The People.

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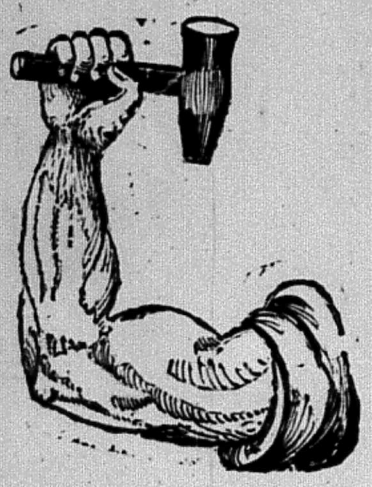

MAY DAY.

Rousing Demonstration in Greater New York.

MIGHTY MICHIGAN POLL.

The Organized Class Conscious Proletariat, led by the Banner of Section New York, Marches in a Grand Parade and Pours a Mighty Mass Into Union Square Where one of the Most Successful Meetings is Held.—Over 2,000 Votes In Michigan for the S. L. P.

The May Day celebration in this city on the 1st instant was one of the most successful ever held here. The parade was imposing; Union Square, where the mass meeting was held, was crowded; and the enthusiasm, despite a drizzling rain, was great.

Comrade Lucien Sanial, as chairman at the main stand, the "Cottage," opened the meeting by calling for three cheers for international Socialism. When the rousing response had subsided, Sanial outlined the history of the May Day festival and pointed out its significance; he sketched the oneness of purpose of the class-conscious proletariat the world over; and he called attention to the fact that, although at the Paris Congress the May Day celebrations were originally meant to emphasize the demand for the eight-hour day, the movement had spread away beyond its original limited purpose; no longer does it limit itself to temporary demands and reforms intended to offer palliatives; it now emphasized the necessity of the overthrow of the capitalist system of robbery, and it stopped at nothing short of that. "We have recognized," said Comrade Sanial, "that it is just as easy to demand the overthrow of capitalism as to demand that our hours of work shall be shortened. We no longer bother ourselves with compromises; we now declare boldly that an end shall be made of the capitalist system." Comrade Sanial then enumerated the steps that international Socialism had made towards victory since the May Day festivals were started at the Paris Congress of 1890. In France, the then Socialist vote of 30,000 had risen to 1,400,000; in Germany it was now nearly 2,000,000; in Belgium, where the working class had subsequently conquered the right of the suffrage, the vote promptly ascended to 461,000; in Italy, from 71,000 the vote had gone up to 135,000; in Austria, where, just as soon as the suffrage was extended to the workers, 800,000 Socialist voters assembled at the political field of battle; and finally, here in the United States, despite peculiarly adverse circumstances, the Socialist poll had risen from 3,000 to over 40,000. Sanial also referred to the spasmodic and pitiable efforts of our own middle class to escape its fate, and how it was bound to go down and suffer unless it joined the movement of the proletariat.

At the close of this opening address, Theodore F. Cuno read the following telegram from Paterson:

Paterson, N. J., May 1.

To the Workingclass of New York assembled at Union Square:

Comrades—The class-conscious workers of Paterson, New Jersey, in mass meeting assembled send hearty greeting through you to the proletariats of the world on this anniversary of the International Labor Day and join with our New York Comrades in spreading broadcast the principles of international solidarity. Long live the Socialist Labor part:

Section Paterson, N. J., S. L. P.,
per Maguire.

The applause that received these words lasted long. Comrade Daniel DeLeon was then introduced. As the standard bearer in the late and hotly contested 9th Congressional District of this city, he was received with cheers for the "Congressman of the 9th." He said that the May Day Festival was more than a mere demonstration of strength and more than a popular outcry: it was the powerful assertion by increasing masses of the working class that there was a principle on which social order, peace and justice could be established. Few of the robber class and its hirelings would dare to deny that things are not pleasant; they generally admit that things are not as one might wish; but they declare that all the existing social injustice and irregularity, with their train of evils, were natural, and could not be avoided, any more than so many other necessary evils. The May Day demonstration was the thundering voice of the class-conscious proletariat that gave the lie to that assertion, that brought forth a principle upon which social order, peace and justice were possible, and that backed its position with the postulates of science. Upon the basis of capitalism all could not be happy. The happiness of one set necessarily meant the suffering of another. Protection could not prevail without inflicting an injury on free trade interests; free trade could not prevail without inflicting an injury on protection interests. Upon such a basis neither order, peace nor justice could be established. The May Day demonstration is the announcement of the principle of the collective ownership of the land on and the machinery or capital with which to work—the only principle upon which order, peace and justice could be established, because only upon it could the worker enjoy the fruits of his labor and the idler receive the self-inflicted punishment for his laziness. DeLeon closed with the remark that the supplement to the May Day demonstration was the demonstration at the ballot box, where every class-conscious and honorable proletarian and every decent citizen should unite to overthrow the capitalist system by voting straight the ticket of the S. L. P.

Comrades Allman, London, Brown, Balkam and Bennett were the other speakers at the main stand, and each contributed by his fiery eloquence and yet sound teachings to the instructiveness of the occasion and to the enthusiasm of the masses.

Before the addresses closed at the main stand the following resolutions were adopted amid rousing cheers:

RESOLVED, That we Socialists of New York in mass meeting assembled, send our heartiest greetings to our European Comrades, who, to the number of five million voters in the few countries where the proletariat is not entirely disfranchised, are steadily marching to the conquest of the public powers. We are confidently looking to the early dawn of the twentieth century for the final triumph of the Social Revolution;

RESOLVED, That we earnestly entreat our fellow American wage workers to stop fooling with and being fooled by the parties of capitalism, and human life is too short and too precious to be wasted in the see-saw game of Democratic and Republican politics for the benefit of our oppressors. Let them join with us in a mighty party of the working class for the abolition of capitalism and the establishment of the Socialist Co-operative Commonwealth.

Owing to the largeness of the crowd two other stands were set up, one on the eastern and the other on the western end of the square. The latter was given to the German Comrades. From it spoke Comrade Schlueter, editor of the "Volkszeitung," and Comrades Dolinski, Jones, Jablinowski. Comrade Schlueter closed the meeting there with three cheers for our cause.

