Bullocky Bill—Them prayers warnt much use, narson; n'rain yit!

The spectacle of a woman, Miss Alma Esther King, presiding over the American Federation of Labor Convention...

"Vorwarts" tells again the story of the Emperor's telegram to President Krueger after the Jameson raid...

Farmers will be called upon to pay increased prices for plows and cultivating machinery after January 15th...

The Russian press has been allowed to inveigh against German cruelty in China; the German press exposed the cruelty of Russian troops in Manchuria...

A popular misconception of the aims of Socialism is that it is a part of its plan that the shiftless and improvident shall be provided for by the industrious and the thrifty workers of the community...

Are the "laws of supply and demand," invention and science, monopoly and competition, always to be enemies of those who toil? Will the workers always be ignorant enough to give their earnings to the useless?

Tribute to Socialism.

Cesare Lombroso, a professor in the University of Turin, Italy, is known throughout the civilized world. His study of criminals has attracted universal attention...

In a recent issue of the Independent, he has declared that Socialism was the only regenerating and educative influence in Italy. He says that it is destroying "the microbes of militarism and monopoly."

OFFICIAL.

PROPAGANDA WORK FOR 1901.

Proposition of the California State Executive Committee.

As soon as the funds are available the State Executive Committee of the S. D. P. of this state will send each month to every Local organization and to every socialist [free of charge] a bundle of well chosen leaflets.

The expense of printing, addressing, wrapping, and mailing 25,000 leaflets each month will be but from thirty to thirty-five dollars, according to the size.

It is the judgement of the State Executive Committee that such work as this will be agreeable to a large per centage of the comrades. It will be as effective in the country as in the larger towns and cities.

Locals can use them to excellent advantage by stamping with a rubber stamp on each leaflet their place of meeting and time.

It seems to the State Executive Committee to be the least expensive as well as a very thorough method of teaching the principles of socialism. Locals and comrades who are willing to contribute monthly to this "Propaganda Fund of 1901" are requested to send their contributions to the Secretary of the State Executive Committee, Social Democratic Party at 422 Sutter street, San Francisco.

Meeting held D-c. 21st. Present Anderson, Benham, Scott, Van Alstine and Reynolds.

Receipts reported by the Secretary for organization supplies as follows: Santa Clara, \$5; San Diego, \$2; Colusa, \$2; Tulare, \$2; Ventura, \$2.50; Riverside, \$5; Los Angeles, \$3; Long Beach, \$1; Vallejo, \$3; Lompoc, 50 cents; San Bernardino, \$4.50.

For Campaign Fund Deficit as follows: Local Alameda, \$10; H. Gaylord Wilshire, \$10; B. Freese, \$2; Local Ventura, \$2.25; Local Redlands, \$3; Geo. Strong, \$2; Tobias Hook, \$1. Total Receipts, \$60.75.

Bill of A. Conti, 40 cents, for rubber stamp, ordered paid; also bill of G. B. Benham for 1000 envelopes and 800 statements, amount \$5.50.

The Secretary was instructed to announce that the State Executive Committee will send out leaflets monthly to all Locals and all individual socialists in the state for free distribution as soon as funds are available.

Respectfully submitted JOHN M. REYNOLDS, Sec'y.

Nominations For International Secretaries.

To the Locals of the Social Democratic Party—Comrades: The Paris Socialist International Congress has adopted a resolution creating the Socialist International Bureau, with headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

The Socialist party or parties of each country, which adhere to the resolutions of the Socialist International Congress, may be represented at the International Bureau by two delegates, or secretaries.

In pursuance of this resolution the Locals are hereby called upon to make nominations of candidates for two secretaries. Each Local may nominate only two candidates. In nominating candidates the comrades will bear in mind that the secretaries may be called upon to pass not only upon matters concerning the Socialist movement of our country, but upon questions concerning the movement of other countries.

The officers of the Locals are requested to forward the names and addresses of the candidates nominated to the National Secretary not later than February 9, 1901.

LEONARD D. ABBOTT, MORRIS HILLQUIT, HENRY L. SLOBODIN, Committee.

WM. BUTSCHER, Nat'l Sec'y.

No concessions and no compromise, is the Socialist motto. Socialism is constructed upon a scientific basis, and there can be no integral part taken from or added to it, without injury to the whole structure.

Secretaries, Please Take Notice.

When sending in subscriptions to party organs as called for by the constitution, please state in each case whether the subscriptions are renewals or new. By so doing, a great deal of labor will be spared looking over the entire subscription list at the newspaper offices.

GRAND

Entertainment and Ball

To be held on Saturday eve., February 2, 1901 Turn Verein Hall, 323 Turk Street For the Benefit of Our Party Organ, ADVANCE Admission 25 cents. - Commencing at 8 p.m.

City Central Committee S. D. P.

Regular meeting held Tuesday evening, January 1st, 1901. Comrade Emil Liess in the chair. The chief item of interest was the canvass of votes for Local Organizer and for Editor and Directors of ADVANCE.

