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Established Aug. 31, 1895... J. A. WAYLAND

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This Is Number 640

Appeal to Reason.

LOOK at the yellow address label, and note No. 641 the number following name. If it is your subscription expires with the next number.

No man is great enough or rich enough to get this paper on credit for a longer time than paid for. It is published as an advocate of International Socialism, the movement which favors the ownership of the earth by ALL the people—not by a PART of the people.

Mr. Fred D. Warren, Girard, Kans.: Dear Sir:—I see from the State Journal that Judge Pollock has passed on your action in advertising your \$1,000 reward on the outside of envelopes, as being defamatory and contempt.

In the legal controversy and judicial bout between Harriman and Fish the big pile came out on top as usual. The law of judicial gravity is inexorable.

Organization of Socialist locals is the order of the day. Every possible point should be organized. We are on the eve of a tremendous campaign and only by the power of organized effort can we meet the demand.

A New York press dispatch says: "James Harding engaged the first cabin stateroom on the steamer City of Savannah for his baby's goat." His wage slaves, doubtless, were left in their kennels. The goat has no grievance against workmen for voting capitalist tickets.

As the result of his own experience as a military commander Bonaparte observed that "Providence follows the heaviest battalions." In this respect, if no other, the example set by Providence is followed by American courts. For particulars see Stuyvesant Fish, formerly of the Illinois Central and now on the H.O.G.

The fight between Harriman and Fish, which resulted in Fish being canned, was inspired by the rivalry of the ladies of their respective houses for social supremacy. Mrs. Fish put the kabosh on the Harrimans by keeping them out of the "smart set" and Harriman got even with Mrs. Stuyvesant by an elegant consignment of canned Fish.

The Appeal is advised that the United States reclamation service near Yuma, Ariz., is refusing employment to American workmen and passing the jobs over to Mexican and Japanese laborers. Capitalist governments recognize no color line. Patriotism in patronizing home institutions doesn't cut much ice when the interests of a favorite contractor are at stake.

"When the American people," says John W. Gates, the far-famed (?) stock gambler and shell-game promoter, "start in to wear their old clothes, it does not take long to bring business back to normal." John is rather a beef-witted joker.

It is old clothes would turn the trick the woods are full of 'em. John and his class, however, never wear old clothes; the working class has a monopoly of them.

Why is it that workmen elect lawyers, doctors, bankers, politicians, preachers and merchants to represent them in public office and never think of elevating their own class to power? Is it because wage workers are so unclean, so ignorant and vile that they must put this boycott upon themselves? Is it not time to banish the monstrous doctrine that the working class is the "lower class" and fit only to serve as beasts of burden? Think it over, you many millions of heavy-laden, and you will surely join us in putting the boycott upon this brutal doctrine instead of levying it upon your own class.

John K. Tener, of Charleston, Pa., is a republican candidate for congress, and is sending out imitation typewritten letters to the voters of his district asking for their support in order to perpetuate the present prosperous conditions. The nerve of the average republican candidate is certainly wonderful. It has never been equalled in the world's history. I wonder how many working class voters this sort of chaff will catch this fall? The Appeal suggests to its readers when they receive such communications from old party candidates that they pass up to them the question that stumped Taft. Insist on an answer.

Lawyers constitute the controlling factor in our scheme of "representative" government under the capitalist system. In congress, in state legislatures and in municipal councils the lawyers are abundantly in evidence and outnumber far the members of other professions and occupations. The working class elect the lawyers and the lawyers get their fees and retainers from the capitalist class. Where the lawyers stand when it comes to matters of legislation can be easily guessed. But workmen continue to elect them, thus furnishing cumulative evidence that the government of wage-slaves, by corporation lawyers, and for the capitalist class, is entirely acceptable to them. Certain it is that this kind of government will last as long as the working class wants it to—but not a day longer. In this state of affairs the presumption is that wage-slaves must elect lawyers to misrepresent them because they are not fit to represent themselves. This is false and vicious doctrine and the sooner workmen wake up to the fact that they have brains of their own and can act for themselves the sooner will they escape the exploitation and dishonor of being ruled as chattels by their masters' lawyers.

