



SENSE and NONSENSE

From the Inaugural Address of Gov. John W. Leedy of Kansas.

NEW CONDITIONS—NEW DUTIES.

The Legacy of the Public School System—Its Past and Present Aspects—A Worthless Inheritance for Future Generations Unless Accompanied by the Socialist Commonwealth—Foreign and Native.

The inaugural address of Gov. John W. Leedy, of Kansas, contains some sense and a deal of nonsense.

His contempt for the Grub Street scribbler and the capitalist press in general of our large cities certainly is justified. Nothing can be said against these that is too undeservedly harsh. The capitalist press of America is an ulcer on the face of the earth, and in the country's metropolis the ulcer is most virulent. Hence the press is bereft of all sense of justice and of decency, and it is the hired attorney of crime, and the bully of the weak. It thrives in corruption, its only aim is to uphold corruption, and it is all the more vile because it seeks to cover up its felonious conduct with the mantle of purity, patriotism and religion. To thrash this vile pack is proper, and the thrashing administered to them by Governor Leedy is certainly merited. But there ends the sense of the address. Most of the other points are either senseless, or a mixture of sense and nonsense.

It is a mixture of sense and nonsense to say, for instance:

"While, according to the press of the nation's most populous metropolis, her children linger in the streets untaught, except in lore of the pavement, unfed, except at the hand of charity, uneducated, except in the kennels they dispute with creatures scarcely less miserable, the commonwealth of Kansas, rejoicing in a public school system which is the most grateful heritage we received from our fathers, and the best legacy we can leave our children, finds ample house room and school room for every Kansas child."

It is certainly sensible, and a well-merited rebuke withal, to the Philistines of the East, to contrast the school system of Kansas with that of New York and Chicago. The gold bug capitalists of these cities have reached the point where they deliberately manufacture illiteracy. Lavish in their expenditures for armories, and militias, they are niggardly in the appropriations for education. Certainly in the Kansas which they traduce, school room is ample.

It is, however, jingoish nonsense to bow down before the Kansas public-school system as the "best legacy" the Kansas fathers "can leave to their children." If Gov. Leedy indulged in this phrase out of love for its soundness, he was guilty of levity. If he indulged in it, believing he was uttering something sound, he certainly has much to learn.

Time was when a good public-school system was indeed the best legacy one could leave to the rising generation; but that time is gone by. Of what use is the best school house or school-system if the children cannot avail themselves of it? Time was when all that was necessary was to rear the school house and set up the system; that was "opportunity" enough. Now, however, the best school-house and the best system are insufficient "opportunity." In the days when parents found no difficulty to earn their own living and to keep their dear little ones in food and clothing and leisure, the school house supplemented what was needed and became a nursery of intelligence and independence. Those days are over. In increasing numbers fathers are unable to do what their hearts would wish for their children; in increasing numbers, everywhere in the country, Kansas not excluded, the father's labors are no longer sufficient to furnish the child with its material needs, without which it cannot avail itself of the school house; in many instances the father's labors do not suffice for the family's needs, and the child must be enlisted into the army of the workers. Of what avail to these is the "legacy of the fathers," what empty mockery is it not to hand down such an empty legacy to future generations that are bound to be still more impoverished if the nation insists upon nailing itself to the traditions of the past?

The development of the capitalist system compels the present generation to supplement the really valuable legacies of the past with the new legacies made necessary by the present. An assured living is the prerequisite to the acquisition of an education; nay, it is necessary, also, to render the acquired education useful to its holder. Under the present system of capitalism, i. e., of the private ownership of the land and of the capital with which to work, the masses will be ever more deprived of the opportunity to use the school house, and the few who do enjoy such opportunity will find that capitalism enslaves both mind and arms, plunders the intellectual and the manual laborer; in fact, that the better educated a propertyless being is, the more wealth he must yield to his slaveholder, the capitalist employer.

If Gov. Leedy really has at heart the revolution that his words elsewhere but ill conceal, and desires to aid its

success, he should lose no time in acquiring the information he needs on this subject. The prerequisite for a successful revolution is clearness upon facts and freedom from superstitions.

No less nonsensical and harmful are Gov. Leedy's slurs upon the "foreign colonies" of our large cities. No doubt our immigrant fellow citizens are in too many instances no profitable acquisition to us. But it is safe to say that "it would have been money in the nation's pockets" if more than several thousands of our natives had never been born. Sweeping denunciation of the foreign born citizens can never be made without the maker falls into gross contradictions. Gov. Leedy illustrates this point. He refers with pride to the time when "in the country's darkest hour," Kansas was "a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night before an oppressed people." In what consisted the darkness of that hour?

It consisted in a wide-spread conspiracy in the country to break up the union with the aid of Imperial France and Monarchic England.

And who were the conspirators? Almost without exception natives, most of whom traced their pedigrees back to the first convicts who colonized the Virginias!

In that darkest hour when the native Southerners sought to destroy the nation; and no end of native Northerners got substitutes and remained behind to speculate on the nation's misfortunes, the foreign-born element was numerous fighting shoulder to shoulder with those of their brave Northern fellow citizens in the Wilderness, at Vicksburg, at Gettysburg, at Antietam.

The slur on the foreigners is, however, worse than foolish. It is mischievous and misleading. This country rests on the shoulders of those of its inhabitants who, whether born here or elsewhere, have made this their home and work or are willing to work in the country's welfare. Those who are laboring at the country's ruin, selling her out to the loafer class of Europe, are its foes, and no native genealogical tree, however far it may reach back, can wipe out the treason of these. A New York Anna Gould squandering in a French chateau the wealth produced by the workers on our railroads is not a whit worse than the daughter of the silver bug, ex-Senator Sharon of Nevada, who squanders upon a British baronetcy the wealth produced by the workers in our silver mines. The cry against the foreigner can only serve to conceal the treason of the natives. If this country ever will be a country of and for the people, it will have to be made so by the yeomanry of the land—the proletariat or working class, wherever the place of their nativity.

Kansas may yet again perform in the approaching dark hours the noble role she performed in the dark days of '61-'65. But to do so her leading men will have to step up and stand abreast of the times, as they did then—their minds free from Jingoism, their heads clear on the requirements of the hour.

"VICTORIOUS PROTECTION."

How It Served the Plushworkers of Bridgeport, Conn., Whom It Entrapped.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Jan. 19.—Your correspondent, "City Visitor," gave, in the last issue of THE PEOPLE an accurate account of the late strike at the plush shop here (now better known as the workhouse). It will no doubt be of interest to give a short historical sketch of this branch of a "protected" industry.

The Salts Textile Manufacturing Co. was an emigrant from England about six years ago, and then styled "Sir Titus Salt, Bart. & Sons," much, I presume, to give it an air of belonging to the British aristocracy, and thus secure an advertisement for its future products.

Knowing that the supply of skilled workers for the class of goods they wished to manufacture was limited in this country, they "advised" those of their workpeople who had been thrown out of employment, partly through the McKinley bill and partly through the glutting of European markets, to come to America. They spoke of the rush of business in America, the big wages that could be made, and assured all that they had orders for two years. And so there came out here some 300 workers, buoyed up with the false hope of capitalist promises and the mirage swimming before their eyes of "Protection and Prosperity." Everything went well at first. The wages of the weavers averaged \$15 to \$20 a week, and so on throughout the various departments. The men drank the health of the bosses, and the women sang the joys of protection. This lasted a few months—about eight months—and soon the bright sky of prosperity was pallid o'er with the black, ominous signs of a coming reduction. Weavers were told that they eat up all the profits with getting high wages, threats of discharge had become frequent, and thus, as if touched with some foul wizard's wand, the smiles of the bosses turned to frowns, and the decorous language of their lackies to curses and threats.

A reduction of 25 per cent. all round was proposed, and the shop had been running but eight months! "But why this?" came from the puzzled wages slaves. "To enable us to compete with Dobson's of Philadelphia, and other firms who are cutting prices." "But," asked the dumfounded and tricked workers, "how about the two years' work and protection and prosperity?" "Tut, tut, we are not here to discuss politics; we are business men! How can we give you work unless we sell our goods, and how can we sell our goods when we have to compete with Dobson, who pays less wages, and consequently undersells us?"

(Continued on Page 3.)

THE MILLVILLE PLAN.

Not Satisfied With Fleecing the Workers in the Mills.

The Millville Mill Owners, Whose Tenants, the Local "Business Men" and Parsons, Find it Hard to do "Business" and thus Pay Rent, Are Getting these Tenants to Seek to Keep the Mill-hands From spending their Wages out of Town.

When the Socialists say that the workingman is used by the capitalist class as cattle, it is objected to from many sides that the Socialists exaggerate. Certain happenings in Millville, R. I., may settle the question.

Not a particle of the herd on a cattle farm is allowed to go to waste. The bones of the animals, their wool and their hides or skins, their milk when alive, their flesh when dead, all of these are matters of deep solicitude to the owner. The cattle is expected to, and it is seen to it that it does so, return to the earth the strength it takes out of it; their dung is used for manure; it is as carefully looked after, kept and distributed. How does the capitalist treat the worker? The following from Millville will tell:

For some months the business men and property owners of Millville have been contemplating asking the U. S. Rubber Co. to require all those who work in the works in the village to live there. Finally a party of business men, ministers and property owners, called on Superintendent Comee and laid their case before him. They urged that people working in Millville should live there. That such a course would be a benefit to the village and would add to its improvement besides giving the business men and property owners an opportunity to recover from the effects of the dull times for the past three years. It was urged that at the present time there are from 200 to 300 men at work in the works, many of them heads of families, who live in Blackstone and Woonsocket and who go and come morning and evening on a train specially run for their accommodation. These people, it is claimed, carry away with them the cream of the wages earned in the works, and the village gets no benefit whatever from them. It was also urged that there was now nearly 200 empty tenements in the village, and if the people at work in the works were required to live in the village these tenements would be occupied.

What does all this mean but that, just as cattle are treated and made to deposit their dung on the farm that feeds them, the workers are to be compelled to spend their wages in such places as may enable their bosses to get it all back again?

The "business men" of Millville and its "property owners" are suffering from the dull times; and so are the workers. Do these "business men" and property owners propose to improve the condition of everybody, the wage earner included? In the first place, wage earners don't count in the estimation of such people. Wage earners are no more a part of a community than are cattle. Moreover, to improve the condition of the wage earners would simply mean to allow them to keep a larger share of their own product; but that is not possible without reducing the share of the plunder on which the "property holders" live, and that is not what these gentry are after. The 200 tenements said to be vacant in Millville are substantially the property of the Millville mill owners; the "business men" and the "ministers" in the place are substantially the tenants of the mill owners. If these tenants can make no sales and these precious parsons can get no collections the mill owners can get no rents. It is clear as day that to enable the mill owners to draw rent from their real estate, the "business men" and the ministers, both sets of whom are virtually one, must have the wherewithal to do so. Millville can't be "boomed"; that source of rent is not available; what else is there left but to coerce the mill hands to live there and thus pay rent, and thus enable the "business-parson" combination to pay rent to the mill owners?