Senatorial District Clubs that have not elected delegates to the C. C. C. for the year 1901 should do so at once.

The Value of the Socialist Press What the Socialist newspapers can accomplish is shown by the following statistics contained in a circular letter from the Oklahoma State Committee of the Social Democratic Party:

Woods county, with 160 Socialist newspaper subscribers, May 1st, 1900, cast 104 votes; Cleveland, with about 125, cast 97 votes; Oklahoma, Grant, Payne, Pawnee and Canadian 75 to 100 readers each, cast 50 to 75 votes each; Logan, Kay, Noble, Washita and Kingfisher with about 59 readers each, cast 25 to 40 each.

Bear in mind that the trades union is a class organization, formed to resist the encroachments of the exploiters of labor. Every workman should belong to the union of his craft, and assist in the noble work of emancipation.

The Avanti has been comparing the amount of money spent on elementary education by Italy and by Switzerland. Though Switzerland has only a population of 3,000,000, she spends \$3,000,000 fr. a year; while a population of over 30,000,000, only spends \$20,000,000 fr. for the same purpose.

Sicily has a population of about 3,000,000, but has only 135,000 school children. The result is that in Sicily over 82 per cent of the people are illiterate, whilst in Switzerland it is only one half per cent.

Patronize the advertisers of ADVANCE. They show by their patronage to this paper that they are friends of organized labor. Most of them are good Socialist comrades.

A new subscriber for the ADVANCE is a new force in the battle for better conditions. The ADVANCE in proportion as its subscribers increase in numbers, will be able to do more and better work in promoting the cause dear to every Socialist.



ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LOCAL OAKLAND, of the Social Democratic Party, has regular Sunday evening lectures at Becker's Hall, 918 Washington street.

LOCAL ALAMEDA, of the Social Democratic Party, holds regular weekly lectures every Tuesday evening on social and economic subjects at Academy of Sciences Hall, 8.9 Market street.

LOCAL SAN FRANCISCO, Social Democratic Party, holds regular weekly lectures every Thursday evening on social and economic subjects at Academy of Sciences Hall, 8.9 Market street.

THE SOCIALIST DEBATING CLUB holds regular Sunday afternoon discussions at Prynian Castle, 909 Market street, from 1:30 to 3 P.M.

ACTIVE SOCIALISTS will find Comrade Berstford's "Derringer book of Statistics" and "Scientific Socialism" of great value.

S. D. P. SENATORIAL DISTRICTS.

Time and Place of Meetings. 17th—227 5th, every Monday 8 p.m. 18th—408 5th, 2nd & 4th Monday each month, 8 p.m.

Bottlers' Union Bulletin

(Revised Weekly.) THESE SHOPS EMPLOY ONLY UNION BOTTLERS. SAN FRANCISCO. California Bottling Co. Wieland Beer Enterprise Bottling Co. Enterprise Beer

THESE SHOPS REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE BOTTLERS UNION OR EMPLOY ONLY UNION BOTTLERS.

SAN FRANCISCO. Seal Rock (John Kroger) Wunder beer Burnell & Co. Alblon ale & n' porter Burlington Welsch Beer Co. Berliner Weiss

Emblem of Fair Labor

MANUFACTURERS HAVING UNION LABOR. BE THE ONLY GUARANTEE OF HOME INDUSTRY.

Endorsed by the American Federation of Labor. The only Union Label of the united shoe crafts.

"How I Acquired My Millions" May now be obtained in lots of 100, pre-paid for \$5.00. The first edition has been sold, but a reprint of a few hundred copies yet remain.

N. Y. People Official Organ of the S. D. P. 184 William st. New York City.

The Workers' Call Official Organ of the S. D. P. 56 N. Clark st. Chicago, Ill.

Public Ownership Official Organ of the S. D. P. Erie, Pa.

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

H. LOTZIN BOOTS and SHOES 1847 Kentucky Street Near cor 20th POTREBO

A. CONTI All Kinds of Rubber Stamps and Printing 1433 Market, Bet. 10th & 11 th

GUS. POSTLER Dealer in Paints, Oils, Wall Paper, etc. Prompt Attention to all Orders

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WM. SCHLOTHAN 408 Fifth Street Dealer in Butter, Eggs and Dairy Produce Goods Delivered Free of Charge

P. PARSSON General Blacksmith and Wagon Maker First Class Horseshoeing 421 5th, bet. Harrison and Bryant

H. F. SAHLENDER Dealer in Choice Groceries, Wines and Liquors 287 Natoma street.

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WORKMEN'S SICK and DEATH BENEFIT SOCIETY Of the United States Branch 102 Meeting every Last Sunday of the month, 9 a. m. The Temple, 117 Turk St. Secretary: Ernst Poetsch, 33 9 1/2 St. Physician: Dr. Fred'k A. Rinne, Rooms 3-4, 46 O'Farrell St. Hours: 11-5 and 7-8 P. M. Sundays 4-8 P. M. Dr's Residence: 2901 Folsom, Cor. 26th st. Hours: Before 9 A. M., 1-2, 5-3-6:30 P. M.

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