In a stirring speech in congress recently General Sherwood, of Ohio, said: "My people are in great distress. Our merchants are complaining of falling trade; our manufacturers are curtailing their output. Five thousand worthy workers in Toledo, Ohio, are out of charity, eating the bitter bread of charity. The same deplorable condition exists all over this unhappy country. Labor is in despair and desperate from hunger in all our large cities." More than a month has passed since this impassioned speech and earnest appeal to congress were made. What has congress done about it? Nothing. What will it do? Nothing. What can a capitalist congress do in such a crisis? Nothing. Will congress therefore adjourn? Oh, no, there are salaries to be drawn and hot air to be delivered, and in the meantime the unemployed millions and starving thousands may feed upon the recollection of how they voted in 1904 and 1906, and if this drastic diet does not train their stomachs to serve them more intelligently at the ballot box this year than their brains have served them heretofore there will have to be a radical revision of the law of economic determinism.

Harriman has landed his Fish.

DID YOU OVERLOOK my invitation week before last to you to help the Appeal at this time when it needs the loyal assistance of every man whose heart beats in sympathy with the hopes and aspirations of the toiling millions? The Appeal to Reason is the mouthpiece of the mudsills. A vicious attempt is being made to throttle it. Are you going to stand serenely by and see the great weekly paper in the United States that dares tell the truth as it is? Subscribers are worth more than dollars. Get the subscribers to save your dollars. Men are to pay for the Appeal.

DURING the past ten years the country has enjoyed unparalleled prosperity, measured by the capitalist standard. Labor was generally employed; wages were high; prices higher; dividends fabulous. The plutocrats looked with tolerance on our Socialist propaganda—with here and there a half-hearted attempt to suppress it. He was too intent upon the mad scramble for dollars to take more than passing notice of Socialism, except to ridicule and belittle it. Today conditions are different. Profits are being wiped out; factories closing; wages reduced; millions unemployed. Industrial conditions favor the wide acceptance of Socialism. Plutocracy now realizes fully what this condition means and despotic measures will be employed to stamp out the Socialist agitation and put our press and speakers out of business. Previous attempts will be as a summer zephyr compared to the drastic measures that will be put in force from now on. The immediate future will try the mettle of every Socialist. Are you ready?

Historic Battle for a Free Press

Suppressing Agitation in 1835. "Meetings were held denouncing the abolition agitators and demanding that Congress enact legislation to suppress the incendiary publications and prosecute their authors under efficient penal laws."—McMaster's History, Vol. VI., page 279.

GIVE our readers some idea of the efforts made by the slave power to suppress abolition and republican papers, I quote the following paragraphs from McMaster's History, volume VI., page 276:

"If the mad men who are scattering fire brands, arrows and death can not be persuaded or rebuked to silence, we see no other alternative than for the slave-holding states to protect themselves by establishing all the odious machinery of passports and examinations to which travelers in Europe are subjected. The law (providing for a free press—first amendment to constitution) is defective, says the Richmond Whig, 'and to supply its omission until congress meets, the people and postmasters must act upon their own responsibility. All men will acknowledge that the circulation of incendiary tracts is out of the question.'"

The south has a constitutional right to its slaves and asked the north by strong yet lawful, by mild yet constitutional means to put down the abolitionists and called on the postmaster general to stop the transmission of all printed papers suspected of a tendency to produce and encourage an insubordination or insurrectionary spirit among the slaves of the south. The city council of Charleston offered a thousand dollars' reward for the arrest and conviction of any person bringing into the city or printing, publishing or circulating any incendiary paper. Any person who voluntarily received such a paper, or held communication with abolitionists, or their societies, was an enemy of the state and inimical to its institutions."

On page 278 I find the following: "The postmaster at New York requested the anti-slavery society not to use the mails for the dissemination of their publications in the southern states and when the society refused announced that he would lay aside their tracts and newspapers."

The Teddy bears on the side-tracks are now the big bears of the railway magnates who put up the yellow dog fund to make Roosevelt president.

Eight thousand railroad men, employees of the Washburn system, are waiting for the belated pay car. This is a preliminary symptom of receivership proceedings, wage reductions, railroad strikes, riots and the regular post-prosperity program of the capitalist system.

Henry Cley's reiterates with monotonous regularity in his weekly letter that the tide of returning prosperity is still rising. If it had risen but an inch a day since its first reported rise a raging sea of prosperity would long since have inundated the land, and Henry would now be writing his weekly letters from the summit of Pike's Peak.

A few days ago Representative Pow, of North Carolina, introduced a resolution in congress directing the speaker to appoint a committee to ascertain what corporations contributed to presidential campaign funds in the years 1896, 1900 and 1904, especially with a view to discovering whether such a list would include any of the corporations mentioned as law breakers by the president in his recent message? The Appeal guesses the resolution will not pass.

