THE AGITATOR

A SEMI-MONTHLY ADVOCATE OF THE MODERN SCHOOL, INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM, INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

HOM, (LAKESAY P. O.) WASH., FEBRUARY 15, 1911.

THE PASSING SHOW.

THAT which is called civilization is indeed a peculiar form of gangrue of the blood of foreigners and idealists. Japan has just qualified as a modern national civilization. It killed the Russo-Japanese people. What those of them it could not kill; and the world bowed to a great modern nation in the East. How can we be prepared with the education of the revolution by murdering twelve of its idealists.

Do the Japanese capitalists think they have put an end to the massacre? Do they think that by this foul and cowardly act they have terrorized the people and stopped the wheels of progress?

Here we have an aggressive capitalistic spirit, but it will not throttle an idea. By hanging eleven men and a woman on the gallows, Japan has hung their ideas on the stars.

Now progress will flourish in the East, and imported Kropf compassion will not crush it. Its enemies have seen the seed and friends will come from a million hovels to nourish it.

There are 7000 female slaves dragging in the 10,000 factories and workshops of Japan. 70,000 of these girls under 14 years of age. We are no match for this class, for 20 per cent. of the girls are under ten. These little slaves are recruited from the country, by capitalists' agents, under contract with bondholders by false promises of big wages. They return to the toil in health, after a few years of slavery.

A recent investigation of the factory conditions in Japan, writes:

"In some factories timekeepers are instructed to use ticket rings, so that the child workers may be made to work overtime without extra pay. In many factories the girls are not given time for meals, and must eat while working. The foreign cotton spinners keep their looms running day and night. This night work, in which the male and female operatives engage together, is a real torture.

"Inhuman methods of punishment are employed. The lash is used continuously. Sometimes girls shoot up in the air, because they do not do their work. Sometimes their wages are deducted for minor

The Fremont Fight Still On.

The battle for free speech is still raging in Fresno, California, over where over a hundred of the ablest men in the Industrial Labor movement are exiled by the hangdogs of the enclosing plot. The well organized and determined against "protectionists." It is a hard fight. It has the power of the mighty robbers behind it. And what is more to be lamented, it has the support of the majority of the people who are robbed.

Ignorance is blin for the poor downtrodden devils who get the worst of the economic deal in Fresno and elsewhere. He feels the chains, but bears them. He accepts, sullenly, his lot and, if he is a Roman Catholic, he have the authority of the mighty men in God, for the righteousness of his attitude. When the job is done and the foodless fool is turned adrift upon the spacious ocean of the master's prosperity, without a ruling beard or a command to guide him he accepts the word of the priest or politician for the cause of his misery, and eats from the king-gloved hand of charity, the grudging crumbs he offers him.

But the few fight who are the ones that count. The wheeling and dealing of the gods may register a master's vote, but the people never own a workers' fight. This is an age of blood and iron, an age of action, a revengeous age. This will not move them. What the objects of desire are eaten, devoured; not literally, but figura- tively, which is worse. For the victim of capitalism is eaten once. But the victims of capitalism are like Prometheus chained to the rock, their hearts are devoured by the eagles of spoilage each day, but they grow over night to give the vultures a fresh meal on the corpse.

Prometheus stole fire from heaven and taught man how to use it. For this god chained him to a rock and had an eagle come each day and eat his liver; it grew again over night, thus his tortoise was continual, until Heracles came along, shot the eagle and released the prisoner.

The story has meaning for us. The agitators have stolen the gift of life. Although it is 98 % of the time outside of the Russian sphere of influence, they are pillaged on the rock piles of Fresno. They were murdered in Chicago, and Japan has shed their blood, and the government promises would make them die a mighty blood.

But let the capitalist eagle beware! there is a Hercules coming. And his aim will be as true as the axes from which Prometheus released the imprisoned eagle.

In the meantime remember the fight in Fresno, and give aid and encouragement to the gallant men who are blinding the eyes to freedom.