The mill owners clip the wool of and skin the workers in the mills. The profits they make are the clippings and skinnings practised on the workers. But something has to be given back to the men to live on. The ideal worker, as the ideal cow, is one that can be milked eternally without food. Such cows there are not, neither are there such workers. The cows have to be fed, but their dung, that part of their food that is not extracted as milk, is not allowed to go lost: the cow is kept where she will manure its own pasture. So with the Millville workers. Some wages have to be paid to them, some of the wealth they produce must be returned to them to enable them to live and yield milk, i. e., "profits" for the idle boss. But that part of the wealth which they produced and is not pilfered from them is not now to be allowed to be lost. It is to be dropped on their own pasture, by seeing that they do not stray into the pasture lands of other bosses.

He who seeks to uphold the capitalist social system either is substantially a cow-herd or has a cow's soul. Men who would not degrade man to the level of cattle, and those who are too manly to allow themselves to be thus degraded, will work with might and main to overthrow the capitalist system and establish socialism.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

IN HUNGARY.

The Spread of Socialism in the Rural Districts of the Country.

A Farm Hand's Eloquent and Fearless Plea in Defence of the Class Interests of Proletarians—The "Fatherland" Drifted—The "Fatherland" that the Robber Class of Capitalists Would Guard is a Monster that the Workers Must Overthrow.

A young farm hand, Alexander Eszmadia, in Hungary, was recently arrested and convicted to three months in the penitentiary and a fine of two hundred guilders for having written in the "Uj Napszava" an article that the government pronounced to be inflammable. The title of the article was: "The Demands of Socialism in the Community of Bekeser." Both the article and the prisoner's address before the jury are evidence of the spread of Socialist sentiment among the agricultural population of Hungary, of the thoroughness with which scientific Socialism is being understood, and of the fearlessness of its apostles.

This is the speech under which, no doubt, the District Attorney and the class he represented must have writhed with pain:

"There was no ground for the District Attorney to start trembling for the State at the reading of my article. It was addressed to the poor folks of this land, who are bent down by misery and want; it fits the circumstances; and it is, indeed, dangerous to the State, then should they stand before this jury who are the sole and exclusive cause that has prompted the article. Let them be arraigned before the jury who bring about the conditions before which every feeling human being is bound to revolt. That, however, is not done by the District Attorney. Instead of those real culprits, I am dragged before the jury because, forsooth, in sight of revolting acts, I did revolt. He accuses me: why have I eyes, and a feeling heart? The District Attorney stated in his argument that equality of rights would be brought about by strengthening the arm of the nation, and that, in order that any one member may enjoy rights a certain fitness therefore must be first demanded of him. Now, I ask you, does the Wallachian who is led to the ballot box for a drink of brandy, possess that fitness? Is it not laughable that the workingman is excluded from all rights upon the ground that they are not yet ripe to exercise them? And is it not all the more laughable thereupon to see the District Attorney pick out from among these one out of that class that is considered the least ripe—the farm hand—bring him before the jury, and charge him with disturbing society, with instigating class hatred, and with seeking to overthrow a State that is built on solid foundations and is eminently well constituted? All that an ignorant farm hand is said to propose to accomplish—with his pen!

"But let us look a little closer at these 'instigators of disorder,' these men who are charged with ruthlessly setting man against man. I would like to have the District Attorney go through the ill-paid and hard work that I have to go through. If he did, and he then would again go over the article I have written, he would certainly not find it inflammatory, but on the contrary, very calm.

"There are, however, further causes for revolt. In the industrial districts the wages of men, women and children are at the starvation level. Let the District Attorney try such a living, and then see whether he will still entertain his enthusiasm for such a 'Fatherland.' It is easy for the District Attorney to enthrone for the 'Fatherland,' because he has a beautiful 'Fatherland'; yet were he to exchange his home for that of a farmhand, he would certainly conceive a very different picture of this 'Fatherland.' As District Attorney, he has ample ground to look as felons upon all those who indict a Fatherland, that guarantees him such a good living. Let him become a farmhand, the 'Fatherland' will then appear in very different colors to him, and his enthusiasm for it will cool down.

"I saw people on the streets drop down with starvation, at the same time I saw others smothering in their own fat. Such sights are not calculated to foster a love for the 'Fatherland.' When the suffering people join with their fellow-sufferers to improve their condition, the officials act towards them in a most unlawful manner. If ten poor people stand together, that is called a 'meeting'; to read a newspaper aloud and to stand around the reader is forbidden. And what is it I say in my article? I say: 'Do these gentlemen imagine that we shall gladly die of hunger?' Honorable Jurors, the District Attorney will not, I hope, gladly die of hunger or find any one in the land so disposed. Certain it is that we can not allow the inhuman treatment awarded to us by the property-holding classes to go unchallenged; no one can expect or wish that we praise them for such treatment.

"Further on I wrote: 'We shall burn out of our children's hearts the last vestige of love for this 'Fatherland,' and shall teach them that they must hate this 'Fatherland,' and its robber class of property-holders from the very bottom of their hearts.' Now, then, honored Jury, I do not understand by the word 'Fatherland' a bit of earth; if such was my understanding of the word, then, as a matter of fact I would have no fatherland. Wherever I may set down my foot and say: 'This is mine,' I am forthwith chased away, and I told, 'Walk on, this does not belong to you.'

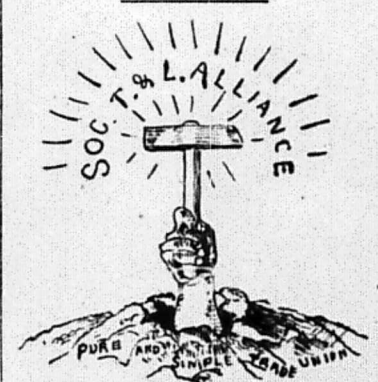
When I speak of 'Fatherland,' and denounce the thing, I mean thereby the existing social system. That is what I hate. Don't others find no end of fault with this system? Daily do the papers say this and that is bad; and yet none of them is indicted. I am a Hungarian; I am born here, a fact that I never deny and that I never shall teach my children to deny. But when I say they should hate the robber class of property holders, I do so justly.

"For man to love something it must have a certain power of attraction that makes him feel that he is loved in return. Love cannot be produced by blows. Whichever way I may turn, nowhere do I find in this 'Fatherland' such attraction.

"I have become a Socialist because I saw that only under the banner of Socialism men are to be found with principles and ideas. It is only among these that freedom, fraternity and equality are not mere phrases, but living principles, for which they are ready to make sacrifices. I am not afraid of the prison; gladly I shall go thither where so many of my comrades have suffered and are still suffering. We Socialists have a secret talisman that consoles us, that inspires us with courage and zeal.

"When I am ordered to contribute to the force of this talisman, why should I, as Socialist, object? I shall go proudly to prison, because I shall be the first farmhand sent to jail for being able by his pen to strike where it hurts the District Attorney. Thereby the best proof is furnished that the farmhands are no longer the ignorant lot that they have hitherto been taken for.

"I close. I think I have shown that my heart is free from fear. Now, you, honorable Jurors, will withdraw and deliberate. I certainly do not tell you: 'Spare me; have pity upon me'; no, judge according to your sense of justice."



A CIGARMAKERS' UNION DROPS OUT.

The Strasser-Campers Policy of Bunching Workingmen Playing Out.

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—I desire to give the readers of THE PEOPLE a peep into the workings of the organization of the cigarmakers of the Windy City of the West.

There is a Strike Committee in this town composed of delegates of the various cigarmakers' unions; they sail under the name of "Joint Advisory Board." This board the fakirs hold the majority in, and we Socialists have had to put up with their actions. Shortly after the convention, the board endorsed a Democratic capitalist candidate for the Legislature. Thereupon my union, No. 384, sent a resolution to the board condemning such action as detrimental to the best interests of organized labor; we also sent a copy to our official journal, requesting its publication in the November issue. The International president suppressed the same.

There is no need for me to mention how the fakirs felt when the resolution was read before the board. At first the secretary tried to suppress it, because he was the very one who moved the endorsement of the boodle politician. However, our delegate insisted that the resolution be produced and read; after much wrangling it was read and created quite a sensation. A heated discussion took place. Our delegates told them that they were nothing but a gang of labor fakirs who preached "no politics" in the union when Socialism, the acknowledged party of the workers, was mentioned, but turn around and endorse a capitalist and boodler from one of the parties that stands for the exploitation of the worker. The mover of the endorsement then made an explanation that is the best condemnation of "pure and simpledom"; he explained that the "Saloon Keepers Association had requested that the boodler be endorsed," and besides, such endorsement would "advertise the label." The endorsement was reconsidered after a hot fight.

The shameful action of going into capitalist politics, while declaiming against politics in general, as a pretext to exclude Socialist politics, gave the first impulse to the members of Union 384 to sever their connection with the gang; when, however, the members found that the reactionary provisions, passed by the last convention were approved by the general vote, and the dues were raised in the bargain, they concluded to organize independently and cut loose from the fakirs. Our dues will now be 10 cents per week; the new organization will be a fighting organization only, and not a Strasser-coffin, fakirs-supporting concern, as the old union is now. We don't believe in healing the wounds inflicted by the capitalists while doing nothing to prevent them from wounding us. We are organized to prevent the wounds being struck. When we are fairly organized we intend to apply for a charter from the S. T. & L. A.

We would have remained as members of the International Union, regardless of the raise of dues to 30 cents per week, had not the other amendments and resolutions passed, which deliver us, bound hand and foot, to the capitalist class by preventing us from educating our membership in its class interests. For this reason we pulled out. Fraternally, J. K.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

A Sample of the Inhumanity that Lurks Behind "Glasgow Plans"

A VIGIL OF DEATH.

The Three Classes of People Who Are Booming the Capitalist Municipalization of Industries—The Shocking Death-Roll on the Brooklyn Bridge—The Methods of Private Capitalism Transferred to Public Capitalism.

Observers know that there is quite a move just now for capitalist municipalization, a la "Glasgow Plan." The move is backed by three different sets:

1st. The set of stockholders, who find their stock sinking, their concerns sliding into receivers' hands, and their former profits eaten up by the bondholders. It was, as is well known to observers, the interests of this set that Carroll D. Wright had in mind when he tentatively suggested government ownership of railroads.

2d. The set of scheming politicians of the Edward M. Grout stamp, who scent something in the wind, want to be "in it," but have caught hold of the wrong sow by the ear.

3d. The set of confused ideologists, who mistake the shadow for the substance, and, anxious for success, fly off the handle.

The most favorite illustration of the excellence of their plan is the Brooklyn Bridge. It is an illustration that they, Prof. Ely among them, love to quote with even greater relish than the Post Office. The illustration suits the Socialists; it serves admirably to point out the fraud upon the workers that lurks behind "Glasgow Plans."

The condition of the Bridge employees is best summed up in these two short sentences:

1st. "Of the original number, only twenty-two men are still in the department"; and

"Out of the 104, 43 have died from exposure."