The Boston Herald says: "There are some strange jobs around the United States capitol. One favored constituent of an influential congressman draws a fat salary for sprinkling tooth powder in the capitol telephones. Once a week this happy mortal makes the rounds and carefully dusts into the receivers of the telephones a little pink, scented powder to breathe sweet perfume as they talk over the phone. There is another employe who is the official measurer of the house of representatives. Whenever a look-case needs a new curtain he takes the measure, but he never does any real work." There are hundreds of parasites about the national capitol who enjoy their sinecures and return no equivalent for the salaries they draw. They are simply the henchmen of the headman of some statesman, and that is how the machine is kept in running order. What a cleaning out and re-nepentance there will be when Socialism drives the money changers from the capitol and Washington is the capitol of the Socialist Republic!

Suppressing Agitation in 1908. "The line must be drawn somewhere and sheets which preach sedition and anarchy and enflame the minds of readers are unworthy the protection of the laws which they violate. . . . The viperous sheets should be curbed."—K. C. Journal, Nov. 2, 1907.

will resent such action as an abridgement of free speech and the liberties of the press. But the line must be drawn somewhere and sheets which violate every principle of journalistic fairness and decency, which preach sedition and anarchy and enflame the minds of readers, are unworthy the protection of the laws which they violate. . . . The viperous sheets which strike at the very foundation of government should be curbed. The Girard publication has long been one of the most radical and rabid of its class. It would not be tolerated for a week in any other country on earth, and while it will probably set up the cry of persecution the chances are that it will not get half the punishment it deserves. It sustains no reputable relation to that great agency for the dissemination of news and the education of the people—the American press. . . . It is a journalistic outlaw. Its doctrine, if effective, would result in the destruction of all social order, the abolition of the rights of property and the safety of life. It is entitled to the protection of the laws just as the criminal has his rights, but it has no standing in court as a persecuted martyr."

One hundred thousand dollars was offered as a reward for Editor Tappan. A fund was raised for the purchase of the heads of Thompson, Garrison and Tappan. (p. 284.)

If you are in town with a public library get volume VI. of McMaster's History and read the entire chapter No. LXI, from which the above extracts are taken. You will read there an account which parallels the persecution of the Appeal to Reason. Compare the violence of the language of the slave masters and their paid retainers with the editorial which appeared in the Kansas City Journal, Saturday, November 2, 1907.

"The United States department of justice, acting it is said at the suggestion of the president, has instituted proceedings against a Socialist sheet of Girard, Kan. It is to be regretted that a technicality must be invoked in order to establish a case. . . . In fact, it is to be regretted that any action at all has to be taken against such a publication because many untalented people

IMPORTANT. Will you go at once to the sheriff of your county—if you live in a county seat—and the city marshal or chief of police, and ask them for all the postal card reward offers they have received through the mail, and have no further use for them? The Appeal wants these cards, as they will have an important bearing on our case in the Federal Court. If the officers have none of these cards now, ask them to save you any they may receive within the next ten weeks. Make it a point to call for them. Forward to the Appeal as quickly as possible.

Socialism Their Hope. That the action of the courts is forcing the trade unionists to Socialism is the following communication is evidence: To "President" Members of Typographical Union No. 6. The following members of the Times (Chapel) endorse in full the views contained in the interview with you which is printed in the New York World, and we urge that you take steps toward uniting politically, through the medium of the Socialist party, the members of the various trades unions and other bodies of workmen in this locality, and that you recommend to the officers of the International Typographical Union the necessity of action by them looking to the same end before the last remnants of our rights is taken from us by one or the other of the courts and we rendered unable to make even a slight objection to the harshest rulings that their biased judgment may foist upon us.

The action of the printers of the New York Times is being followed by the printers employed by other metropolitan papers. As mentioned by the Appeal, President Murphy of Typographical Union No. 6 was thrown in jail for the alleged violation of a court injunction. Mr. Capitalist Court, hand out a few more injunctions, and the workers will join the Socialist party by the million. You are doing for us more than all our propaganda combined.

According to the Kansas City Star the republican delegates to the Missouri state convention have been offered free transportation over the railroads. What does an anti-pass law amount to among gentlemen? Will the roads offer free travel to the Socialists? Not on your life. Corporations know their friends. And of whom the Socialists are not. See? "Hell, this is not a court, it is a camera," exclaimed Fish, in disgust, as Judge Ball landed him with the Harriman harpoon.

Harriman is now eligible to the Fish-Cannery's union.

Morgan's manifesto was suddenly modified. The politicians got scared about the labor vote and this accounts for it. There has been no change in Morgan and his manifesto expresses the savage spirit of the capitalist class.