THR Latin races have lost a great agitator in the person of Leonardo de Cereña, who was killed with a dozen others in a Japanese jail. He had been a man of wealth and education, he possessed all the refinement of his class, and a sensitive, poetic temperament. Early in life he saw the injustice to his countrymen and cast himself into the arms of the conspirators. He did more, he joined the ranks of the toilers, and put his fortune and true talents into the hands of those who were to lead the revolution. He was not "class conscious." He was possessed by a greater consciousness—he was race conscious. The impulse for the preservation of the species were stronger in him than those for the preservation of the individual.

He was not a stock-stillocking revolutionary. He did not sit in gilded parlours and discuss sociology through the smoke of Turkish cigarettes and the fumes of costly wines. Pietro Gori stepped down from the backs of the toilers and took a place beside them in their struggle to cast off the remaining parasites, that still continued to feed on their victims.

His earnest, passionate, eloquent speech carried social truth fast to the hearts of his countrymen; and he soon became a dangerous leader of the common people. As an author he had no peer; and the terror his words inspired kept the shadow of the spectre of revolution hanging over the heads of the exploiters.

He was not a talker. He was a fighter. In a little month he was taken to the gallows, but his spirit lived on in the hearts of the workers.
THE AGITATOR

It is true, with reference to the struggle for freedom, as with regard to every other human task, that certain methods of application will bring far better results than certain others. It will be an important thing, if all who love freedom shall suddenly have their eyes opened to the very best way of actualizing it, and shall with absolute unanimity proceed to act together, using the best and surest tactics. But it is an unfortunate fact that different standpoints give a different perspective. The closest lovers of their kind possess very unequal intellectual and analytical powers, so that the methods which to some appear entirely evident are, to others, trivial, impracticable and sometimes even absurd. Has not the time come to recognize the worth of conscientious work for freedom, even when it is seen as impeding the progress of the Constitution? Reason, no matter how we may all stretch the cordial bond of comradeship to all who in any way aim at freedom for mankind, whether we think that they are going about it in the right way or not, we have overlooked some elements in the calculation, and may ourselves be the one in error as to method. Even if we are indubitably right, fellowship with sincere social workers who follow a different course cannot help broadening our minds, deepening our sympathy and understanding, effects hitherto beneficial to ourselves and tending to render our propaganda work more effective. Moreover, our influence is increased, when we do not appear thick-headed, when we do not go to the general view as Jahnheims, with our hand against everybody, but rather as one of many groups, each group brought together not by a different spirit, but by a different perception of the best methods of securing the result.

The principle of work being more properly a pre- evolutionary age. As a matter of fact, do we not find that there are benefits in all forms of agitation for social advancement, whether coming at immediate or at distance results? Even the tiniest step, so it be really forward, is so much clear gain, and renders the next step more certain and easier. Where we have not the certainty of achievement, the comrades who foresee and prepare for what they deem an inevitable revolution bring into the movement all the experience of the present day. They can be of help on other comrades who believe that liberty is to be won by stages, perhaps only a very little at a time. The non-resistive and the passive resistors temper the exaggerated enthusiasm and too positive anticipations, which else might eventuate in useless and perilous excesses, followed by reaction. The labor organization workers, aiming at a comprehensive victory by a general strike or some similar agent, are accomplishing a world of necessary education of the working classes, whether their method ever proves feasible or not; and an enlightened working class will in the end find its way to free-labor, whereas the working man, ed to force, or controlled by some other. The single taxer is doing direct work for fundamental economic freedom, in snatching the power of large land-holding of mono- polies and privilege, and thus rendering all more radical steps more easy. The socialist is murtering the forces of social discontent of millions of people, and the sanctity of established customs and institutions, and though his imagined collectivist state cannot well be the secure abode of liberty, yet his agitation is arousing the thoughts of the many, who will not be satisfied to exchange one yoke for another. Likewise, the workers in political agitation by direct initiative, for voluntary association, or by other means, for various minor reforms, are by no means useless, nor do they lack merit. The people who in an apparently trifling advance establish a precedent, and by its very workings bears within itself the seed of mighty changes. It is their duty for us to take as much advantage of all, and to rejoice in the diversity of minds among those who desire a larger freedom. Among the ambitious attempts at greatest benefits to the common cause. Of course, it is in no way desirable that any individual among us should waste a single effort, which, however, certainly does not seem to be a misrule of full liberty cannot hope to see their labors wholly crowned in a day. Many and many a step must be taken before all are entered into possession of those blessings which we are now in possession to foresee with reasonable clearness. Is it, therefore, advisable to divide into parties and to withhold approval from any who are moving along one path or another toward the same end?
THE AGITATOR BALL