From the east side stand the crowd was addressed by Comrades Kirchner, Thomas, Copp, Franz, Phillips, Hickey and Campbell in English.

At the same time the Brooklyn Comrades filled the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum and celebrated the day. The place was in gala dress and the speakers carried their audiences with wild enthusiasm.

A fit accompaniment to this is the report that came in the same evening from Michigan, giving the full official vote in the State of last April 5. While last November only a few hundred votes were polled in Michigan for the party, last April 5 our poll rose to 2,166 for the head of the State ticket, Comrade Lester H. Chappel, who ran for Supreme Court Justice; the two other State candidates of the S. L. P. followed closely. Comrades Albert Grau and Joel Dungrey, who ran for regents, receiving respectively 2,094 and 2,061 votes.

The vote in detail for Chappel should be preserved. It is as follows, by counties:

Alcona	5	Houghton	40	Montcalm	19
Alger	12	Huron	33	Montmorency	1
Allegan	19	Ingham	11	Muskegon	15
Alpena	8	Ionia	10	Newaygo	20
Antrim	30	Iosco	14	Oakland	10
Arenac	1	Iron	13	Oscana	4
Barraga	7	Isabella	35	Ogemaw	13
Barry	11	Jackson	9	Ontonagon	11
Bay	74	Kalamazoo	19	Osceola	7
Bensie	5	Kolkaska	2	Oscoda	1
Branch	5	Kent	72	Otsego	8
Calhoun	36	Keweena	3	Ottawa	18
Cass	9	Lake	11	Presque Isle	4
Charleroix	15	Lapeer	10	Saginaw	102
Sheboygan	12	Leelona	4	Sanilac	46
Chippewa	15	Leenawee	21	Schoolcraft	14
Clare	7	Livingston	7	Shiawassee	7
Clinton	11	Luce	2	St. Clair	28
Crawford	1	Mackinac	8	St. Joseph	10
Delta	24	Macomb	8	Tuscola	21
Eaton	24	Manistee	35	Vanburen	9
Emmet	1	Marquette	234	Washtenaw	29
Gennesee	10	Mason	11	Wayn	534
Gladwin	3	Mecosta	6	Wexford	2
Gogenic	65	Menominee	28	Dickinson	95
Gd.Traverse	12	Midland	9		
Gratiot	18	Missoukee	4		
Hinsdale	11	Monroe	12	Total	2,166

Onward rolls the ball, nor will it stop till victory is gained.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., May 3.—To THE PEOPLE:—May Day in Syracuse was celebrated yesterday with two mass meetings—one in the City Hall and another on the North Side. Owing to the meeting held on the North Side in the evening, the attendance at the City Hall in the afternoon did not reach expectations, the attendance being 350, and in the evening about 300. Comrade Frank M. Gessner, of Pittsburg, was the speaker at both meetings. At the City Hall, the principal meeting, he said:

"In Merrie England, when it was Merrie England, the people selected the prettiest girl of the village and made her 'Queen of the May,' and they danced and shook hands about the May pole. We modern Socialists, while we esteem the old practice, are to-day shaking hands throughout the whole world. We are saluting each other in every quarter and congratulating ourselves on our advanced growth. We number in Get-

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TWO PARALLELS

Between Chattel Slavery and Wage Slavery.

The Chattel Slave Was Cared for and Some times Even Suckled by his White Mistress for the Money She could Sell Him for—The Wage Slave is "Charitably" Taken Care of, by the Class that Exploits him.

BRIGHTON, Ill., May 2.—Before the civil war there was a class of slaveholders who tried to dilute the odium of traffic in human flesh by granting the negro certain privilegs. They were, like many capitalists of to-day, who try to relieve the horrible effects of the private ownership of the instruments of producing wealth by such means as profit sharing, etc. An old ex-slave mistress, in extolling slavery lately, told me that she suckled one of her slaves. She said its mother died at birth, and as "none of the niggers were giving milk," she suckled it by the side of her own offspring. "Now," she said, looking at me with all the self-satisfaction possible, "you don't think any northern woman, with all her love for the niggers, would do this?" I was almost persuaded that chattel slavery was a lovely institution, and wishing that I was a chattel slave instead of a wage slave, when her husband, an old man far in his dotage, let the cat out of the bag. I remarked that the negro must have made a good servant after such maternal treatment. "Lah me, I reckon not," replied the old man. "He was such a dalgarned sascy nigger, we had to sell him to a trader."

"Then," I responded, "you suckled the negro like one might suckle the young pig—for the money there was in it. Unlike the pig, you wouldn't eat the darkie's flesh, but the money his flesh sold for was a sweet morsel."

So it is with the capitalist to-day.

Though the toiler's sweat is a stench in his nostrils, and he pretends to be so concerned about his welfare, still he will break his own neck for the wealth that he extracts from the proletarians' sweat. When he becomes too old and worn out to squeeze any more wealth out of him, the capitalist will do a more barbarous act than selling him to a "nigger trader"—he'll turn him out into the highway to die of starvation.

In our cruel state of society, or more commonly called, "the practical business world," when a thing is worn out it is turned to some final utility. A broken-down horse is shot and sold for soap grease. A worn-out machine is smashed up and sold for old iron. As those who oppose Socialism pride themselves on being practical in everything, why not convert the worn-out workingman into dollars and cents? This would go towards paying for public works, thus reducing the taxes of little and big capitalists.

As a matter of course, the interest of the capitalists must be considered first. The lot of the worn-out workingmen is cast among the tramps, and I have found in my travels that the tramps have to depend upon the working class for food. You thus see that the converting of the worn-out workingman into dollars and cents would also throw a great burden off the shoulders of the working class who are not yet worn out.

We might bring the career of these worn-out slaves of the capitalists to an end like we do the horse, and then sell his bones for fertilizers and his thighs for cheap boarding house steak. Another advantage about this that should not be overlooked, and that is, when the capitalist fires a toiler from his job, and he has nothing to pay his board, the proprietor of the cheap boarding house can afford to "hold him up," until some good-hearted rich person puts him to work again, thus preserving him in fair working condition without any expense to his master, while at present his enforced fasting during his enforced idleness injures his power to produce wealth for the capitalist.