If you are a member of a capitalist party you are ruled by a political "boss." No matter what the name of this political Jeebaw may happen to be, he is on the inside, is loaded up with the lure, has his hand on the throttle and you have no more to do with it than a last year's sparrow's nest.

"Stop ghost dancing" is the advice "Jim" Hill has for the people. If "Jim" were in the condition of the out-of-work millions who are doing the dancing he might feel different. The prosperity "Jim" and other captains of industry have steered them up against is more than they can stand.

The political boss is supreme in both capitalist parties. George Cox, known as "Cox the Rotten," rules the republicans in Ohio, and Roger Sullivan, equally malodorous as a corruptionist, rules the democrats in Illinois. All the political candidates of these capitalist parties have to make terms with the bosses before they can get the support of the machine. Taft has already been anointed by Cox and Bryan by Sullivan, and they are now prepared to proceed with their respective "reform" campaigns. Shades of Tweed! Save us from capitalist party "reform!"

In closing his arraignment of Roosevelt in congress, General Sherwood exclaimed: "The flag of these shaming stars of states shall never float over a country where the sword and the man on horseback usurp the functions of justice, liberty and constitutional law." We don't know about that, general! When citizens can be kidnapped by executive sanction and such kidnaping is legalized by the highest court; and when less than a score of financial magnates own the country and the people are practically at their mercy, we have traveled a considerable distance in that direction and there is but the difference of a toss-up between our so-called republic and a pure and simple autocracy.

The supreme court of Ohio has rendered a trust decision that now bridges the gap between the iron bridge companies of that state had formed a powerful combination in restraint of trade. This combination is notorious as the bridge trust. Proceedings were instituted against it under the anti-trust law and a dozen indictments were found. These were fought through all of the lower courts, two of the defendants pleading guilty and paying their fines. The rest held out, and in time the supreme court was reached. Now comes the decision of that body, which is quite enough to stagger belief. Notwithstanding the fact that two of the criminal crowd had pleaded guilty and paid their fines the supreme court unanimously decided that no statutory crime had been touched. The trust not only was not touched, but was indicated as the basis of the supreme court upon it. It has been suggested that to make the decision complete the two defendants that pleaded guilty and paid their fines should now be adjudged in contempt of court, and fined again. It is a great system, as Dooley would say, and every brick in its foundation is laid on a fool's head.

The Appeal is in receipt of a notice from the Weir Junction Coal company, Cherokee, Kan., to the effect that no coal will be mined after April 1, and advising the Appeal to lay in a supply to cover the period during the shut-down. The mine operators are preparing to force the miners into accepting a reduction in wages. Millions of tons of coal are being stored by the railroads and the big corporations. Anticipating the demands of the coal miners, the capitalists are taking time by the forelock and fortifying their position. They won't care whether the miners work or not. The demand for coal will be very small this summer and the supply on hand will be sufficient to tide over until fall. The "full-dinner-pail brigade" will now have another opportunity to do the cake-walk on an empty stomach. When you see these big piles of coal along the highways just remember that this is the coal mined by the miners for which they received no pay. It represents the profits of the capitalist class. Under capitalism the more wealth created by the workers, the longer they must starve while the masters dissipate the surplus. Under Socialism these millions of tons of coal would belong to the men who dug it from the ground. I don't blame the capitalists for taking possession of this vast wealth. I blame the miners themselves, who outnumber the coal-mine owners a thousand to one. If they had just a little horse sense they would vote their own class into office on the Socialist platform and abolish the private ownership of the mines and operate them in their own interest. I wonder if this object lesson will show them the only way out of the Jungle!

The Penrose Bill.

It reports coming to my desk indicate anything, by the time this Appeal is on the press congress will have been flooded with vigorous protests from hundreds of thousands of individuals, and by resolutions from hundreds of public meetings and trade unions demanding that the Penrose bill be instantly killed.

It looks like a waste of good letter paper and postage—but it will pay. Mark that!

I am almost prepared to announce with absolute confidence that the Penrose bill will never be heard of again. It was introduced by stealth, and so far as I know, only two publications in the United States—the Philadelphia North American and the Appeal to Reason—reported its introduction into congress. The design of its promoters was to railroad it through without any noise or debate, and by a vote that would not require a roll call—just as the infamous Dick Military Law was enacted.

But congress has heard, and will continue to hear, from every part of the United States. We're onto their wrinkles and there isn't a congressman who dares go before his constituency this fall with such a record. These fellows would like to stab the Appeal to death, but, cowards that they are, they dare not do it openly.

If you haven't yet written to the congressman from your district, write today, and tell him that as a voter you are opposed to such unconstitutional measures as the Penrose amendment to the postal laws. Get others to do the same.