The beat on the Bridge is exceptionally exposed during the larger part of the year. It is so exposed that it has been appropriately called the "Vigil of Death." Why should that be? Is the air surcharged with pestilential microbes, the inhaling of which means almost certain death? No, if it were, the question would come down to whether it was at all necessary to keep the post, and, if necessary, one would have to submit to the great danger, as one does in battle. But that is not the case. The danger of the post lies in the excessiveness of the hours and the lowness of the pay. Excessive exposure to the cold winds, without sufficient food, clothing and time to recuperate, must inevitably prove injurious. Such excessive exposure and insufficient remuneration are not inevitable evils, like the dangers of the battle field. They are evils that arise from the capitalist system of operating a plant.

Only the other day a Judge of the New York Court of Appeals dismissed the case of a woman whose arm was injured in a factory through the firm's violation of the factory acts. The reason given for throwing the case out was that employes assume responsibility for the "obvious risks" of their occupation. The only "obviousness" of the risk in such cases is the obvious feature of capitalism that it is run for the private profit of the capitalist class at the expense of the working class. Capitalist municipalism is simply the transferring to the capitalist class, in possession of the municipal government, the functions which it otherwise exercises in its private capacity. All the hideousness of private capitalism is repeated in municipal capitalism. For the sake of making larger profits, the private capitalist fails to spend money in protecting the lives of his employes at the machine; for the sake of KEEPING the large profits thus made, the capitalist class seeks to reduce taxation, and one of the ways of doing that is to employ fewer men than necessary on the municipal undertakings which it runs and paying them less than they need. Thus it comes that the Bridge employes are not as numerous as the arduousness of their task should make them; that the hours are long, there not being enough for several shifts; that their wages are insufficient, and that the mortality among them is shocking.

The municipalization that the Socialists demand, short of the complete overthrow of the capitalist system, is of identical nature with all the other temporary demands which they make of the now ruling class; that demand, like all such others, has for its guiding star the promotion of capitalist development and the relief, as we go along, of the heavy burdens that now weigh down the class of the proletariat. The municipalization that, so far from bringing relief, adds to the burdens of the working class, may well fascinate the first two sets of people mentioned above, and may deceive the thoughtless ideologists, but can neither fascinate nor deceive the Socialist. The only municipalization that the Socialist can work for as a temporary affair is the one under which the municipalized industry or function, though controlled by a capitalist government, is so far put into the employes' hands that some of the grossest acts of capitalist exploitation cannot survive, and their lives are rendered more worth living—as demanded by the resolutions appended to the platform of the Socialist Labor party.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist vote in the United States from 1888 to 1896. 1888 (Presidential) 2,068; 1890 13,331; 1892 (Presidential) 21,157; 1894 33,133; 1896 (Presidential) 36,583.

No revolution ever rises above the intellectual level of those who make it, and little is gained where one false notion supplants another. But we must some day, at last and forever, cross the line between Non-sense and Commonsense.

Thomas Carlyle.

RESOLUTIONS 2 AND 3.

The 2d and 3d resolutions appended to the platform of the Socialist Labor party, which, "with a view to the immediate improvement of the condition of labor," demand the national and municipal ownership of certain industries under certain conditions.

The Mahones, Arthurs and Sergeants, together with the whole kit of labor crooks, from Pomeroy down to Gompers, are as much the reflex of the present intellectual status of the workers as are the capitalist politicians whom these elect to power.

Every inch of freedom enjoyed by the proletariat or working class must be conquered by themselves; it will not come down from heaven.

ance. To say that, because, while shackled in ignorance, workmen raise rascals to chieftaincy among them, THEREFORE we must apprehend that, when sufficiently freed by enlightenment to dare to take the manly stand that would be implied in the victory at the polls of Resolutions 2 and 3, they will commit the same ignorance-born folly of raising to or keeping in power leaders of the same stamp, is to drop into the blunder of imagining that, because the cocoon is not safe, unless firmly woven to a twig, THEREFORE we must apprehend for its safety when, developed into a butterfly, it spreads its wings for daring flights.

The Socialist Labor party, by its platform and resolutions, by its literature and speakers, seeks to light the spark of freedom in the breasts of the proletariat by enlightening their minds.

1,200 MEMBERS, MOSTLY VICTIMS.

A fool-killer is certainly badly needed around the headquarters, if the thing has any, of the "Brotherhood of the Co-operative Commonwealth."

In the first place, the size of the disaster, that must inevitably attend all utopian plans for the overthrow of capitalism, is in direct ratio to the number of the ideologists and innocents who are roped in and to the amount in which they are taken in by the schemers, who usually are at the bottom of them.

In the second place, the louder the crash and the more extensive the devastation brought on by the collapse of these wild cat schemes, the harder is the road before the Co-operative Commonwealth.

No person, not driven by want to commit rascality for a living, no person, even approximately informed upon the Social Question, should lend his name or efforts to this new Iahabod plan of the "Brotherhood of the Co-operative Commonwealth."

The path mapped out by history to the overthrow of the capitalist system of production does not wind over the tortuous wilderness of "fighting capital with capital," it moves straight along the solid highway of political action by the proletariat organized upon the revolutionary platform of the Socialist Labor party.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

The Lincoln, Neb., "Independent" (Pop.), with wonderful introspection, says:

"Some men are so generous that they give themselves away at almost every opportunity. And forthwith proceeds to furnish an illustration of its own maxim with the following doggerel: 'O, the pops they are a-popping, And the heads they are a-dropping, And you bet there'll be no stopping Until every rep shall die; We will make the dry bones rattle, We will drive them forth like cattle, For we surely won the battle, And we'll surely eat the PIE.'"

Does any one want to understand why the labor organizations that are managed by the "pure and simple" ignoramuses, mis-called leaders, are in a hole with the wind blowing upon them from all sides, and why it is so important for the rank and file to throw these fellows out? Here is a proof.

"While one can readily understand that all men cannot be given machine situations, even if capable operators, it is no easy task to figure out a solution to the problem of what to do with the unemployed."

selfes, to whose interest it is to use the machine for private profit; or those workers, who, having been "made to think" by ignorant leaders, know nothing of the labor question and have had the sense of the Rights of Man be-muddled within them; or, lastly, those miscreant leaders who look at a labor organization simply as a thing to live on, and, consequently, have a direct interest in "making the rank and file think," that is to say, keep them in ignorance and ready for the capitalist shambles.

The unemployed are a feature of the capitalist system. Labor in the capitalist system is like a coat; when needed the coat is put on; when not needed it is taken off and laid away, where it lies until needed again, when it is again taken up. Thus does the capitalist use labor. When he needs it he takes it; when he does not need it he lays it off, and it is necessary for him that it lie there ready to be taken up again whenever the capitalist needs it again.

It follows that the inhumanity of keeping men out of work is a cornerstone of capitalism. A social system whose cornerstone is human suffering may, one can well understand, suit those who profit by it first rate, but it becomes clear as day that it cannot suit those who suffer by it.

This is the language of intelligent Labor. It is the language that is increasing in volume, that is setting the capitalists in a sweat, and that is causing the still more despicable crew of "pure and simple" labor leaders to be jumping around like headless chickens.

It is clear that the Minneapolis "Progressive Age" belongs to the Bourbon class—it neither learns nor forgets. While many an advocate of Bryan in the late campaign has learned the lesson that the money question is a question that affects capitalists only; that in such a fight the biggest capitalists, i. e., gold bugs, are bound to prevail, that the people cannot "check" any capitalist conspiracy; and that the whole conspiracy of capitalism can be overcome by the people only by knocking down the whole system of capitalist robbery, this "Progressive" misnomer quill-pushes the following blockheadism:

"When the Indianapolis conference of bankers convenes, mark well what they will undertake to do. They will draft a bill to retire the greenbacks. If the people are not asleep they will check this conspiracy by the time it reaches Congress."

This is a touching little sketch given by "E. M. A." in the London "Justice" on the happy days the Socialist Council of Lille in France is blessing the children with:

"Our readers will remember Comrade Delory, Mayor of the important town of Lille. They will remember, too, that the reactionists have already managed to get him 'suspended' for a few weeks, and would be delighted, no doubt, if they could only manage to suspend him and his fellow Socialist Councilors altogether. For this Socialist Town Council has put an end to every kind of jobbery and robbery; they are of so rigid an honesty that Panamists have no chance whatever, and while big salaries are being ruthlessly cut down, the workers employed by the Council are getting higher wages and shorter hours. Nor is this all. Like Roubaix and other Socialist towns, the Lille Municipality has decided to look after the children, not as a matter of charity, but of duty. 'Cantines scolaires'—i. e., free meals—are to be provided, so far as under present conditions is possible, for every Lille child. Of course, this can only be organized gradually; but a splendid start was made on Sunday, September 13th, when four 'cantines' were opened. 'A thousand children,' says the 'Socialiste,' were led in procession by their teachers—the Mayor, Delory, marching at their head—to the sounds of music and beating of drums to the various halls where for the first time the municipal table was spread for them. It is impossible to describe the delight of this world of little ones at the good things offered their voracious appetites—Parmentier soup, roast veal and fried potatoes, oranges, cakes and sweets. Ah! assuredly these little ones, when they are grown men and women, will remember the Commune that Socialism at once transformed into their fairy god-mother. And the fathers and mothers, too,—most of all, indeed,—will remember that September 13th. . . . In the afternoon, to complete this Socialist fête, over 2,000 children were taken to a performance at the Grand Theatre. Wild with delight, they again and again cheered, shouting 'Vive Delory! Vive le Parti Ouvrier!'"

"Lucky little Lille children! If only we could have a few Socialist Town Councils, and a few Mayors like Delory, Carette, Dormoy, Solembier, and their

fellows here in England! Why, they'd manage to make even a Lancashire factory town beautiful!"

What could not we make of our factory towns, and even of our great metropolises.

The Prohibitionist "Voice" is certainly in error when it says:

"The Prohibition party needs money, but what it needs worse is local missionaries who will keep up an organized activity and gather in converts to the cause in every town."

Any one can readily understand that a movement, that has the brass to put on airs of sanctity and yet is as unhal-lowed as the most unhal-lowed in that it advocates the plunder of the workers and has a decided preference for the class of "prominent citizens" of whom Jesus said that a camel had a better chance to squeeze itself through the needle's eye than they to get into heaven, cannot long keep its missionaries. These will discover the sort of immoral work demanded of them, the decent ones will fall off, and it will become harder and harder to replace them. That we can understand.

But we can't understand how the Prohibition party can be running short of money. Isn't a Standard Oil Trust Magnate a national, State and county officer of the "godly" Prohibition party? Are not the Bascoms, Wheelers, and other labor skimmers and land sharks prominent in its councils? Want of funds? Surely the "Voice" means to perpetrate a joke.

It is a significant fact, which should not remain buried in the columns of "The Truthseeker," that its support is falling off. It says:

"Nearly two thousand of our subscribers are in arrears on their subscriptions, and together owe us nearly four thousand dollars. A short time since we sent out notices to these friends, but the responses were almost nothing."