We toilers may object to this kind of diet. But objections are nothing strange, as we have in our struggle made innumerable and strenuous objections. Without an exception, everything that our objections grow out of are sauce for our masters. Every objection radiates from the same focus—the focus of the capitalist squeezing all the labor power possible out of the toilers with the least possible cost. Therefore this utilization of the worn-out toilers will be hailed by the capitalists with great joy.

Whenever the Socialists protest against the capitalists as a robber class, they invariably receive the stereotyped answer that the toilers could not do without the capitalists, as they pay us for our labor. This is a parallel of an old nigger skinner in Kentucky who got his negroes out at 3 o'clock in the morning and kept them working until after dark. When I complained of this being an outrage, he replied that a nigger was intended for nothing else only for what work a white man could get out of him, and that he had no love for a nigger except as he had for a mule.

"Yes," I answered, "but you love to eat the bread he produces."

"But," replied this idle aristocrat, "we pay him for the work he does."

"But," I rejoined, "you pay him out of his own bread that he produces."

In exactly the same manner do the idle capitalists pay us out of our own products that we produce.

C. R. DAVIS.

WYOMING VALLEY.

Past and Present Methods of Rapine and Murder.

An Organizer of the S. T. & L. A. Describes the Condition of the Miners in one of the Coal Regions of Pennsylvania—Parallel Between the Former Indian and the Modern Capitalist—A Miners' S. T. & L. A. Organized.

"But a tragedy still more horrid was acted at Wyoming. This was a delightful settlement in the northern part of Pennsylvania, which contained over 1,000 families. A body of 1,600 men, mostly Indians, who had been excited by a party of more savage whites, fell upon the inhabitants, set fire to the houses, cut the men to pieces, and left women and children to perish in the flames. The crops were laid waste, and fruit trees were torn up by the roots. This horrid massacre was brought about through the influence of the English and those who favored their cause."—Olney's History of the United States; page 156; New Haven, 1837.

This history refers to the Wyoming Valley, Penn., where now are great coal mines and company stores, and where Luzerne, Wilkesbarre, Bennett, Plymouth, Kingston and other cities and boroughs are situated. The date of the Wyoming Massacre was the year of our Lord 1778. There are now no Indians in the Wyoming. But the "more savage whites" still direct operations, though the firebrand and tomahawk they have long since discarded for the more brutal weapons necessary to the hell of capitalism and competition. Low wages or no wages, little work or no work, starvation chronic and acute—these are the dogs of this later war. The stake and the scalping knife of the Indian were short and merciful to these. Besides, capitalism sees what the savage could not—that a dead man can neither produce wealth himself nor cut his fellows' wages down; while a man in want may do both.

What do capitalists pay the miners who keep them warm? From $1 to $2 per day when they employ them. Many get the smaller, few the larger figure. It is mostly piecework. The men are generally swindled at every turn. Swindled in the weighing of the coal, and then often "docked" without reason or excuse. But the amounts earned when working and the thousand abuses practised in the mine only represent one side of the matter. Says the Wilkesbarre "Record," April 12, speaking editorially, referring to the investigations of a legislative committee now "investigating" the condition of the miners in the bituminous coal regions:

"Miners have appeared before the committee to testify, and, according to their statements, the miners and others employed in and about the bituminous mines in at least some portions of the Western Pennsylvania coal fields are reduced to a condition little better than slavery. From one-third to one-half more men than are necessary are employed. This policy reduces the time and wages of the employees from 33 to 50 per cent., and the witnesses alleged that this system has for its object the enrichment of the operating companies by pauperizing the employees. Earning only two-thirds or one-half as much as they would if working full time, they are constantly in debt at the 'company store,' and rarely receive a dollar in cash for their work. The witnesses, moreover, allege that at these company stores they are compelled to pay from 5 to 20 per cent. more than the current prices for the same articles at other stores. In some instances under this system the companies make immense profits even when apparently selling their coal at a price no higher than the cost of mining it."

If the editor of the "Record" has eyes and ears, he cannot but know that all that is said here of the bituminous coal mining is true of the anthracite region within half a mile of his office. It needs no legislative committee to investigate. The facts stated by the miners are notorious, and no man could go through the coal region and fail to hear of them on all sides. A legislature that intended to do anything to remedy these conditions would waste no time in "investigating" matters with which all its members are thoroughly familiar. These "investigations" are carried on by every new legislature. Occasionally they pass a law ostensibly for the purpose of affording relief to the miners. Then they select some tried and trusty servant of capitalism or some traitor to the working class to carry out the law, and all goes on as before.

The outrages of the operators are not confined to the men nor to the matter of wages. Boys from ten years of age up are working in the breakers, picking slate and dirt from the coal, and the fortunate ones receive for this work the sum of 50 cents per day. The men have so little working time that it is not a matter of choice on the part of parents. If a job for the child is to be had, it must go to work, and often for considerable periods a boy supplies the entire revenue of the family. The dust and dirt of the breaker takes the life of many of the youths, and many of the others become old men while they are still little more than children in years. The fatalities and injuries of the miners are so common that they are expected as a matter of course, and it is rare indeed that the companies can be compelled to pay damages. The laws are such that they are seldom legally liable, and even when an injured workman has a clear case against an operating company he has no funds to prosecute, and from bitter experience the miners have learned what the law in this country means to a man without money.

It is not surprising that under these conditions many despair. Not so all.