You are quite likely to get a letter from the congressman, in reply to yours, stating that he doesn't know anything about such a measure as the Penrose bill. Don't let him fool you that way. If he doesn't know he's a mighty poor man to represent even the capitalist class in congress.

This country now has a "business administration." The big business men are running it and running it in their own interest. You fellows who are holding for a business administration should take a tumble. You have what you are bowling for. The working people, who are a majority of the nation, should have a working class administration. They should capture and use their government in their own interest, just as the business men have done. That's all.

Maun Cooper, a Kansas City negro, was sentenced to prison for three years for stealing three chickens which he needed. The Santa Fe railroad has been sued for buying nine million ties, knowing them to be illegally cut from public land. No thought of sentencing its officials to prison for thus stealing four hundred thousand dollars from the public. Such is law under the rule of plutocracy. But you work slaves, you must have respect for the law! How the rich must smile to themselves as they see how easy it is to fool the people into having fear and respect for the law which they just laugh at.

Leslie M. Shaw, ex-secretary of the United States treasury, in an address at Kansas City, is reported as saying that if he were hungry and out of money he could break into any place where he could get something to eat. When the work people, thrown-out of employment in a panic, with no money, become as wise as Shaw, there will be something doing. There are not enough jails and prisons and workhouses in the land to confine them. That is the best answer to the question: "What is a man to do who is out of work and starving in a panic?" The work people have been trained like chattel slaves to be humble and starve and make no outcry. They are mostly like whipped animals. You can bet the rich have a different feeling toward property. The rich have so long been taking other people's property to live on that there is no sacredness about private property for them. Had a Socialist given that advice what a howl would have gone up! This part of his talk was omitted from the newspaper reports. It might make a suggestion that the work people would act on. See?

When a poor devil wants what you have he holds you up on the highway or breaks into your house and takes it. When the smug, eminently respectables want what you have they buy a railroad, or corner sugar, meat, oil or other necessities, and take from you and millions of others at the same time without risk. Both do the same thing—take from you what is yours, and give you nothing in return. That one act is crime, respectable, and the other is crime does not alter the purpose or effect of either. The results are the same. As a rose by any other name would smell the same, so robbery, no matter its name, takes from some for the benefit of others.

THE GREAT CONVENTION NUMBER APPEAL TO REASON, Girard, Kans.: Find enclosed \$... for which send me when issued... Rates: 1,000 copies \$1.00, 500 copies .50, 1,500 copies .75, 2,000 copies .90, 5,000 copies 2.50. Signed: St. or P. O. Box: City: State: P. S.—Count on me for... additional copies before the date of issue, which I will order and pay for in weekly installments of... copies.

Let's Change These Figures.

Table with columns for years (1907, 1908) and various numerical data points.

Things are looking decidedly better at this end of the line. I feel pretty sure if the laggards will now get busy we can beat our record for last year, and show a big increase in the list.

Table listing various states and their corresponding numerical values.

Expatriates for week ending Feb. 22, 1908. Total 8,276. 7,909. 812,407.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Funds for the defense of the Mexican prisoners, now in the Los Angeles jail, should be sent to Mrs. Mamie M. Shea, 608 Ruth avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.

As has been repeatedly stated in the Appeal, Comrades Mazon, Villarreal, Rivera and Sarabia are wanted in Mexico by the Imperial despot who rules that nation because of their political activity and their efforts to organize the miserably paid peons in order to better their condition.

"THE IRON HEEL"

A picture, as only Jack can paint it, of the victory of the American Oligarchy, the reign of "The Iron Heel," the ballot taken away, and the debasement of the American workman to the condition of the African.

Price Postpaid \$1.50.

USE THIS ORDER FORM

Form for ordering the Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kansas, with fields for name, address, and date.

As to Organizing.

The party has but a limited number of organizers and there is a vast amount of organizing to be done. The extreme necessity of this work has already been set forth in these columns.

There is not a community of a hundred souls in this country in which a local can not be organized. It does not depend upon the community nearly so much as it does upon the character of the individual who undertakes the work.

Eight months remain before national election day. Every possible point in every state and territory should be organized. Mere sentiment is not sufficient.

Let us all unite, comrades, in a mighty effort to bring all Socialists into the party and to organize every available point in the union for the campaign this fall.

Taft in the Philippines.

Here is a letter from an ex-Philippine soldier, who served under Taft. It does not give the young man's name, as it would bring down upon him the wrath of the present administration.