In the measure in which clearness increases on the Social Question the intelligent masses are bound to perceive that few things could suit the Capitalist Beast better than to have energy expended in chasing the fleas that it breeds. The chasing of the fleas draws attention away from the Beast itself; it can, with all the greater impunity, commit its ravages; and the force, which, if concentrated upon its own head, would kill it off in short order, will be frittered away. Churchianity, with all its crime and imbecility and its equally criminal and imbecile pack of pulpit beneficiaries, it but a flea that the Beast of class rule breeds, and that flourishes best where the Capitalist Beast prospers. The Beast can but smile at having that flea chased. It is no accident that the professional atheists, like Bob Ingersoll, who in one hour can commit more mistakes than Moses in a lifetime, are all enthusiastic candleholders of the Beast itself.

The people cannot long fail to see through the farce. It is a good symptom of the times that they are growing indifferent to the forum of the professional atheists, while they are turning strongly to the support of THE PEOPLE, that does not bother about the fleas, but grapples with the Beast itself.

The "Times" contained an editorial the other day which showed how the "honest" efforts of Carnegie & Co. are rewarded. It was in reference to armor plate. Secretary Herbert, after an extended investigation, reported that armor plate could be made for \$400 per ton, even allowing 50 per cent. for profit. By collusion, the two companies furnishing plate to the government, demand the same price, namely, \$583, and the saving on three ships, or rather the amount stolen from the government on three ships is \$1,500,000. The Secretary recommends the government to go into the business on its own "hook" and the "Times" sort of seconds that scheme.

Facts like these show how the wealthy men of this country became wealthy; and also why there is such anxiety manifested every little while in regard to our "unprotected coasts." The building of warships that are disabled before they get into deep water and that are only good for show, has made a few more millionaires in our land, has increased our debt, and given the jingoes a chance for war.

Is it not a burning shame that the intelligent voters of this country will allow their servants to pour out money like water on such useless and barbaric baubles as guns and warships? Millions for destruction, but not a cent for building up happiness.

While the N. Y. "Evening Post's" capitalist pets are being exposed and publicly convicted of deep immorality through the "Seeley Dinner" investigation, and while the papers are reporting the disgraceful scenes enacted at that dinner, the "Post" is dumb as the grave on that subject, but is all the while emptying the vials of its stupid wrath on the corrupt political bosses of the land in this guise:

"The machine is thus supreme in the three greatest States of the Union. It is developing alarming power in many other States. It gives the country Platt as Senator from New York; Quay's man from Pennsylvania; a Chicago 'boodle Alderman' from Illinois. Having done this, it asks the people, 'What are you going to do about it?' Unless that question shall be effectively answered, democratic government as it was conceived

by the framers of the Constitution will have ceased to exist in the United States."

Of course the combination of Pharisee and mutton-head that is symbolized by the "Post" does not realize that what it complains of is but the effect of "Seeleyism." It approves of the system that places into idle and unworthy hands the nation's wealth, and it dares not rebuke its masters, but sets its conscience at rest by snarling at its masters' political lackeys.

The purple-faced and pimple-nosed brigade that, unfortunately for the brewers, presides over the destinies of the St. Louis "Brauer Zeitung," seems still to be under the influence of its Christmas and New Year devotions at the shrines of its favorite saints—Scab Beer and Suicide-suggesting Whiskey. It informs the few people who are curious enough to look into the paper that, among the votes cast at the recent convention of the A. F. of L., in favor of the Chicago slumlord Pomeroy, 60 were given by "Delegate Tobin of the Shoemakers District Alliance of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance!"

Delegate Tobin may or may not have voted in that way. The "Brauer Zeitung" is but fishy authority to rely on. But this is certain: Delegate Tobin's organization—the Boot and Shoemakers' Union—is not, as it happens, in any way affiliated with the S. T. & L. A., but only with the A. F. of L. Delegate Tobin is not connected with the "Shoemakers' District Alliance of the S. T. & L. A."

We recommend to the Prohibition organ, the "Voice," that it take an inside and outside photograph of the externally rubicund and internally mixed up brigade. They will do good service as horrible examples on any Prohibition platform.

FOUR METRICAL MUSINGS.

(Written for THE PEOPLE by PETER E. BURROWS.)

OUR FLEAS.

If man must have mystery, as a dog must a bone. To sharpen the teeth of the mind, Come hither and tell me: Since labor alone Produces the wealth of mankind, By what marvellous perversion of reason and right Are the wealthmakers now in such sorrowful plight? 'Because they are naughty and do as they please; And don't save a million; and don't live at ease, And don't as a decent dog should, kill their fleas.' Kill their fleas! If you please, you've been taking some grog, The flea is now bigger, 'alas!' than the dog.

OUR LAWS.

Laws we have to limit the right of the fowler Over the wild birds' brood, Laws to save our game from the snare of the prowler. Land laws to every rood, But laws to save the life of the slave of wages Are only made to delude. Yet life, good life, sweet life, for all, is supremely The greatest of lawful ends. And to save your trainman's body more seemly Than railroad dividends, But 'A life for a life,' that Bible 'saw,' May have a new meaning in Socialist law.

OUR SHAME.

I would not throw a puppy dog upon the crowded street, To take life's chances underneath ten thousand blind men's feet, As you cast out the workless man on competition's sea, To sink, or swim; to live, or die, 'Tis passing strange to me, But socialism, tender, wise; a better way hath found Than spilling out its workers' lives like water on the ground, Then, every hand and every brain, directed by one plan, Shall have its work assigned to it, with honor to the man. No war, no waste of workless men. No scorn, no hate, no blows Shall ever shame society where socialism grows. No millionaires, no ragged tramps; nor any other bums, Shall blot a scientific age, when socialism comes.

OUR DAWN.

Yes, we are speeding fast; and every wind Propels us on our happy course, Even our tyrants become madly kind, And blindly help us with their force. That day shall come, oh, may we live to see Its dawn! that bright emancipation morn. When the world's workers shall be free, The people's commonwealth be born. No more work-seeking—sore distress, With fear, uncertainty, and strife, Shall mar the light and loveliness Of Socialist life. But there is something I must do To bring that haven into view, To bring us near that morning's light; You, you and YOU must vote aright.

Notice to Section Providence, E. I. There will be a meeting of Section Providence, E. I., Friday, January 29th, at 8 p. m., at Slade's Hall, 45 Eddy street, to elect the State Committee, nominate candidates for the State election and transact party business. CITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE. January 11, 1897.

To Youngtown, O., Comrades. Please correspond with Francis Henry, of Girard, with a view to establishing a Section of the S. L. P. in Youngtown.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—As things look to me, rather than running down, we are on the highway to unthinkable happiness. Just think of it, how cheap things are getting!

Uncle Sam—You are right or wrong, according as you mean the right or wrong thing by what you say. You are right, if you mean that this general cheapening will urge on the crash that must precede the leap forward to happiness; but you are wrong if you mean that cheapness is in itself a good thing.

B. J. (taking four 25-cent pieces out of his pocket)—How unpractical you Socialists are! Here I have 4 quarters. When things were dear, I needed all 4 to buy me a hat; now I can get me a hat for only 2 of them; I am 2 quarters richer. If hats become still cheaper, I get me a hat for only 1 quarter, and then I am in 3 quarters. This goes right straight along; prices go down, and I keep more and more money to myself. Isn't that prancing at the double quick towards prosperity?

U. S.—Your mathematics of political economy are all in a "pl." (Taking the 4 quarters out of B. J.'s hands and spreading them in his left hand). I have here 4 quarters; hats are dear, they cost \$1; I buy me one; (throws the 4 quarters into his right hand) have I any left?

B. J.—No; I said so. U. S.—(puts 3 out of the 4 quarters into his left hand)—I have 3 quarters; hats are cheaper, they cost only 75 cents; I buy me one; (throws the 3 quarters back into his right hand) have I any left?

B. J.—No. U. S.—I'm no better off than when hats cost \$1.

B. J.—Yes; but— U. S.—Shut up. (Puts 1 out of the 4 quarters in his left hand) I have 1 quarter; hats are cheaper yet, cost only 25 cents; I buy me one; (throws the quarter back into his right hand) have I any left?

B. J.—No. U. S.—I'm no better off than when hats cost \$1 or 75 cents.

B. J.—Yes; but— U. S.—Shut up, I say. (Spreads all the 4 quarters again in his left hand) I have 4 quarters, hats are dear, they cost \$1; I buy me one; (throws the quarters into his right hand) have I any left?

B. J.—Why, no. U. S.—(puts 2 quarters in his left hand)—I have 2 quarters hats are cheaper; they cost only 75 cents; I would like to buy one, can I buy with 50 cents a cheaper hat that costs 75 cents?

B. J.—No; but— U. S.—"Buts." The moral of the story is here for Whig and Tory: For the wage earner, and you are a wage earner, to judge of his chances of prosperity, it is not enough for him to consider the decline in the price of things he needs, he must also consider step by step the wages he receives to buy things with. Cheap goods and cheap wages leaves you with the nose to the grindstone; cheap goods and cheaper wages grinds your nose still worse. And thereby hangs the important law of wages.

B. J.—The "Law of Wages," I have heard that mentioned; what is it?

U. S.—In the capitalist system labor is a merchandise, just as hats. The price of hats depends upon the supply thereof and the demand thereof. If the supply of hats is larger than the demand, the price will go down. So with labor. The larger the supply and the lower the demand, the lower also is the price of labor, or the wages of the worker. Under the capitalist system, the relative demand for labor steadily goes down. Machinery displaces the workers, and the concentration of capitalist concerns throws wage earners out of work. Nor is this all. Middle class men, unable to compete with large capitalists, drop into the class of the proletariat and by so much increase the supply of those who seek work above the demand. Consequently, the wages of the working class steadily go down. That's the same as saying that the money they receive, and with which they must make their purchases, is steadily less. In view of this, it matters not how cheap goods become. The workers cannot profit thereby, because their wages keep pace and even outrun other goods in cheapness. Goods are becoming cheaper and cheaper because machinery produces them more and more plentifully; but hand in hand with that, labor becomes still cheaper and cheaper.

B. J. looks petrified. U. S.—The great cheapening of goods, so far from denoting that the workers "are prancing at the double quick towards prosperity," denotes that we are galloping at the double quick towards the social crash. Get from under!

Speaking in behalf of his own candidacy for the United States Senatorship from Pennsylvania, the capitalist, John Wanamaker said:

"The bugle note is sounding for volunteers in every county. The question is asked, what will come of this fight when the Senatorial question is decided. I wish to say that the business men, and by business men I mean all men who work at the honest labor of the plough, or loom, or in the workshop or mine, the business men who have entered upon the organization of Philadelphia have made a solemn compact with each other to stand together permanently for service in good politics until this State is redeemed from the shackles it wears to-day."