On Sunday last a number of the miners and other workmen employed in Luzerne met in Jones' Hall and formed a local Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance. The organization starts with a big list of charter members, and the men who went into it did so with a full understanding of Socialism themselves and a determination to carry its propaganda throughout the whole Wyoming Valley. Many of them are men who were at some time in the old trade unions and Knights of Labor when those bodies had a mission and were somewhat of a power. And in this new organization they have thrown away none of the weapons of the old, but have availed themselves of an additional weapon, the most powerful the workingman can use—Political Action and the Ballot. These Luzerne men are not afraid that politics will "bust" their union. They have seen too many unions "bust" without any politics in them. They do not propose either to pay high dues and receive low wages. Their dues are low enough to allow the poorest to become members. With no fat salaries to pay for national or local officers, with no labor fakirs, lobbyists nor political heelers to support; with no begging to do from the old politicians; relying only on themselves and the working class for their emancipation, they stand forth under the banner of the New Trades Unionism, the Arm and the Hammer and the Socialist Ballot. These men will not be fooled by capitalists, politicians or promises. When the old party office-holders and office-seekers look for these men's votes and tell them what they are going to do for the workingman, they will be pointed to the ruin they have already wrought and asked why their promised benefits are always of the future. To those who know the character and earnestness of the men composing the Luzerne Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance there can be no doubt of its rapid growth and great influence in furthering and hastening the overthrow of the "more savage whites" who in 1897 are perpetuating the "horrid massacre" of 1778 in the beautiful Wyoming Valley.

BEN. HANFORD.

COMPETITION.

As It is Faring in the United States.

A new investigation of "trusts" is now just completed by a committee appointed by the Senate of New York. Nothing new has been developed, and the necessity of a "trust" to the manufacturer as well as to the distributor has but been more clearly demonstrated. Of course the manufacturers had the same old story of over-production and ruinous cutting of prices to relate. They proved their case completely, but this is not what the commission wanted. The commission was appointed to prove the iniquity of "trusts," and the non-necessity of their existence. One witness was Mr. Waldo Smith, the president of the "Wholesale Grocers' Protective Association." He testified that the Sugar Trust made a uniform price to all buyers, and that the buyers were required to sign an agreement to sell at same price, and in consideration of this agreement being faithfully carried out, then the buyer had a rebate of 3-16 cents per pound allowed him by the trust. He said that the trust had instituted this rebate system at the request of the grocers themselves. That previous to this competition had caused them (the grocers) to sell sugar at less than cost. In fact, it had got to such a state that a good many of the grocers were threatening to stop selling sugar altogether. The trust saw that they were likely to lose the distributive facilities of the wholesale grocers unless something was done, and finally settled upon the rebate system as the one most likely to give satisfaction, and so it has proved. Mr. Smith was asked if all competition was not destroyed by this factor system.

"Yes," he replied.

It is interesting to give a verbatim extract from the report of the committee:

"Hasn't all competition been destroyed by the factor system?"

"Yes."

"And the same system, applying to every trade in the country—this factor system, a system of that description—there wouldn't be a single article sold in the markets of the United States but that the syndicate would fix the price of everything, from fruit to sugar, from a plowshare to a mansion?"

"If all goods of uniform quantity and quality price were left to competition, they would all be sold at the absolute net cost, and the whole trade in the United States would be absolutely ruined, and worse prostration and disaster than exists to-day would soon occur throughout the country."

"Why has this not been the case during the 1,800 years of the Christian era prior to the organization of the syndicate—these non-competitive associations?"

"Simply because twenty-five years ago only five per cent. of all the goods sold in the retail stores that were of uniform quantity, quality and price could be sold on the same money and margin. At that time there was competition in the sugar business, and it was sold in hogsheads. Now, I should estimate that in 75 per cent. of all goods that we sell of uniform quantity, quality and price, the hundredth man fixes the price, and the ninety-nine others have got to meet, immediately, this condition."

"A splendid difference for the consumer," remarked Senator Lexow.

"The consumer is ready to pay a small profit to the dealer, I believe," replied Mr. Smith, and then he volunteered this information:

"The more Congress and the legislature let business alone the better for the entire community, capitalists, merchants, and laboring men, whose interests are identical with those of the capitalist. The merchant and the laboring man are one and inseparable."

In the process of the evolution of industry it is seen that the first to change from the competitive stage to the mon-

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TAX-DODGERS.

The Capitalist Class Hastens to Demonstrate its Uselessness.

WHY, LET IT CONTINUE?

The Tax Collector of New York City Gives his Experience with the Rich—Tax-Dodging is Brought Down to Perfection by Them—An Oath is Lightly Taken and Domicile is Lightly Changed to Evade Payment of Taxes—They Swear in their Votes and then Turn Around and Swear off their Taxes.

This is what an officer of the Department for the Collection of Taxes in New York has to say upon his experience:

"It is astonishing how so many wealthy people become poor as soon as they enter this office. If the commercial agencies heard these people talk of their poverty here, there would be thousands of reports of bankruptcies in a short time.

"Many of the wealthiest people have escaped the personal tax this year by acquiring residences elsewhere. A man who was assessed for millions, for instance, went to Tuxedo last year, stayed there long enough to vote at the last election, and yesterday he came in here and told me I could not touch him now. And, of course, I can't. Another very wealthy man acquired residence in Rockaway, and escaped the tax. Many more did the same thing, and the result is that the collection of personal taxes this year will not be anything like what I hoped it would be.

"It is a well-known fact that the personal and corporation tax is not collected to any extent anywhere in the State except in New York city. Even Brooklyn practically ignores this tax. So persons who have considerable personal property are giving up their residences in New York in large numbers, and the city is losing heavily. The outlook is that this condition will grow worse. We are now threatened with this inheritance tax, and if it goes through, it will certainly drive more wealthy people from New York."

We have seen that the capitalists are free from work; we have seen that they are free from responsibility; we now see that they are fast becoming free from obligations; they are developing into full-fledged tax-dodgers.

Again we ask the question, Of what earthly use is this barnacle class?

ON TOP AGAIN.

Pure and Simple Labor Fakir Weissmann Shows the White Feather in Boston as his "Pal" Gompers Recently Did in Lynn.

BOSTON, Mass., May 2.—A mass meeting for the propaganda of the eight hour workday was called for May 1st by Bakers' Pure and Simple Union No. 4 in Wells' Memorial Hall. As Weissman was announced to speak, a number of members of the alliance went there in the hope to have a share in the discussion.

John D. McDonald, of unruly fame in Protective Union No. 2 called the meeting to order, and asked for nominations for chairman. Anthony Flynn was proposed by one of Union No. 4. The majority voted against him, but McDonald, practical as he is, declared him elected anyhow.