For all the beauty of the Beef-eat-all ball. The Agitator group certainly gave the radicals of Seattle and their friends something decidedly new, intensely amusing and very instructing, in their satirical peasant ball held in Redding's Academy, Sunday evening, January 29.

Read the "Gallows" under which the evening's amusement was conducted and you will be convinced of the satirical part of it. The laws were enforced by a uniformed policeman and justice policed on a note of merriment by the supreme court. A black-barred jail, a necessary appendage to the court, was one of the features of the evening.

"Rabbi" and "Parson" were kept busy performing the marriage ceremony. One handsome peasant woman, Sophie Mosk, made a remarkable record. She married 160 times, and won the prize.

The tempting fruit, hung up in the decorations within reach of the tempted, made a lot of fun. No one could resist, and the cops were kept busy chasing the thieves.

The peasant costumes were not as plentiful as they might have been but they gave an account of the novelty of the affair on the coast.

The Agitator was represented on the floor by its boy printer. He wore the black cap and leggins and boots. This Lawrence had a red handkerchief in his pocket, a name the paper.

The 29th was a pronounced success; and success is never accidental. It took a great deal of hard work, and unbounded happiness is due the few who did it.

To do what one likes to do, and to see that work bear fruit, is the acme of happiness for the normal person. That is life, healthful and real; and the Seattle Agitator group may now enjoy it. For they made their friends happy, and realized a snug sum for the Agitator.

OUTLAW

For the Misgovernment of the International Peace Colony, Settled in Redding's Academy, Seattle, Sunday, January 29, 1911.

1. Members of the council of the prosperity and happiness of the colony depends upon their frequent and persistent violation of these laws.
2. Ignorance of the law is no excuse. But ignorance is encouraged, as it is easier to get you into its meshes.
3. No lawyers, juries or witnesses will be permitted in our councils. They will be noted, delayed, are expensive and often defeat the ends of justice. Our judge knows his business and is up to date. You are guilty if brought before him. It is our rule to suspend and convict beyond reasonable doubt.
4. No peasant is allowed to have both hands in his pockets at the same time. This is an orange and arrayed with the crooked.
5. Adam was tempted with an apple. We have added an orange and arrayed with the crooked.

THE ART OF LECTURING.

"The Art of Lecturing," by Arthur M. Lewis, (Clue, Kier and Co. Publishers) is a work in addition to the small volume series of good books, published by that praiseworthy workingman's publishing house. The book was provided with a lecturer of you, no book can; there is so much of a successful lecturer that the product is of nature. Yet without the assistance of art great talent may go for naught. The book is so well arranged and easy and eloquent nothing. He is, therefore, qualified to write on the subject. He summarizes his subject clearly and successfully in the following short paragraphs, which is a fine example of the idea it conveys.
AN APPEAL.

The judicial murder by the Japanese government of twelve anarchists and socialists has rossed the unquiet
souls of the workers in the larger cities of Europe and America monster protest meetings and demonstrations have taken place to awaken the workers of the civilized world to the strangling of the voice of liberty in Japan.

In New York City a large indignation meeting took place on Saturday, at the Grand Hall, and the following resolutions were passed:

Whereas, Dr. Denzio Kotoku and eleven of his com-
rades have been brutally assassinated by the Japanese government;

Whereas, The only crime of these comrades was the effort to create a movement for the overthrow of the social system that breeds misery and degra-
dation; and

Whereas, In the midst of one of these incidents of a similar nature, it has a close relation to the so-called trial and legal assassination of Francesco Ferrero;

Resolved, First, that we, the workingmen of New York in memorial demonstration assembled, condemn emphatically the brutality and barbarism of the Japanese government and give it notice that the international revolutionary movement will avenge the death of the Japanese and other martyrs to the cause of social progress.