"It happened that I was serving 'Uncle Sam' in Manila at the time William Taft was governor of the Philippines. A little incident occurred which is brought to mind by the sketches printed by the press at the present time about Taft being so plain and common and so near to the laboring class.

"The military headquarters was a separate department from the civil government headquarters and in another part of the city, and, of course, considerable information, etc., had to pass between the two departments.

"This merely shows how plain Taft is. 'His Excellency!' Doesn't that sound common and close to the working people? Are we to let it become common?"

Morgan's Manifesto.

All kinds of comment have been excited by Morgan's interview in regard to organized labor and the working class in general and the determination of the capitalists to take advantage of present economic conditions to trim the former and sit down hard on the latter.

This, in effect, expresses the Morgan attitude and the Morgan attitude is the attitude of the capitalist class.

The fact is too obvious to require argument that Morgan is the power behind the throne. Having "saved" the country, according to the capitalist press and his personal representatives on the floor of congress, he has an undoubted right to rule it, and what are statesmen and judges for if not to serve the redeemer and ruler unto Morgan the things that are Morgan's?"

Unconditional surrender and abject slavery is what the capitalists insist upon and Morgan, their prophet, has spoken.

All tailors are requested to stay away from Los Angeles, Cal., as the members of the local union were locked out last September for no other reason than that they were members of The Journeymen Tailors' Union of America.

Of course it is none of our business, but why doesn't the great capitalist administration, which is busily practicing retrenchment by cutting down the pay of its employes, save that \$3,500,000 a year expended in maintaining congress and let out the job of law-making to the lowest responsible bidder?

An Oakland, Cal., judge recently sentenced one offender to eleven years in the penitentiary for forging a ten-dollar check, and another to thirteen years in the penitentiary for the theft of a bolt of cloth.

What good can labor unions do when the courts have declared that if they boycott or in any other way injure the trade or business of any firm, that such firm can get three times loss by an action in court, and can take all the union funds? Will the labor unions never become wise enough to use their individual votes to elect Socialists, who would make short work of such laws and such judges? A union that is not allowed to do anything for its members has no reason for existence.

"Recognizing" Labor.

It is along about this time that the politicians are busy "recognizing" labor and proving that their record is one of unbroken friendship for the working class.

The Detroit politician, such as the late Mark Hanna, was and is a great friend of labor. He was and is a great friend of labor.

It remains to be asked, however, how the flock, the rank and file, the common herd, are benefited by this sort of "recognition"? It is true that the leader is cared for and is now a consort of the political brokers, but does this add a penny to the wages, or a particle to the welfare of the crowd?

Every capitalist administration, republican and democratic, is shrewd enough to "recognize" labor. When a leader is transferred to the pie-counter great is the jubilation of the flock.

No capitalist administration, national, state or municipal, ever fails to "recognize" labor. In a municipal election a likely workman or trade unionist with pull is put upon the ticket as a decoy, and this closes the bargain for the labor vote.

It is not often that a workman is on a state ticket and never on a national ticket. As an elective candidate the workman is not given credit for capacity above municipal level.

It is time workmen awakened to this confidence game of "recognizing" labor. There is nothing in it but hypocrisy and fraud on the part of the politicians, barter and betrayal on the part of the decoy, and servility and contempt on the part of the rank and file.

The great body of workmen must see that there is no "recognition" except that of degeneracy in a mess of pottage promised as a reward for the labor vote. The capitalist politicians have no earthly use for labor except as labor ministers to their wants and re-elects them to office.

There is no workman in the president's cabinet, never has been and never will be under a capitalist administration. There is no workman at the head of any department of government, no workman on the supreme bench or any other bench, no workman in the senate and no workman in the house elected by workmen to represent workmen.

What good can labor unions do when the courts have declared that if they boycott or in any other way injure the trade or business of any firm, that such firm can get three times loss by an action in court, and can take all the union funds?

The Bane of Prejudice.

A few days ago a minister applied for admission to one of our locals. He was told that there was a strong prejudice among Socialists against preachers and that his application would probably be rejected.

These could have been no reasonable opposition to his membership. But prejudice biased the feelings and clouded the minds of some and he came near being refused admission. This is wrong, emphatically wrong.

It is one thing to be alert to exclude unworthy persons and draw the line rigidly and to be commended. It is another thing to be chronically suspicious, narrow of vision and full of unreasoning prejudice.

Why should there be prejudice against a minister? It is argued that the church is dominated by capitalism and is, therefore, hostile to Socialism, it may be answered that that may be his very reason for quitting the church.

There is a vast deal of nonsense in the opposition there is to those called "intellectuals." The Socialist movement is the last, or should be, to preserve a man who has brains and offers premium upon ignorance and prejudice.