Flynn, who led Protective Union No. 2 a year ago on the wrong track, stated that the meeting was called to "unite" the Boston bakers, and introduced John Fishb. O'Sullivan, labor newsmaker of the Boston "Globe" as first speaker.

This gentleman started in with blaming the Alliance and the Independant Unions with being the cause of the failure of the Pure and Simple Unions to gain strikes and boycotts, which he claimed were the only means for bettering the condition of labor. In the same breath he charged the Alliance with attempting to break up all the trade unions, and was boasting that he and his fellow fakirs broke up the Knights of Labor. Being requested to cut his Pure and Simple bluff lecture short, he concluded under the contempt of the audience.

As next speaker, Fake Tony introduced "Comrade" Henry Weissmann, the weekly liar of the Bakers' "Journal" and hustler for Gompers and ex-Pomeroy in the A. F. of L. conventions.

Weissmann talked at great length in all sorts of ways about the foolish way of organizing the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and chasing the rainbow while he was trying "to get there" little by little. Recognizing, however, that the Socialists were present in the three-fourths majority, he stated that there seemed to be lots of "politicians" in the hall. This remark seemed to be provoked by the circumstance that, when Comrade Thomas C. Brophy, our last year's candidate for Governor, entered the room he was cheered by the audience with "Cheers for Governor Brophy." After this episode Weissmann was careful in his expressions, omitting the usual amount of slander against his opponents. He charged the Socialists with intolerance, and, in short, chewed all the general phrases used by the fakir brigade of the A. F. of L. As the Alliance men expected to get a chance for discussion they listened to him quietly, knowing well that they easily could prove him the contrary of all his statements, and that they could tell enough of trades unionism pure and simple in ten minutes to

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)	2,068
In 1890	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)	21,157
In 1894	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)	**36,564**

He's true to God who's true to man; wherever wrong is done,
To the humblest and the weakest, 'neath the all-beholding sun,
That wrong is also done to us; and they are slaves most base,
Whose love of right is for themselves, and not for all their race.
Lowell.

RESTIVENESS AMONG COLORED WORKINGMEN.

The attitude of the colored population towards the Republican party, as portrayed by their New York organ, "The Age," illustrates how easy it is for the untutored workers to attribute to false causes the ill-treatment they receive at the hands of their exploiters, the capitalist class, and furnishes, from a fresh source, additional evidence of the importance of the principle of the class struggle to correctly direct the judgment of the proletariat.

"The Age" complains bitterly of the treatment received by the colored men from the Republican party. It points out how many Southern white men have been appointed to office by the McKinley administration, while colored men are left out in the cold; and it wistfully asks the question: "Are we (the colored people) in politics?"

The complaint proceeds from the belief that neglect of the colored people by McKinley is due to their color. Taking this view of the case, well may our colored fellow wage slaves feel puzzled. If, however, they look more closely at the facts, they will discover that the neglect of which they complain is in no way attributable to their color, but is closely akin to the treatment which the Republican party bestows on the WORKING CLASS, regardless of "race, creed or previous condition of servitude;" and if they follow this train of thought they will presently be able to see quite clearly the trees in the political woods: they will discover that, not only has the Republican party no more regard for the white workingmen than it has for the negro workingman, but that the attitude of the Republican party in the matter is identical with that of the Democratic party. Once arrived so far, our colored brothers will see that it is not as BLACKS that the Republican party turns its back upon them but as PROLETARIANS. And this is the central truth.

The colored men were, until recently, particularly the victims of capitalist deception. Right after the war, the Republican capitalist class needed the negro to serve it as a mask for its own purposes. In those and the immediately following days, it was necessary to make much of the negro. Accordingly, the negro race received "recognition." But time passed on, the Republican capitalists grew more powerful, cast more root in Southern soil, and, proportionally, became less dependent upon the good will of the negro, until to-day, when they no longer need him. In the measure that this stage was reached, the class-line—not the color line, THAT cuts no figure—was drawn sharper between the Republicans: the capitalist class of Republicans ceased to need the negro workman as a mask for its aspirations and dropped him—just as it had dropped the other workers.

Time was when the class line between capitalists and workers was so thin that all the workers were "doted" on by the capitalist parties, just as the Republicans recently "doted" on the negro. Now that is all gone by, and, as a result, neither of the old parties has any use for the workingman after election.

Let the colored workers be penetrated with this fact. Then will they wheel in line with their other fellow workers, and, finding that their trials are identical, join in the pursuit of the class aims of their, the working class—the overthrow of the system of wage-slavery.

MODESTY BROUGHT TO PERFECTION

A memorial was recently addressed to Congress that is a model of modesty. It was signed by Messrs. Gompers, O'Connell, Lennon and McGuire, it purported to voice the sentiments of the American working people, and it humbly suggested four points: the restriction of immigration, the reform of the banking system, river and harbor appropriations, and the eight-hour day.

The first demand meant that the "leaders" desired a job or two, or possibly three, as twenty-second assistant bottle-washers to some Commissioner of Immigration. That wages cannot go up when each machine introduced into the shop throws more men out of work and into the labor market than does a whole shipload of immigrants cannot have escaped Messrs. Gompers, Lennon, O'Connell and McGuire; it is a fact that has brought home to them painful experiences: it has thinned out their unions, depleted their treasuries and made the life of a labor fakir a precarious affair. Dull though these gentlemen are known to be, the inefficiency of anti-immigration measures has by this percolated through their wool. They don't expect anything from it. They abandon the great hopes once entertained on that score, and now modestly beg for a few dry bone jobs.

The second demand is an evidence of still greater modesty, even of humility. During the late Presidential campaign these gentlemen warbled in chorus the praises of the sixteen-to-one deity, and impassionately, during their sober intervals, invoked the advent of the Sixteen-to-one Messiah as the only possible savior of an otherwise ruined nation. When they now lower their tune to a bank reform, they mean to convey to the Federal Government intimation that they abandon their former attitude, and that Uriah Heep is not a circumstance to them.