The frantic efforts of the capitalist to disguise his identity are amusing. The best way to conceal a stolen horse is to let him loose among a herd that he one owns; so is also the best way to conceal capitalist identity for the fraud to rank himself with other classes.

JOHN WANAMAKER.

Interpellated by a Member of the Socialist Labor Party.

Sir—Before I enter into a consideration of the nature of the business principles upon which it is now proposed to carry on the work of government, permit me to direct your attention to the fact that, whether those principles are good or bad, or whether their application will result in benefit or injury to the country, they are not the principles upon which this Republic was founded and which were commonly relied upon, up to a very late period, to guide the administration of public powers. The proposition to now apply them is, therefore, clearly innovative and plainly un-American.

I make no apology for using that word "un-American." Because a term has been misused is no reason why it should be discarded. It is a good word, and of mighty significance, as will be in good time. This land, with its imported system of law, and imported languages and religions, has produced little that is distinctly native, and many things popularly supposed to be thoroughly American are not indigenous at all. There is one thing, however, whose original American character is beyond dispute. I refer to the Declaration of Independence. That paper is an American production containing the ideas of Americans as to government, and expressing them in plain language. Those ideas had never before been promulgated in any other country, and were, in effect, a direct denial of the right of any other form of government to exist on the earth. That document may therefore be confidently used as a criterion by which the American or un-American character of anything relating to government may be determined.

It is not remarkable that the political leaders and public men of to-day seldom go to the Declaration for inspiration or authority; nor that our so-called better classes, particularly that portion who place themselves on their descent from the rebels of '76, rarely refer to it, unless, it may be, to sneer at its immortal truths as "a string of glittering generalities."

John, there is nothing in the Declaration concerning "business interests"; nor anything about it being our duty to "run" the government on "business principles"; nor a word about "business" or "business men." The signers evidently knew nothing about business principles; or, if they did, considered that silence would best express their opinion of them. Nothing in the Declaration will sanction the latter-day proposal to turn the government over to business men and permit them to administer it in accordance with what they chose to call their "principles." The proposed scheme is foreign to the Declaration and un-American.

The fathers of the Republic held it to be self-evident "that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." And said they, "to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men." That was the sole function of government—the securing of rights, in the opinion of the signers. They said nothing about anything else. And they declared it to be not only the right, but the duty, of a people to alter or overthrow any government that did not accomplish these ends.

It is a common notion of political rights that a man may exercise them or not, as he chooses; and of social duties that a man may perform them or not, at his option. This universe, however, is built on no such plan. We should be in a bad way if it were. Security of rights being absolutely necessary to social organization, whenever a government no longer maintains them it is doomed. The people have no choice whatever in the matter. The people must either overthrow it or die. The notion of a government surviving a people is sufficiently absurd to be rejected by even a bourgeois intellect, dense as it is. All the law, and lawgivers, and business, and business men, and religions, and religious teachers, and institutions—social, political and industrial—and armies and navies, and everything else that man or the devil has ever devised, will be unable to maintain for any length of time a government that does not take care of all the rights of all the people. This may be taken as fixed. Quite as fixed as the law of gravitation.

Only upon one presumption may we reasonably expect the reign of our business men in government to last. If they succeed in establishing and maintaining the inalienable rights mentioned in the Declaration their rule is secure. If they do not, they will go down in short order.

Do you mean to say, John, that our business men really intend to do anything of the kind? But first let us come to an understanding as to who are and who are not business men. I know what you say you mean. You say: "By business men I mean all men who work at honest labor, of the plow, or loom, or in the workshop or mine."

Now, John, honor bright, you mean nothing of the kind, and you know you don't. You speak of this movement of our business men, of the proposition to administer the government upon business principles, as a "change," a "revolution" (of what has hitherto obtained), and of its accomplishment as a "revolution." The government has at least occasionally, always been administered in the interest of "business men" if you mean "all who work at honest labor"

in that category, and your proposal would therefore imply no "change" and no "revolution" at all. It is necessary to be accurate on this point. Your employe, who puts in his whole time in your shop or store for a dollar a day, while he "works at honest labor," is not a business man. A definition, accurate enough for the purposes of these letters, is this: "A business man is one who manufactures for sale, or sells for profit." This is the class whom you have in mind when you speak of "business men"; and this is the class whose "interests" are now to be considered paramount, and whose "principles" it is now proposed to apply to government.

It is useless to enter upon any elaborate inquiry as to the "principles" of our business men. I shall show what their "interests" are, and in so doing shall indicate their principles. Their interests are their principles. I propose to indulge in no theorizing, and will make use of only such facts as are well known to an ordinarily intelligent citizen, or such as may be easily verified.

We have a Pure Food law here in Pennsylvania, and a set of officials to see to its enforcement. When that piece of legislation was being considered, what was the attitude of our business men toward it? They opposed its passage with every means at their command. Business men's organizations met and passed resolutions denouncing it; a lobby was organized and supplied with business men's money to defeat it; our great newspapers (true exponents of the interests of business) thundered their broadsides against the "paternal iniquity," and nothing was left undone that our business men might do to create public opinion against it. Nevertheless, somewhat mutilated, the bill became law. Have our business men obeyed it? Not at all. Their interests, it is indisputable, demand its violation; and they violate it. A late report of Food Commissioner Wells shows that nearly every article of food is adulterated. Allspice, baking powder, beef-wind-iron (prepared as a tonic), butter, buckwheat flour, candies, catsups, cider, cheese, cinnamon, cloves, coffee, codfish (not codfish at all), cream of tartar, flaxseed, fruit butters of all kinds, spices of all kinds, molasses, fruit juices of all kinds, mustard, olive oil, pepper, vinegar, all kinds of extracts and preserves, tea, and, in fact, nearly every article of food consumed is being adulterated.

The interests of our business men, those engaged in manufacture and sale of food products, are easily seen, therefore. They demand the cheating and the poisoning of the people, and the breaking of the law, in their furtherance.

Can you get around that fact, Mr. Wanamaker? Keep it in mind; I shall have a great deal more to say on this subject. Enough for this week.

"Victorious Protection".

(Continued from Page 1.)

A strike was inaugurated, a union formed, and the gods of capitalistic protection and prosperity forced them to beg for public charity within eight months of their landing in the country. Yes, beg for bread! The strike was stubbornly fought, and after eight weeks a "compromise" was reached.

Again they started. A few months more and short time commenced. Again the clouds gather, up goes the storm sheet—another reduction. And thus it has been ever since. Short time, reduction, a little spurt, and the game begins again. Where are they now, that once joyous body of skilled workers?

Weavers in the late strike, men with families, can show a list of weekly wages for a year back that does not average \$5 per week, and I know some who have worked continuously for eight weeks on a stretch who did not average \$6 per week. The men have been entirely displaced by women in the weaving, as it is impossible for men to earn a living, although the work demands skill and perfect eyesight. The women are compelled to do work on the looms which necessitates their abandoning self-respect and womanly dignity. They are obliged to stand fines imposed for faulty material, though it is impossible to prevent it. They must sign a contract to the effect that they will never complain or be parties to a strike, but will always seek the bosses' advice and "arbitrate."

And the new weavers? I know not what will become of them. Some are already in tramping—all are members of the unemployed tools of capitalism. I know some of these men became American citizens before election, and when they had in their hands the only weapons that could help them; yea, even whilst out on strike, these same men sold manhood, home and honor to the skunks of the Republican party, and voted for a continuation of that prosperity and protection which had reduced them to pauperism.

But not so all. The steady battery of the Socialist Section has drawn from among the blinded plush workers a few stalwarts who have seen the light, and more are seeing it every day. With our steady meetings and discussions, are peplush, as well as other workers, are becoming interested and aroused from the helpless state of despondency into which the booby of "Protection and Prosperity" had cast them.

They, like others, arise and take on their manhood, and casting forever the false teachings of capitalism to the winds, will equip themselves with the economic truths of socialism, and like true men, fight for the abolition of capitalist protection and the establishment of prosperity for the wage workers.

A PLUSH WORKER. Greater New York Convention. The next meeting of the Greater New York Convention will be held on Saturday, the 30th instant, at the New York Labor Lyceum, 64 East Fourth street. THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

MAGUIRE AT WORK.

Poluted Language Upon Discrimination in Taxation.

PATERSON, N. J., Jan. 17.—At last week's meeting of the Board of Aldermen, Matthew Maguire, the Socialist member of the Board, probed deep for the rascalities of capitalists in the levying of taxes. He said that the diet of wind pudding and fake legislation never meant to be enacted could no longer be prescribed. It was the duty of the Aldermen to probe the charge of unequal assessment and show where it existed and allow taxpayers to ferret out the reason why they were saddled with the burden of others, owing to alleged favoritism of sworn officials. The committee should find out where these charges warranted. Did a system of unequal assessment discriminate unjustly? Alderman Lang remarked that there was no question of the latter fact, but believed the act presented by City Council Simonton might remedy the evil.

The Socialist member was plainly indignant. "It is true all over the State," he cried, "Political pull and wealth combine to fleece the man whose home is his all. When the people grow you frame a reform measure to have it slumber peacefully in the corporation graveyard at Trenton. It is a specious excuse. On the other hand, influence counts. Why, take the three corners of Washington avenue. William B. Gourley and my colleague Alderman Boylan with valuable property are assessed lower than the grocer on the opposite corner. There were, it is said, others protected in the same way."

"How about yourself, Alderman?" cut in Alderman Brett. "You are on the other corner, are you not?"

"Our property is taxed its full limit," replied the Socialist member. "It is not fenced with political pull."

"The State Board of Assessors," continued Maguire, "cut down the assessment on bank stock two-thirds. Governor Griggs appeared as counsel for the bank before the local assessors and also as its president. He attacked the assessment and it was appealed. The State Board whose members the Governor appoints have agreed with his view and repealed the assessment. Should further appeal be taken would it appear and the local contention sustained, would President Griggs consent to removal of the State Board?"

Alderman Brett in a cute way said, surely Alderman Maguire would not reflect on Governor Griggs. The Socialist member replied that he was dealing with the action of the assessors. It was not a question of honor but of finance. The State Board came in for considerable adverse criticism. Alderman Maguire pointedly insisted that their appointment had been a halter placed round the necks of the people of the State by its allied corporate interests. Its birth was fashioned to throttle remonstrance and protect railroad property from taxation wherever located. Its acts and formation he believed unconstitutional, and the City Council should be instructed to carry on the fight against its usurpation of power.

City Council Simonton reviewed the history of previous attempts to appeal from the decisions of the State Board. He had for three years questioned the constitutionality of the act creating State assessors, but had been unable to wipe them out of existence. Mr. Simonton signified his willingness to press the issue should the Aldermen so order and the matter was laid over. The committee have decided to conduct a public inquiry, but will limit time in which taxpayers may present grievances. The inquiry should prove decidedly interesting, and open up hidden avenues of information. Reform measures could be found and introduced by city legislators or their full consideration. Alderman Maguire has once more hit the nail squarely. Let the Aldermen first fully unearth the assessment here.