Nothing is better calculated to have a mischievous effect upon the party, exclude desirable accretions, array members against each other and otherwise impede the growth of the party to power than prejudice. It is peculiarly a vice born of capitalism and should have no place in the heart of a Socialist or in the councils of the Socialist party.

The time has come for Socialists to recognize the fact that the Socialist movement is out of its swaddling clothes; that it is no longer a sect, but a great national party, a mighty international movement, and that the propaganda must be free from those mean prejudices which dwarf and destroy and which in the end can bring only defeat and disaster.

Five years ago the Taft-Vale decision by which English unionists were mulcted out of \$140,000 damages for inaugurating a strike and boycott, aroused speculation in this country as to whether the British decision would have any effect on the struggles between labor and capital in this country.

A San Antonio, Tex., paper says that all the local politicians are becoming very anxious about the laboring men. They have found that more union men have paid their poll tax than usual and will therefore be qualified to vote at the coming elections.

A Minneapolis man is of the opinion that Mr. John D. Rockefeller is one of the best citizens of the United States because his Bible is so well thumbed. That may be true, but it is the prevalent opinion that while John D.'s two thumbs were busy with his Bible his eight fingers were active elsewhere.

We have fed you all for a thousand years, For that was our doom, you know, From the days when you chained us in your fields To the strike of a week ago. You ha' eaten our lives and our babes and wives, And we're told it's your legal share, But if blood be the price of your lawful wealth, Good God, we ha' bought it fair. Rudyard Kipling.

The Paramount Question.

"What is a man to do who is out of work in a financial crisis and is starving?"

One Answer to the Question.

From the Kansas City Star. Aurora, Mo., Feb. 22.—William Weaver, aged 61 years, a teamster, committed suicide this afternoon by shooting himself. Upon an examination of conditions in his home it was found that for many days the family has subsisted on bread and water and that nothing had been eaten today.

The following remarkable article is taken from the Des Moines Daily News. The editor prefaced it with the statement that it was written by a penniless, homeless wanderer, who came into the office and asked to be allowed to write something for the price of a meal.

They have asked me to write down what it feels like to be out of a job and cold and hungry. They said they would pay me for it if I would tell just how I feel, and that they would let me stay in the warm office while I wrote it. They said they would print it just as I wrote it, and I heard one man tell another one that it would be a great human document.

"I am an educated man. I went to college, never mind where. The college didn't do very much for me, and I guess it wouldn't think I was doing very much for it if I mentioned its name in the story of a bum. I am a bum. It took me a long time to realize it. I'm down and out. I've done things that were wrong. At least, the police said so. When a man's hungry he don't think much about right and wrong. He thinks about his stomach.

"When his trousers are frayed at the bottom and his shoes let the snow in and he wears the same shirt for six weeks and the police bound him, and he rides the blind baggage, and the brakemen kick him and curse him and the people on the street won't stop and the snug charities tell him to come back next week and there's no work and no friends and you're lonely and hungry and cold and broke and you walk along and look through the windows into warm rooms and know that there isn't anybody in the world who gives a damn— you don't care such a hell of a lot about right and wrong, do you? I dare you to say you wouldn't do it. I want to LIVE. It's a fool thing to want, but I want it. If it wasn't for that I could lie down in front of a fast train.

"Last Sunday I went to church. It was a fine church. They let me sit in one of the back pews. The minister preached about love and charity. I tried to speak to him after church, but he was too busy. Then I asked the sexton to let me stay in the church. I was cold. I wouldn't have stolen anything. But he turned me out.

"A man has just come and said I was not writing what they wanted. He wants me to write how I FEEL.

"I told him I would not write how I feel. Even if they pay me, they haven't any right to make me say things that will do harm.

"But there's one thing I will say: 'Put yourself in my place. Never mind whose fault it is that you are a bum and a beggar. It's night, say, and snowing, and the wind is biting into you. There are hundreds of people going by, thinking of themselves and their own comfort and their own warmth and their own bellies. Try to speak to one of them. 'Excuse me, sir, but could you?' One pays no attention. Another ignores you as he would a cur. One may say he's sorry, and the rest shake their heads impatiently. You hear one man say to another one, 'I never give to beggars. They only want it to buy whiskey with.' 'It's a lie! That man was a liar, and he knows it. He was a little mean, selfish, stinky son of a bitch. He didn't want to give. He was too selfish to care. It wasn't anything to him that another man was cold and starving. He wanted to save his own dirty little conscience.' He said: 'He wants it to buy whiskey with.' 'No! I haven't any quarrel against the world as a whole. It may be it's my own fault that I am what I am. I have only an accusation against his hypocrisy. If men are brothers, it's the beggar who knows which are the Cains.

ing that our readers are actively engaged in putting this question up to the politicians, the press and the pulpit. The three P's have heretofore posed as the leaders of the common people. The common people have foolishly heeded their advice and now millions of them are jobless and many are actually starving to death for want of food. If it were not for the shadow of grim tragedy that hovers over the nation the answers of some of these erstwhile wise men would be quite amusing.