Even more yielding in its modesty is the third demand for river and harbor appropriations. These appropriations have gained an established reputation in the land. No one, who knows anything, ever thinks of them but in connection with boodle for bankrupt politicians. Indeed, the river and harbor appropriations have become the haven of refuge for all such politicians. If they have failed in everything else, there always are the river and harbor appropriations to fall back upon. In making this third demand, our labor fakir quartet simply meant to wink their eyes to the Federal Officers, and thereby eloquently indicate that the quartet appreciated the trials of politicians and would not stand between them and a little comfort.

Finally, the fourth demand is modesty and gentleness personified. The eight-hour law, together with the whole legislation thereon, has become a pretty rattle to entertain the dues-paying rank and file with. By its means the labor fakirs could get "expenses" from the treasury of the unions for lobbying-junketing expeditions, and the capitalists and politicians could be afforded an unequalled opportunity to pose as labor's friends by making pretty speeches that never materialized into effective law. The eight-hour law is a pretty ball used in the game of tennis, at which fakirs and politicians love to play, and which the workers pay for.

Pure and Simpledom has reached a point where it offers all the contrast one can want between its own cowardice and the bravery of New Trade Unionism.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The Johnston, R. I., "Beacon," is a beacon indeed. Through the dense mass of ignorance and false hopes raised by Rhode Island capitalists, the "Beacon" shoots this strong beam of light:

"Revival of business and increased prosperity will only serve to accentuate the struggle between capital and labor. The profit-seeking capitalist, deprived for a time of his prey, will strive all the more to "make hay while the sun shines," and as a result, the condition of the workers will become harder than ever. Nothing can stay the struggle now waging. It is a fight to a finish, and in the last round labor must come out the victor."

There is no prosperity or improved conditions in store for the working class but beyond the grave of the capitalist system of production.

The Dayton, O., "Evening Herald" is of the complacent opinion that the Socialist program

"Is a large program, proposing as it does to ignore the existing relations between capital and labor upon which the industrial operations of the world are based."

That paper evidently does not, despite the bumps its stockholders are receiving on their heads, realize that the truly large program is the one it is innocent enough to seek to put through, to wit, to make a pyramid stand on its apex. The Socialist program is easy. The law of social gravitation aids it along; every day brings its fulfilment nearer; and the day is not far when those who did not have wit enough to know that the pyramid will not stand on its apex will find the laugh turned upon them.

It is with unqualified delight that we pick out of the columns of the Philadelphia "Tageblatt" the following indignant passage. Commenting upon the disgraceful memorial addressed to the Federal Government by the Gompers in "the name of labor," the "Tageblatt" justly says:

"It is a veritable shame the way the American workers are 'represented.' There is one comfort left: that the 'policy of begging' is the last ditch of distress in which lies ditched a corrupt clique, which, in fact, as proved by the last election, exercises no longer any influence upon the workers, and cannot but be speedily played out."

May this passage be an earnest that the "Tageblatt" will speedily wheel fully in line with the uncompromisingly aggressive movement of the revolutionary proletariat.

The Bristol, Ct., "Press," publishes the following clever verses, written by a friend, who is some eighty years of age and lives in Boston:

Part I.—Before Election.

With deboniar, a feast prepare,
And hold a jubilee;
A table set and don't forget
To have a plate for me.
Then go and kill the "fatted calf,"
And tell your neighbors round.
That this old "Prodigal's" returned—
Was "lost but now is found."

He's had his fill, of "husks" and swill,
With Democratic "swine,"
So with rapid gate and famished state,
He's coming home to dine;
Then carve the veal with hasty zeal,
And let your joy abound,
For this old "Prodigal" was lost,
But now again is found.

Part II.—After Election.

When this old doubting "Prodigal" resolved no more to roam,
And turned his wandering footsteps to the G. O. party home,
"Advance agents" were proclaiming all along the homeward way,
A great reform show was coming, and that all would see the play.

Mark Hanna was the manager, McKinley wrote the play;
Dejew and Reed the funny men—the villains, Platt and Quay;
Lodge and Chandler were designers in the decorative art,
While Jo Walker and John Sherman were to play the heavy part.

They call the play "Prosperity," and announced on all the bills
That the show would soon be open, and it would "open up the mills;"
But the "show" has never opened, and the "mills" are running slow,
While the workmen all are waiting and watching for the show.

Yes, five million honest toilers are almost in a rage,
Because the play "Prosperity" is not put upon the stage;
And the "mugwumps" all are shouting from Maine to Idaho—
Why don't they ring the curtain up and give the promised "show."

And this obtuse old prodigal don't know "where he is at,"
Whether mugwump, Republican or McKinley Democrat;
And he cannot tell the difference, as he takes his daily meal,
Between old Democratic "husks" and fresh McKinley veal.

LEGALIZED MURDER.

Railroad Employees and their Fate.

"It costs money to live." It's a bad rule that doesn't work both ways; let us see how the reverse of this adage sounds: "It costs lives to make money." Well and good. And does it work this way? Is there any class of human beings that has to jeopardize their lives in order to make a livelihood? Perhaps it is the Siberian miner. He is too far away, and we—a free people, scorn the laws and institutions of his native land. Or perhaps it is the East Indian pauper who, a subject to Her Majesty the Queen of England, has to grope his way through the fever-bitten jungle in order to find eatable herbs? Oh, he is a savage; and, then—are "we Americans" not forever harping on the barbarous method which John Bull employs in governing his colonial subjects?"

Or perhaps it is the Bohemian cloth-weaver, who receives starvation wages—some 15 cents per day—and who breathes death with every motion of his lungs, while he bends over the poisonous chemicals employed in dying and seasoning the fabrics? We cannot consider him; he is a monarch's slave; therefore have we shaken off the shackles and fetters of imperial government and now enjoy the blessings of a Republic and of political freedom.

All right. Mayhap we find an illustration nearer home. How about the American railway employee?

He—well, he is very well paid for his labor—is he not? He has a "chance for advancement" in his trade, both in honor and compensation, and, in some cases, even a pension after long and faithful service.

Just in this last instance lies the rub. How many railroad employees live long enough to reach the pension age—or even to but achieve an advancement? The figures which throw light on this query are somewhat startling. The total number of railroad employees in the United States on June 30th, 1896, was 749,301. The number killed during the twelve months preceding was 2,451, and the number of those that had been maimed, crippled, or otherwise injured was 22,396. This means one death for every 306 and one case of injury for every 30 men employed.