They had a horse and carriage for members to ride around the city, and country, also several bicycles. The horse was bought by a man for the association with the understanding that they were to pay for it on the installment plan. He got \$2, then the payments stopped; since then they have reorganized, and now call it the "New Castle County Single Tax Association." Now a prominent man has taken the horse and has gone into the huckster business; he claims the horse because it belonged to the old Delaware S. T. Association. The man who bought the horse originally and was paid only \$2, says he ought to have the animal, but the chap that has it won't give it up. They are a happy family.

RANDOM SHOTS

Fired With Uncertain Aim at Persons and Things that Should be Hit.

The mighty forces of mysterious space—Are one by one subdued by lordly man. Light, darkness, air and water, heat and cold. He bids go forth and bring him power and profit. And yet, though ruler, king and god, He walks with his fierce passions uncontrolled. The conqueror of all things—save himself.

When we consider the superstitions of the past, it seems incredible to us that men could ever have believed in such absurdities. And yet in these days we, too, have our delusions, which would have been inconceivable to our forefathers. We smile at their conceptions of the universe and the beliefs they had, but can we imagine them as being so foolish as to die of hunger in the MIDST OF PLENTY? What clearer vision of things have we, who nurse the delusion that without the capitalist the earth would no longer bring forth her fruits, that but for the "captains of industry" the race would relapse into the darkness from which they had marched the earth forth.

We do not bow down to inanimate gods of wood and stone, but in the realm of thought we do worship ideas just as false and lifeless. Did we but realize it, no man who reveres the "rights of property" can afford to laugh at the crudest belief of bygone years.

I once read somewhere a tale which well illustrates this modern superstition: It was of a "natural" who was wont to wander away, thus causing his relatives and others a great deal of trouble. As he was harmless, they did not wish to confine him; watched, his wandering continued until it was found he would never pass a rope when stretched as an obstruction in his path. Acting upon this, his people enclosed him in a large space by stretching a rope over forked sticks. The "natural" would walk up and down the enclosure, but never attempted to get out, which he could easily have done. Thus he got needed air and exercise. The barrier (like the idea that capitalism is a necessity to existence), was not a physical one which he could not surmount; it had existence only in his mind.

One of the pet queries of the capitalist scavengers is, "Who would do the work under socialism?" And they prove "conclusively," of course, that no one would work. But since the new law forbidding convicts to work at anything except certain repairs on public property has been in a flood of tears because, even though fed and sheltered, the life of the convict WITHOUT OCCUPATION is full of unbearable horrors, sure to lead to general insanity in the prisons. All of which proves one thing, that whenever a fakir handles a weapon he finds, to his surprise, that it becomes a two edged instrument.

This question of prison labor has never been clear to me. Often have I heard the "labor leader" mouthing against the unfair competition of prison work, a competition which would exist just the same if the men were "free."

The present system is more guilty of crimes against criminals than vice versa. Society for its protection takes away the mainstay of families, and thus causes suffering and further crime; this is not one of the least of the wrongs that socialism is destined to right.

A medical friend once told me that physicians as a rule dislike to treat cases of neurasthenia—nervous prostration. He confessed to a liking for the work, provided he could get at what caused the mental worry which brings on the disease. Herein lies the difficulty, for unless the physician is a sympathetic student of human nature, the patient will baffle all his attempts at finding the true cause. I am led to the above observation by the fact that our comrades everywhere are denouncing the various editions of the puerile "Coming Nation," which are dubbed locally "Go-anus Labor," "Squeedunk Labor," etc., as the case may be. But what is the motive of those claiming to be Socialists who show such pernicious activity in furthering the cause of such papers?

Let me relate my experience. Not long since I was solicited for a subscription to one of these "Labors." I objected that such a paper is worthless as a means of propaganda, that its chief feature was but a peevish criticism of present conditions, for which it offered a childish remedy, and that in the now important question of tactics, it offered neither suggestion nor practice. To all of which my solicitor made quasi acknowledgement, but claimed that his paper was just the thing for "beginners"—a sort of royal road to the knowledge of socialism. I flattered myself that I had knocked him out, when I showed that socialism, like everything else, has to be taught, and that the way to teach it is by correctly expounding its principles, and for that reason I proposed to do all that I could to further the circulation of THE PEOPLE, and would do my part to aid in building and launching the daily. I was then told that I could not better advance both these interests than by supporting this "Labor." It would make Socialists who would graduate into PEOPLE readers, and the like. Then the benefit the cause would derive from a local paper (printed in Tennessee) and further, they intended to turn over part of the profits to the DAILY PEOPLE FUND. Argument after argument was demolished, but after each time a new one was forthcoming. Annoyed at the persistency with which this man stuck to the scheme which he partly confessed to be unsound, I determined, like the doctor to find the motive, and I found it.

It was the little revenue that he as manager or editor could gain from the "ads," etc.

Thus it is, I find, that the objectors to the clear-cut, straightforward course of THE PEOPLE have usually some ulterior purpose with which, though all

WASHINGTON TOPICS.

Fakirs and Fight and Kiss; the Rank and File Learn Lessons by the Sight.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—D. A. 66, K. of L., was among the last of the districts to remain on seemingly good terms with the general officers. Of course D. A. 66 knew the "Order" was practically defunct, yet for various reasons the leaders did not wish to sever all connection with the Hayes gang. Since the locating in Washington of the headquarters of the K. of L., the headquarters fakirs have attempted to every way get the D. A. under their control, but owing to their being unable to remain sober when on the street, and meddling propensities, especially when there was a "graft" in the case, they were losing ground every day. Incensed at their inability to secure the support of the D. A., they became outrageous in their treatment of it, and even went so far as to boycott a paper which employed none but union people, many of them K. of L., and expelled the D. M. W., and another officer of the D. A.

That seemed to be the last straw. The D. A. rose in its might, passed resolutions repudiating the actions of the so-called general officers, and took a decidedly manly stand. The resolutions were referred to the locals, who almost unanimously endorsed them, and the stand taken by the D. A., thus showing that when the leaders desire to be manly and honest the rank and file, whom they, the leaders, consider unfit to discuss questions of policy, are willing to stand by them. Now comes the interesting part of the story.

At the meeting following the action of the locals, the D. A. appointed a committee to go to headquarters and demand the printing of the resolutions in the "Journal." On this committee was the man who had introduced the resolutions in the D. A., and four others who had been most prominent in their support. When the committee called on "Jack" Hayes to secure the end they were sent out for, instead of doing so they went into conference with Hayes, Martin and Best, and made arrangements for further conferences.

The committee held several secret meetings with "de gang" and then suddenly changed front. On making their report they moved that the resolutions denouncing and repudiating the "general officers," along with all other motions of the same tenor, be rescinded. On a snap vote being taken, they succeeded in having the motion to rescind carried. Then the reason for the sudden change of heart became evident. The man who had been loudest in denunciation of Sovereign, Hayes and Martin, A. M. Lawson by name, for his treachery to the cause of honesty in labor matters, was elected D. M. W., and the others got various other offices. Everything appeared lovely to the fakirs until they began to hear from the men who really make the organizations, the "no account" rank and file. When the traitors were opposing "Jack" Hayes they told the truth, and added adjectives to the truth to make it sound better. The rank and file was able to understand that which was told them, and insisted on a severance of the relations between them and the general officers. When the traitors changed face they did not think the rank and file capable of asking such questions as, "Say, were you lying when you said Jack Hayes was a fakir, etc., or are you lying now, when you say he is an angel?" Again, "How much did you get from Hayes? What do you think, we are fools or fakirs like you?" but the questions have come so thick and fast that when the fakirs thought they had won a complete victory they found more trouble on their hands than they had before.

The merry war goes on, and the organizations are quitting one by one. To show that the rank and file are tired of fakirs they show no desire to go to the A. F. of L. fakirs who are making strenuous efforts to capture them. As a member of a local which severed connection with the K. of L. said when asked to join the A. F. of L.: "Nit; no frying-pan-fire dodge for me or us; the next thing we do is to go where we belong, into the Socialists." The workers are being forced into consciousness by the proximity of the Hayes, Sovereign, Gompers, Lennon gang, who have, like buzzards, settled down on Washington.

ARTHUR KEEP.

The great work of Morgan on "Ancient Society," long out of print, is now reprinted by its publishers, Henry Holt & Co., New York.

No student of social science should be unacquainted with this great American work. It has been ignored and long suppressed by the country's Philistines, whose fictions on sociology suited their pockets. The Socialist movement has promoted such a demand for the work that it has finally reappeared. It is an invaluable introduction to the materialist theory of social evolution.

To judge by some of the arguments why capitalists are wealthy and deserve to be wealthy, it would appear that the apostles of capitalism admit that the industry of living by one's

SELF NAILED TO A COFFIN.

The Vicious Circle in Which "Pure and Simple" Leadership Moves.

From the Cleveland, O., Citizen. We notice in the "Labor Tribune," the official organ of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, that local lodges at Middletown and Elwood, Ind., are terribly wrought up over the political "monkey and parrot business" of the recent Federation convention, at which their President Garland attempted to have that organization pledge itself to support a high tariff. The Middletown people whine because Hanna purchased heels, Carney and Pomeroy, were repudiated, and the Bryan shouters were admitted, while the Elwood union condemns political action as "deviating from the true and fundamental principles for which said organizations were established."

The ordinary radical realizes that it is almost useless to reason with an iron and steel worker. All that he knows is, that ten or twenty years ago he received high wages, was fairly well organized, industry was thriving, and the tariff existed, to which was due all his prosperity. He never considers that the resources of the country were only being developed, that capital had not been concentrated, that foreign markets were more accessible, that labor-saving machinery was but a small factor, and that the great problem of the unemployed was almost unknown.

The iron and steel worker now gazes stupidly at the vast development of industry and commerce, and wonders why it should not be done over again. Railroads connect every town in the country, and he wonders why there are not two railways, where one is not kept busy, in order that he may be given work and wages. He wonders why there are not two bridges instead of one, and double the number of iron and steel structures. He imagines that there ought to be twice as many mills as now exist, even though the demand for their products is not great enough in ordinary times to keep them running in their full capacity.

The iron and steel workers may watch a Carnegie equip his plant with marvelous labor-saving machinery, and before the smoke of the battle of Homestead has cleared away he will demand a higher tariff and the triumph of the G. O. P.; the Olivers, Johnsons, Joneses and the great Illinois Co., may, with modern machinery, destroy the skill of their workers and tag them like cattle, but the lessons are lost upon those who have their faces turned to the past.

They pride themselves in creating millionaire manufacturers to give them employment.

A dozen years ago the iron and steel workers boasted of having twenty thousand men in their organization. When machinery began to make its appearance, when concentration of capital made itself felt, their numbers dwindled to fifteen thousand, to twelve thousand, to ten thousand, and the other day Garland entered the Cincinnati convention with only eight thousand men behind him!

Where are your boastful iron and steel workers who a few years ago thought themselves invulnerable, who ridiculed the idea of studying economic changes, who howled for tariffs and "kept politics out of the unions"? Hungreds are tramping the highways and byways; thousands gladly avail themselves of an opportunity to work as common laborers. No; they are "not yet ready for socialism." They desire to maintain their "individualism."