There are now three million jobless men in the United States. The Appeal passes this good brother's suggestion over to them and they have the Appeal's best wishes in securing a fat job as a minister or missionary.

Here's a suggestion from a Christian minister which advises the hungry man to help himself out of the granaries of the rich. He cites the example of Jesus, who helped himself to the rich man's corn one Sunday morning when he was hungry. The papers are full of accounts of men who are following this advice, but I note that the police are rounding them up and the judge does not hesitate in sentencing them to the workhouse or the chain gang. I haven't any doubt that if Christ should suddenly appear in Kansas City and undertake to feed himself as this Christian minister advises readers of the Appeal to do, that some policeman would nab him and ring for the patrol wagon.

In the San Francisco Bulletin for Saturday, Feb. 15th, Rev. William Rader takes a full page to tell the unemployed that they should "maintain their nerve during the panic." Nerve is all right, but it won't keep a man warm nor will it satisfy the cravings of a hungry stomach unless in his desperation he takes the advice which three-fourths of the preachers have given in trying to find an answer for the question that paralyzed Taft in New York recently, that is, "steal." Rev. Rader thinks the labor unions should stand between the employed and the unemployed in this crisis.

At Santa Barbara, Cal., Rev. Bruce told his hearers that the workman ought to "stop his beer, his tobacco and the Appeal to Reason." No doubt this would prolong the existence of the average man a few days. I wonder if the Rev. Bruce ever read a little book entitled "Suppressed Information," which is very largely a compilation of facts taken from the 18th Annual Labor Report, which is "now out of print." This government report shows that the average income of the families investigated was \$527. This included the earnings of the father, mother and the children. Out of this sum the family spent \$8 for books and newspapers, \$12 for liquor and \$19 for tobacco. Had these items been eliminated and the amount placed in a savings bank the workman would in twenty-five years have saved a sum sufficient to enable his family to live one year. That is, he could live one year, provided the bank had not failed in the meantime, and there had not been any panics during the twenty-five years. I hope you will pass this suggestion on to the workman who lives next door and point out to him the advantage of cutting out his tobacco, liquor and literature.

When pressed to the wall the preachers and the editors fall back on this howl about the amount of money that the working class squanders for liquor and tobacco. They never stop to investigate the facts in the case. Liquor and cigars are the very least of the workman's troubles. In this connection I would call their attention to the results of a careful investigation into the causes of idleness, covering thirty-three states and embracing every important industry, by the United States labor department reported on page 206 of the Eighteenth Annual Labor Report. I have summarized this report as follows:

Table listing various causes of idleness and their corresponding percentages.

I print these figures so that you can deny the slander which these well-fed retainers of capitalism shout from the house tops about the workman wasting his substance in drink. The average workman doesn't consume as much beer and whisky in a year as the average plutocrat drinks at one champagne supper. You never hear anything about the plutes being pauperized on account of the liquor they consume, do you?

Per et. Establishment closed, unable to get work slack work 5.96 Sickness 23.65 Vacation 6.45 Bad weather 2.25 Strike 2.07 Accident 1.66 Not given 1.66 Drunkenness .68 Total 100.00 I print these figures so that you can deny the slander which these well-fed retainers of capitalism shout from the house tops about the workman wasting his substance in drink. The average workman doesn't consume as much beer and whisky in a year as the average plutocrat drinks at one champagne supper. You never hear anything about the plutes being pauperized on account of the liquor they consume, do you?

SOAP SOAP SOAP

In the production of our toilet soaps there is a steady accumulation of "trimmings," as of shavings from a sawmill. These are in great demand by laundries. It is exactly the same as in the pressed cake, but with our system it is less economical to work it over than to sell in bulk for laundries uses. Try a dollar's worth. If you order a dollar's worth of Nutro at same time you will get more soap for your dollar. You will be more than pleased, else we wouldn't tell you so. Make it 26c a hundred pounds and in addition two 3 lb. cans Nutro (you pay the freight). Greatest bargain for the home we have offered.—Girard Mfg. Co.