Confining the statement to those employees engaged directly in the handling of trains, that is to say, engineers, firemen, couplers, conductors, testers, flagmen and the great mass of unskilled train hands, the results are beyond the experience made in any other business or trade. The number of employees of this class was 153,235, and out of this number there occurred during the year 1,459 deaths and 13,772 injuries due to some form of railway accident. This means one death for every 105 and one injury for every 12 men engaged in handling trains. In no other employment, not even in mining, which is a most dangerous occupation, can such results be shown.

If not the figures, the facts have been known long ago. Men directly stricken by these blows of modern industrial conditions, and those gifted with hearts and brains and love for their fellowmen have, for years and years, revolted against this state of affairs. Some years since the Interstate Commerce Commission received a petition signed by 10,000 railway employees asking that the matter be taken up with vigorous purpose. But Congress had matters on hand, the immediate execution of which was necessitated by the force of influential capitalist plea, the pressure of personal capitalist interest or a hope or promise of remunerative bribes. And so the matter rested, and still rests.

And to make the delay a permanent one, the railroad magnates stepped forth, and, allied with their lobbyists, vigorously denied the right of the State to interfere in the affairs of "private business" enterprises. The plea was shady and preposterous—but effective to a capitalist government. Moreover, they said, no legislation can be really successful unless it relies upon a detailed and thorough knowledge of facts.

"Furnish our goodly lawmakers with these!" cried the suffering and humane.

But there again an old word had to submit to reversion—the demand was imperative, but the supply not forthcoming.

And still the railway employee clingeth to a system that lays him in the dust before King "Private Ownership," even as Don Quixote hoped for the coming of a kingdom that came not.

WALTHER M. OESTERREICHER.
New York.

MAY DAY.

(Continued from Page 1.)

many, 1,800,000; in France, 1,400,000; in Italy, 90,000; in Belgium, 416,000; in Denmark, 25,000, and in England 98,000. Our total forces range between five and six millions, and there are many indications of a marked and rapid growth.

"We are not striking to-day for higher wages, although we strive to get in return for our services all that we can. We realize that it is too late in the day to follow the fashions of our English ancestors, who had not the freedom of the ballot. We have the means to show our power in a different way. It will soon be a disgrace for any laborer to be found either in the Democratic or Republican party.

"There never was a time in the history of the world when the producer got so little out of his product as he does to-day. Never before did he toil so hard in mine and factory, and never before was labor so productive. Yet, are the men and women of to-day any better off than their ancestors when they danced about the May pole in Merrie England? How far is the laboring class from the poorhouse to-day? Not four weeks."

In referring to the factory system, Comrade Gessner said that England first introduced the factory system in 1776, which has revolutionized industry, taking from the homes the wives and daughters and sons. France did not come into line until 1840. Belgium fell in after the Franco-Prussian war. Since 1870 Russia has been capitalistically conquered, and the others have followed in the same way. The modern Socialist movement, he said, was started as the necessary result of the factory system. Referring to the movement of the capitalists to introduce improved labor-saving machinery in cheap labor-class countries, he said that American watches were being made in Japan by American machinery, and in a few years American machinery would be producing in these benighted countries what the American laborer is now producing. This would reduce the laborer's condition to even greater extremities, all for the profit of the capitalists.

Comrade Gessner then detailed the work done by labor-saving machinery in driving men out of work: "The result of the introduction of labor-saving machinery on society, as it is now being operated, was damaging. Statistics showed that since 1872 in Europe the number of marriages had constantly been decreasing in proportion to the population. The boys and girls of the intellectual middle class do not marry. The reckless and unintelligent classes go on reproducing. Many women are driven to lives of shame because they cannot earn living wages. In this country statistics show that attendance at the public schools in New England has in no wise kept pace with the increase in the population. This, too, in New England, where existed that fine type of man that has been immortalized in bronze in the Washington monument. In Connecticut the increase in attendance was 8 per cent. behind the increase in population; in New Hampshire it was 6 per cent.; in Massachusetts, 12 per cent.; and in Pennsylvania, 14¾ per cent. Where are the school children? They are not in the schoolhouse; they are not in the playgrounds; they are not at the mother's knee. They are at the shops of the master.

"There never was an employer," he said, "who did not retain a part of the value of the article produced. The capitalists say that we want to clutch everything, that we want a division. This is not what we want. We want this over-dividing to cease. We want them to stop dividing. We want the laborer to have the undivided product of his toil. Then there will be no more barefooted shoemakers, no more naked tailors, no more hungry millers."

"We are not going into the mountains of Tennessee," he said, "to experiment with the co-operative commonwealth; we are going to begin right here in the cities where we have the voting power. In Garrison's time there were Abolitionists who wished to do away with slavery step by step. There are people to-day who wish to bring about economic changes in the same way. They did not succeed in destroying slavery, and they will not succeed in destroying the capitalistic system. Neither will any colonization scheme work. What is wanted is a clear vote and no complimentary ballots. We want men like Wendell Phillips and William Lloyd Garrison. Follow the motto of those men and success will come. No one has a right to ask how we are going to introduce the co-operative commonwealth; that is a problem for you. It will come, and no one can tell how soon or how. Emerson said in 1858 that he did not expect to live to see the abolition of slavery, yet it came within five years. It came because that blue-eyed dreamer, John Brown, struck the blow at Harper's Ferry and sprinkled the lintel posts of the northern conscience with his blood. What right has any to believe that the present degrading system can endure? It has been a good system, as was the feudal system and the slave system, but, like them, it has served its usefulness, and like them, must go. It must go because only a few are profiting by it and millions are suffering. The day is near when the sons and daughters of Columbia will be Socialists."

At the close of the address the following resolution, which was suggested two years ago by the Social Democratic Federation of England, was passed amid enthusiastic applause:

RESOLVED, That this meeting send fraternal greetings to the workers assembled throughout the world to celebrate May Day and to assert the solidarity of labor, and urges them to neglect no means toward their emancipation from wage slavery, and to work unceasingly for the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth, in which all the instruments of industry will be owned and controlled by the commonwealth, industrially organized.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 3.—May Day was celebrated here by a grand mass meeting Saturday evening, May 1. Comrade J. C. Jones, of Danbury, was the speaker for the occasion, and his remarks brought frequent applause.