And the Garlands and Carneys and Kilgallons, who have labored so hard to "keep politics out of the union," what are they doing? Ask Mark Hanna and Mat Quay! While the rank and file have kept their mouths shut, their officials have played at politics, and capitalistic bootleg politics at that. They tabooed intelligent discussion on the inside of the union, but asserted their "right of citizenship on the outside," and led their confiding fellow-workers into the traps set by the Hannas and Carnegies.

Like the once powerful Window Glass Workers' Union, the heretofore strong Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers' Union seems to be slowly crumbling to pieces, and to the last its members are keeping up the senseless farce of non-education. Of course, if they persist in remaining unconscious of the development in the economic conditions and suffer thereby, they have none to blame but themselves, but their fate ought to serve as a warning to other trades to study social problems.

"SHORTER HOURS."

Of the sort that the Boss Class Believes in and Enforces.

WOONSOCKET, R. I., Jan. 20.—Notices were posted in the works of the Woonsocket Machine and Press Company last week, that on and after Monday, January 18th, the works would run 32 hours a week until further notice. The running time will be from 8 to 12, 1 to 5 on the first four days of the week. The notice also stated that there would be a cut of 10 per cent. in wages, to go into effect on the same date.

The reason given for this double cut in the workers' revenue is "general dull business and foreign competition." There are 400 affected by this order.

The machine company has been under the present management for the past seven years. It has run steadily all that time and increased the number of employees. For the past 16 months from 150 to 200 hands have been working all night, so great was the rush of orders. The night work was stopped last week.

Daily People Minor Fund. Previously acknowledged \$1,511 52 January. 14. B. Reinstein, Buffalo, N.Y. 79 16. A. P. Huel, Stoneboro, Pa. 1 00 F. Liss, N. Y. City..... 1 00 16. D. Gillin ..... 1 00 19. P. Kretlow, Chicago..... 1 00 J. D. B. Jersey City..... 50 Peter Mueller, Brooklyn... 1 30 Total \$2518 44

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

National Executive.

Regular meeting held January 19th, 1897. Absent, Waldinger and Retzlaff. Comrade Reed in the chair.

Resolved that an appeal be issued for the support of the Italian paper, "Il Proletario."

The appeal of the French Branch, Section New York, for endorsement of a proposed French paper, to be called "Le Socialiste," is granted.

Comrade Sanial requested to prepare application blank in accordance with new constitution.

David Taylor reported expelled by American Section, Boston, for supporting the Democratic party, and J. Wise expelled by same Section for supporting the Republican party.

Z. Eisenstadt, of Savannah, Ga., admitted as a member-at-large.

C. B. COPP, Rec. Sec.

National Campaign Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$1,353 88 Jan. 13, Collected by W. S. & D. B. Fund, on List 425..... 2 40 Jan. 19, Coll. by Hugo Schauer, on List 522..... 2 00

Total \$1,358 28 HENRY KUHN, Sec.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 4.—Section San Francisco has elected the following comrades as members of the State Ex. Com.: Edel Hecht, Oliver Everett, H. F. Sahlender, William Costley, Dan. Ellis, G. B. Benham and E. T. Kingsley.

The State Sections have nominated the following comrades for the office of State Organizer: G. B. Benham, James Andrew and E. T. Kingsley, of San Francisco.

Comrades Job Harriman and R. T. MacIvor have also been nominated. The former has declined, and the latter is not now a member of the party.

Please vote on the nominees at the next business meeting and forward the number of votes for each to the undersigned before February, 1897.

EDEL HECHT, Sec. State Ex. Com.

Connecticut.

NEW BRITAIN, Jan. 20.—Comrades and friends will please take notice that Section New Britain will hold a discussion meeting at Painters' Hall, Church street, Sunday, January 24th, at 3 p. m. Subject for discussion, "Will restriction of immigration save the workmen from their present misery?" This meeting is open to all.

Illinois.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR DECEMBER 1896.

RECEIPTS.

December. 1. Am. Sec., 30 stamps..... \$ 3 00 La Salle Club, 50 stamps..... 5 00 Jos. Dietzgen Club, 10 st/ps 1 00 13. 5th Ward Club, 20 st/ps..... 2 00 30th Ward (Pol.) Club, 10 stamps..... 1 00 22. S. S. German, 10 stamps..... 1 00 Cash on hand Nov. 12th..... 3 12 Total..... \$16 12

EXPENDITURES.

December. 1. Postage stamps and cards..... \$ 1 15 Shipping leaflets..... 35 13. 200 due stamps..... 10 00 Total..... \$11 50 23. Cash on hand..... 4 62

STAMP ACCOUNT.

Dec. 22, received..... 200 Nov. 18, on hand..... 255 Total..... 455 Dec. sold..... 150 On credit to Belleville, Ill..... 20 30th Ward (Pol.)..... 10 Due G. Renner..... 7 187 Stamps on hand, Dec. 23..... 268

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Jan. 17.—In the issue of THE PEOPLE of January 10th, 1897, among published questions asked by the Boston Am. Section, appears the following in regard to the so-called "Massachusetts Labor." Question 3, "Whether the State Committee or any of its members are responsible for, or interested in said paper."

The State Committee has never had any part or been interested or ever considered at any of its meetings anything in connection with this paper.

At its last meeting the following resolution was adopted: Resolved, That the S. C. of Mass. cannot recognize any paper or publication as otherwise than antagonistic to the S. L. P. when it allows the publication of articles denouncing political action.

S. E. PUTNEY, State Central Committee.

Michigan.

DETROIT, Jan. 12.—The following resolution regarding so-called Socialist papers and the "Michigan Labor" especially, were carried at the general party meeting of Section Detroit, on January 10th.

"1. Every paper, striving for the support of the S. L. P., shall first be submitted to the local party for investigation before it shall receive any support.

"2. That Section Detroit endorses the action taken by the Socialist Science and Speakers Club of Detroit, regarding the so-called "Michigan Labor," and, together with the aforesaid club, requests its members to withhold their support from said paper.

"3. That the local manager be informed about this decision."

H. G. HASSELER, Sec.

Financial report of the Michigan State Committee, as reported, audited and accepted by Section Detroit at the joint meeting of the Branches on January 10th, 1897.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to January 20th, 1897.

\$2,740.

At the meeting of the Daily People Committee, held Sunday, the 20th of December, 1896, an important step was taken from which, if a daily Socialist paper is at all possible within a reasonable time, the consummation will be reached. The committee adopted the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, A daily PEOPLE has become an absolute necessity to counteract the false and falsified "news" that the capitalist press sets afloat, and to spread enlightenment in the ranks of the working class upon the Labor Question, and to prepare it to deal intelligently with the Social Revolution that is inevitable and is impending;

WHEREAS, The urgency of such a weapon of political and economic warfare in the English language against the plundering class of the capitalist is felt with increasing force, and the demand therefor becomes stronger by the day;

WHEREAS, The undertaking would result disastrously if not successfully put through;

WHEREAS, To make success certain, the paper must be able to survive two consecutive campaigns, that is to say, must appear daily during the period of at least thirteen consecutive months, absolutely independent, firm and uncompromising;

WHEREAS, The sum of not less than \$50,000 in hand is necessary to safely launch such an undertaking;

WHEREAS, Despite the general sense of the necessity of a daily English organ of labor, the collections for it have hitherto been slight; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that, so long as the foundation of such a paper seems indefinitely distant, the contributions will continue slight, while, on the contrary, if its foundation can appear prompt and definite it is likely that ample funds could be promptly gathered; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a call be issued to the stalwarts, friends and sympathizers, to pledge themselves in the number of 5,000 to contribute each the sum of \$10, payable between the issuing of this call and the 1st day of September, 1897;

RESOLVED, That, if by that date the sum of not less than \$50,000 is cash in hands of the DAILY PEOPLE Committee, a DAILY PEOPLE be started forthwith on October 1st, 1897;

RESOLVED, That this call be printed in the party press of all languages; that subscription lists, headed with these resolutions, be issued to all the Sections and all applicants; and that the names of the subscribers, together with the sum subscribed by each and the installments in which the same is to be paid, be promptly notified to the Committee for publication from week to week.

Are there in the land 5,000 stalwarts equal to be emergency, ready to step up and to mount that needed and redoubtable battery of the Social Revolution in America—a DAILY PEOPLE?

Daily People Committee, 184 William St., N. Y. City.

Table listing names and amounts pledged to the fund, including Peter Staple, Max Bernstein, Jacob Rummel, etc.

Owing to the smallness of the payments that have so far fallen due and that are to fall due during this month, the acknowledgment of payments will be postponed to the 1st issue in February and will be thereafter continued every fortnight.

Summary of receipts and expenditures for the fund, showing total receipts of \$175 68 and total expenditures of \$175 68.

Summary of stamp account, showing receipts of 455 stamps and expenditures of 150 stamps.

Summary of Massachusetts financial report, showing receipts of \$16 12 and expenditures of \$11 50.

Summary of Michigan financial report, showing receipts of \$17 39 and expenditures of \$17 39.

Summary of stamp account for Michigan, showing receipts of 455 stamps and expenditures of 150 stamps.

Summary of Massachusetts financial report, showing receipts of \$16 12 and expenditures of \$11 50.

Summary of Michigan financial report, showing receipts of \$17 39 and expenditures of \$17 39.

Summary of stamp account for Michigan, showing receipts of 455 stamps and expenditures of 150 stamps.

Summary of November 1896 financial report, showing receipts of \$16 80 and expenditures of \$16 80.

Summary of October 1896 financial report, showing receipts of \$12 78 and expenditures of \$12 78.

Summary of November 1896 financial report, showing receipts of \$16 80 and expenditures of \$16 80.

Summary of October 1896 financial report, showing receipts of \$12 78 and expenditures of \$12 78.

Summary of November 1896 financial report, showing receipts of \$16 80 and expenditures of \$16 80.

Summary of October 1896 financial report, showing receipts of \$12 78 and expenditures of \$12 78.

New York. N. Y. CITY.—Lectures on Socialism will take place Sunday, January 24th, 8 p. m., as follows: At Stuyvesant Hall, 351 East 17th street, between First and Second avenues, where J. Allan will lecture on "St. Simon and Babeuf"; at Hudson Building, corner of 37th street and Eighth avenue, where a lecture will be delivered by M. Hilkwitz, subject, "The Future"; and also at Webster Hall, 140th street and Third avenue, where L. A. Malkiel will lecture on "Trades Unions and Their Mission." There will also be a lecture delivered at the club rooms of the Socialist Literary Society, 161 Monroe street, at 2:30 p. m. These lectures are free to all.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A. (CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.) Delegate C. Hassler, of the Silver Workers Prot. Ass. was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.), and Delegate B. Kromius, of the United Journeymen Tailors' Union, was vice-chairman.