Resolved, That we express our appreciation and ad-
miration of the intrepidly noble work of Dr. Denzio Kotoku and his comrades and pledge our support to per-
sonally to carry forward the emancipatory struggle for which they were assassinated.

The resolutions were closed with a street dem-
onstration, during which four men and one woman was arrested. One of the prisoners was discharged in the morning, and the others were paroled on $10, which was paid bail by friends.

The other three comrades have been thrown into prison and are now facing trial at the court of special sessions.

In view of the situation, the Executive Committee of the Kotoku conference, representing various labor and radical organizations, is urgently calling upon all friends of freedom and truth to stand firmly for the defense of our imprisoned comrades and also for the purpose of sending financial assistance to the many victims of injustice who are incarcerated in Tokio.

Their families, by the detectives of the Mikado and denied the right to work, are without the means of subsistence. Their many comrades are in a similar plight. Shall we allow them to starve?

L. C. Frazier,
Carl Danenberg,
Hippolyte Havel,
Alexander Berkman,
Jame Vital,
Antonia Curril,
S. Kallikof, S. Fine,
Simon Pollock, attorney.
Defence Committee.

All contributions are to be sent to the treasurer, Alex Berkman, 210 East 13th St., New York City, N. Y.

FROM THE MAGAZINES.

What have this month's magazine to say to revolution-
ingen desperation? What are we to endeavor to do in the way for the total abolition of the capitalist system? As usual they have much on which all anarchists should post themselves to the data of their pre-existing views. Wm. J. Burns's story of Abe Rue's confession, given in McClure's. Burns occupation may be detectable, it is true, but he gives us facts from which a greatly-needed lesson deduces itself.

Here are shown how attributed of political power enabled an ignominious attendant to loot on a scale a Cesar might have envied. With the briefest of time, for example, he receives the following: From the fight trust of Stevedore's company $1,200 a month and $20,000 cash; from the Home Telephone Co. $30,000 cash; from Pacific States Telegraph Co. $250,000 cash; month after month; in the United Railways $1,200 a month and $57,500 cash, and from the Parkside Realty Company $15,000 cash. He also received several thousand dollars from the Tevis Bay City Water company, which was endeavoring to sell its municipality for the $30,000,000 options that had cost the city $5,000,000. The graft prosecutions stopped that little game.

In addition to all that plunder there were what Rue called "the fat fees," which, says Burns, "I was the Mayor's man." He employed the Mayor's man and he made the Mayor's man and he made the Mayor's man and he made the Mayor's man, who made the Mayor's man, and they made the Mayor's man.

The Amalgamated Society of Engineers, machinists in Melbourne, Australia, has asked for an advance of 2s. 6d. a day, a call all round, and the conclusion of the working hours from 5 p.m. to 10 a.m. The Machinists in this country are working 90 and 60 hours.

According to the last census there are 4,833,620 women workers in the United States. That is, one out of every four women is obliged to be wage earner. Three out of the four other work for nothing while the others are working. That is, one out of every four women is obliged to be wage earner. That is, one out of every four women is obliged to be wage earner.

Andrew Carnegie has donated an additional $10,000,000 to the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C. by which he brings Carnegie's endowment to $50,000,000; and the poor, hale, hungry, overworked, Homestead workers created every cent of it. The United States, with the income the year 1910 with a membership of 308,600, is the highest paid-up membership for any corresponding month in the history of the organization, and if an intelligent one, would be equal partners in the medals. What?—President Tutt committed the sentence of Fred D. Warren, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and $1,500 by striking out the imprisonment and reducing the fine to $100, to be collected by civil process only. Did Debs' threat of "revolt' frighten big Bill?"