Credentials were received from Ale and Porter Union No. 1 for Ernest Bohm and John Lehr, Excelsior Labor Club for A. Fer, Waiters' Alliance Liberty for G. Stein. The delegates were seated.

The Organization Committee reported that the Bohemian Butchers' Union and Int. Marble Workers' Union were in a flourishing condition, and promised to elect delegates who would in the future attend the sessions more regularly.

The committee having charge of Comrade Lissauer's case reported that he was improving nicely.

Ale and Porter Union No. 1 reported having held its annual election for officers with the following result: Secretary and walking delegate, Ernest Bohm, by a unanimous vote; financial secretary, J. Faust, with 6 votes majority; Fred. F. Fallenberg, with 3 votes majority; trustees, J. Steinheimer and B. Wessells; executive board, Secretary Bohm, E. Preis, F. Fallenberg, P. Walter and John Lehr.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 1, reported having re-elected its old officers and otherwise progress. The report was deferred to new business.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 2, was referred to the Organizing Committee to rectify certain conditions.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 3, reported that Boss Leopold, Ninth avenue, between 47th and 48th streets, has had private labels printed which he pastes on his bakeshops in place of the genuine union label, and do not amount to anything. The unions are urged to pay attention to this.

German Waiters' Union No. 1 will elect its officers on Monday, according to the Australian system. This was introduced to accustom the members with the method prevalent in America. Two new members were initiated and two proposed.

Walters' Alliance Liberty reported that a former member named Adolph Heller was now proprietor of the Café New York, and employed its members up to last Thursday. He then made a contract with the German Waiters Pro. Ass. as they promised that the unions in the C. L. U. would remove to his place. Heller thereupon issued a circular in which he stated "that my place has been organized under large expense and great sacrifices," and he therefore expects the support of workmen.

This place was organized by the "Greater New York Fakir League." It was resolved that the central body take charge of this case as such, and that Heller will have to settle with the Arbitration Committee.

Bohemian Butchers' Union collected \$3 for the Hamburg strikers.

Int. Plazomakers' Union reported that its Branch 2 had collected \$5 for the Hamburg strikers.

Journ. Barbers' P. I. U., Br. 1, reported that the following 7 union shops would lose the card if the employees would not pay up the dues: J. Schmidt, 336 Avenue B; Moskowitz, 2 Avenue B; Schwarz & Wolf, 40 Clinton street; B. Ehrhardt, 347 East 10th street; J. Richter, 244 East Houston street; T. Bill, 117 Forsyth street, and Stunfeld & Gross, 100 Norfolk street.

On January 19th, a general meeting will be held at 342 West 42d street. Eight shops were organized in Brooklyn. A committee will call on "Teddy" Roosevelt and urge the stricter enforcement of the Sunday closing law. Nine new members were initiated. It was resolved to instruct Delegates Waldinger, Retzlaff and Mielhaus to act as a committee and attend said meeting.

United Journeymen Tailors' Union re-

N. Y. PAINTERS

Meet Every Monday, 8 p. m., at 138 and 140 East 57th street.

(This paper will be mailed to every member free of charge by order of the organization, and will contain all such notices and information as are necessary.)

The last meeting of the New York Painters, held January 18th, was well attended, settling routine business in usual time.

The Amalgamation Committee reported progress in collecting propositions for by-laws; proposition 3 of rules as published last week was objected to in the committee, and altered as follows: "Dues shall be 75 cents per quarter; in case of death, \$50, and in case of accident \$100 per week for 13 weeks shall be paid from date of amalgamation until new by-laws are accepted by the new body.

The charges of the Investigating Committee against the Anniversary Committee, James Smith, Jacob Hargraves, David Gentle, Augustus F. Tomhill, and Albert Manner, for felonious misappropriation of funds of the organization were tried by the Arbitration Committee and resulted as follows: "The Arb. Com. heard the interested parties, and have in their possession sufficient affidavits of the Investigating Committee upon the truth of their several statements, which they (the Arb. Com.) by personal investigation have verified and attested to.

"The only direct evidence gives positive proof of \$89 being misappropriated, but the Arb. Com. are satisfied that if the whole truth were known, the sum would many times exceed \$89.

"The said affidavits were sufficient evidence to prove the charges correct, and the Arb. Com. therefore finds the accused individually and collectively guilty of the charges as preferred, and furthermore find and recommend: That the accused be fined \$50.14 each, and to be debarred of all parliamentary privileges and all benefits for the time of six months after the whole fine is paid; also that none of the same shall be eligible to hold office for one year after said payment.

By resolutions, the organization received the report of the Arb. Com., also adopted and sustained their findings, and recommendations in every particular by a majority vote over a very small minority.

The secretary was ordered to communicate with the different Painter Organizations to officially inform them of our action against the above named.

The recording secretary and the treasurer read their reports for the previous quarter, which were referred to the Auditing Committee.

The Delegate's report of last week, summing up his labors for the week, was received and placed on file.

Two accident benefits were paid. THE SECRETARY.

ported having re-elected its old officers. \$9 were collected for the Hamburg strikers, and delivered to the "Volkszeitung." The union's "hop" will be held February 6th, at 231 East 33d street.

Relative to the festival of the "Arbeiter Zeitung," it was announced that a "cinematograph" had been engaged, which will throw living pictures in action on canvas. It will show the ponderous and latest improved presses of the "Arbeiter Zeitung" in motion, printing and folding the paper; also, the delegates of the C. L. F. and United Hebrew Trades in session, with the actions of some while engaged in brilliant flights of oratory and debates. Ten prizes have been offered for the best and most comical masks, bearing "Little Egypt" and the "Silly" dinner. Every affiliated union has accepted the tickets.

Relative to Bakers' Branch 3, the Organizing Committee was instructed to attend the next meeting on Saturday, 8 p. m., at 206 Allen street. The same committee was instructed to attend the special meeting of Branch 1 on Wednesday, 10 a. m., at 1551 Second avenue.

For a comrade in distress a voluntary collection was made up by the delegates.

Prog Clothing Cutters and Trimmers.

At the last regular meeting held on Thursday, January 14th, of the above union, one proposition was handed in. The reports of delegates to D. A. 49 and Agitation Committee were received and acted upon. Shop reports were heard, showing the trade somewhat improving, a good many of the out of work members securing employment, and a heavy spring season is expected. The officers elected for the coming six months were initiated by ex-President Benj. Kaplan, with instructions to work with renewed energy and never leave off pounding the fakirs until they are driven from the field of organized labor and the trade thoroughly organized under such principles that the men will, through the education, work out their own emancipation from wage slavery. The secretary was instructed to notify all members three or more months in advance to immediately pay up, or they run the risk of being suspended from all rights of membership.

THE SECRETARY.

For an Italian Paper.

All comrades and sympathizers who realize the importance of upholding a Socialist paper in the Italian language in this country are requested to send contributions and subscriptions to Comrade C. F. Garzone, 14 Varick place, N. Y. City. Send at least a nickel. "Il Proletario" needs assistance. To discontinue its valuable work would be a serious setback to the movement among the Italian wage earners.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers. G. W. C. Oxford, Me.—The lectures could not be published from week to week because they are to be delivered in several places. The whole set may, later.

BROOKLYN Labor Lyceum

949-955 Willoughby Agh Ae. (Formerly 51-53 Myrtle Street.) Meeting Rooms. Large Hall for Mass Meetings. Books in patron for Balls and Plo-Ries. WORKMEN! PATRONIZE YOUR OWN HOME

REGULAR MEETINGS

SECTION KINGS COUNTY

SUNDAY, January 24th, 3 P. M. at the BROOKLYN LABOR LYCEUM, 949-955 Willoughby Avenue.

ORDER OF BUSINESS: Reading of the minutes—Election of Officers—Report of Organizers—Report of Finance Secretary—Report of Grievance Committee—the Holmes' Case. F. GRUBE, Organizer.

Grand Labor Festival

Grand Central Palace, Lexington Av., betw. 43d & 44th Sts.

February 22nd, 1897. (Washington's Birthday), arranged by the Volkszeitungs Conferenz, New York.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LABOR PRESS.

Concert, Living Pictures, Singing, Athletic Performances, Grand Ball, Appearance of the World-renowned Imperial Japanese Troupe of Osaka, Japan, Acrobats, Jugglers, Whistlers, etc.

Tickets 15 Cts., at the Box office 25c.

Trades and Societies Calendar

Standing advertisements of Trade Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of \$5.00 per annum. Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their plans of meeting.

Branch I (American) S. L. P. District No. 44, every Friday at 8 p. m., at 17th St., and Hudson Building, 37th St., at 8th Ave.

Carl Mann Club (Musicians Union) Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 4th St., New Labor Lyceum. Dues \$2.00 per year.

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1), every Sunday afternoon at 4 East 4th St., New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor unions should be represented. Communications sent to the corresponding Secretary, Street 4th, at 4th St., New York City.

Clothesmakers' Progressive International Union No. 49, Office and Engineering Bureau, 64 East 4th street.—District I (German), 824 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 213 Forsyth street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III, 100 West 4th St., every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District IV, 17th St., and Hudson Building, 37th St., at 8th Ave. The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1422 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m.

German Waiters' Union of New York Office: 885 Bowery, Union Hall, in meetings every Friday at 8 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m., at same Hall.

Section Essex County, S. L. P., will hold its first Sunday in each month at 3 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield, Newark, N. J.

Scandinavian Section, S. L. P., meets every 4th and 8th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 231-233 East 33rd street, New York City. Subscription orders taken for the "Socialist Weekly," 83 Nassau Ave. ADVERTISERS.

Socialist Science Club. Meets at Workers' Hall, 140th street and 3rd avenue, at 8 p. m., and 40th Street, at 8 p. m. Lectures every Sunday night, 7:30 P. M., preceded by entertainment at same Hall.

Upholsterers' Union of New York and Vicinity. Meets 2d and 4th Tuesdays at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. Secretary, Carl Anders, 22 East 3rd street.

Arbeiter Kranken- und Sterbe-Kasse für die Ver. Staaten von Amerika.

WORKMEN'S Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The above society was founded in the year 1886 by workmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and socialist thought. Its numerical strength (as reported by the local branches) with many of its 15,000 members, is rapidly increasing. The workmen who believe in the principles of the modern labor movement. Workingmen between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to membership in any of the branches, upon payment of a fee of \$4.00 for the first class and \$3.00 for the second class. Members belonging to the first class are entitled to a sick benefit of \$20.00 for 40 weeks, and \$45.00 for another 40 weeks, whether continuous or interrupted. Members belonging to the second class receive under the same circumstances and length of time \$20.00 and \$30.00 respectively. A burial benefit of \$250.00 is granted for every member, and a new branch can be formed in any town or city where there are 100 members between 18 and 45 years of age who are admitted to the burial benefit upon payment of a deposit for \$1.00. Monthly taxes are levied on dues to expenditures. In cities and towns where a branch exists, a new branch can be formed. Address all communications to Ernest F. Garzone, Financial Secretary, 25-27 3rd Ave., Room 215, New York City.

JOHN OEHLER,

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