The Socialists of Yonkers celebrated May Day by a mass meeting in Getty Square. Comrade B. Keinard was the speaker. There was a fair-sized audience in spite of the miserable weather. Comrade Keinard called attention to the feeling of class-consciousness and solidarity which permeated the intelligent proletariat of all countries, and which was manifested universally at the May Day demonstrations. He also presented in a very forcible and lucid manner the cause of the universal poverty of the masses.

The development of the simple tool into the present gigantic machine was shown, and the speaker urged the working class to regain possession of the land and their tools, i. e., the machinery of production. The speaker proved that as long as the workers were divorced from the land and the implements of production, just so long must they remain wage slaves to the capitalist class.

The address was listened to very attentively, and the remarks of the crowd—many of whom were strangers to Socialism—were that of approval. The speaker was cheered repeatedly.

The Yonkers Labor Lyceum has removed to their new headquarters at 16 Palisade avenue, and the Comrades should make it a point to become members. Reform and Socialist newspapers and pamphlets are solicited. Address Labor Lyceum, 16 Palisade avenue.

Fraternally, FRED BENNETT.

A PRAYER FOR THE USE OF THE POOR

Being a Proletarian Paternoster.

Ruler, Who ward on high doth keep,
Watcher, Whose eyes ne'er close in sleep;
Omniscience, Thou, Whose mind doth know
The utmost depths of human woe;

Omnipotence, Whose aid we sought
In form that Christ Himself has taught,
To lift the sin of want and care
We crave Thee hear our latest prayer.

Our latest prayer! Oh, count the tears
Heard woman's wail, saw childhood's tears;
And life from labor ruthless riven,
Our Father, Who art in heaven.

This earth was hell. Theft at its feasts
Lolled, revelled, gorged, and bribed Your priests
Our burning thoughts and hearts to tame
With fear of Thine own hallowed Name.
Oh! Blinded fools, we know it now,
And why averted was Thy brow,
As through our ages martyrdom
We prayed, just God, Thy kingdom come?

Forgive, forgive; Oh, Lord divine,
Forgive the stalwart beggar's whine,
Forgive our grovelling at Thy throne
While strength was left to claim our own.

How could You—whilst midst wondrous wealth
From our stiff figures filched by stealth
There strayed the growing child unfed:
List to our whine for daily bread.

For daily bread, You gave the Earth
And all things good for health and mirth;
Stamped Heaven's picture on its breast,
And left to us to do the rest.

And we have done it. Lo, the fruit,
The stunted child, the prostitute,
The purse-proud thief, the weary slave,
Inhabit now that Earth You gave.

Nought may avail—the crime began
With Freedom disavowed by Man;
Nought can avail—all hope is vain—
Till Freedom reigns on Earth again.

All, all are guilty; peasant, peer,
Priest, prince and pauper. Far and near
Both high and low share in the guilt
Of the foul house of crime we built.

Much have we sinned, we know it now,
And why averted was Thy brow;
Forgive, just God, the swinish strife
We waged against each other's life.

Forgive, if yet before Thy throne
Repentance can for all atone,
Slave, priest and tyrant, Lord forgive,
If they repent, then let them live.

Then let them live, but hear it, Heaven,
Our vow, the vow of slaves o'er driven,
Whate'er the future holds in store
We bide our lot of shame no more.

No more, Oh! Lord, and should it be
That blood must flow ere we be free;
Why, let it flow—in rivers run,
Thy will be done—Thy will be done.

And more we pray—When danger lowers
And calls for deeds from us and ours;
Deliv'r our hearts from cowardice
And nerve us for all sacrifice.

Oh! when this Earth, by free men trod,
Shall own no Lord, but Thee, Oh, God;
Humanity joins—and not till then—
In Nature's glorious, grand AMEN.

—J. LESLIE.

London "Justice."

Municipal Politics.

This subject will be treated this Sunday, at 2 p. m., at the Workmen's Educational Club, 86th street, between 2d and 3d avenues. The speaker will be Daniel De Leon.

The deep importance of the approaching municipal campaign in Greater New York renders the subject timely. All are invited. Admission free.

UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—I think the conduct of this Congress is simply shameful.

Uncle Sam—In what way more so than that of any other Congress, lately?

B. J.—Why, look at these high tariff bandits!

U. S.—They surely are a raw-boned set; but, to speak truly, I can't find that they look any less raw-boned than their free trade halves.

B. J.—You mean to say that the tariff reformers, the free traders, these noble men who wish to ease the people's shoulders from the burden of taxation, these heroes who seek to enable the poor man to buy more cheaply, these patriots, these friends of labor——

U. S.—Tut! tut! You are not on the stump, Jonathan; nor am I an audience to be stuffed with words.

B. J.—Now, I don't understand you. You are a sensible man——

U. S. (patting himself on the chest)—So I am!

B. J.—Now, just tell me this much——

U. S.—All you want.

B. J.—I make $1 a day——

U. S.—Yes; thanks to the free trade and protection capitalists who rob you.

B. J.—I must spend all this money in purchase of what I need——

U. S.—And a lot of other needs are left uncovered.

B. J.—Now, does not free trade lower prices?

U. S.—Let's say it does; what of it?

B. J.—Suppose then that by a reduction or removal of the tariff I can buy with 50 cents all that now costs me 100 cents to purchase——

U. S.—Yes; let's suppose that.

B. J.—Don't you see?

U. S.—I see a good many things; which do you mean?

B. J.—That I am the gainer by 50 cents.

U. S.—No; I don't see that.

B. J.—What do you see, then?

U. S.—That you are a damned fool.

B. J.—That takes my time! To-day my living costs me 100 cents a day; with the lowering of the tariff my living costs me only 50 cents. And yet I am a damned fool to say that I am the gainer by 50 cents?

U. S.—Yes. If you get 100 cents and need 100 cents you have nothing left——

B. J.—Yes; that's what I say.

U. S.—If you need 50 cents and get only 50 cents you are no better off.

B. J.—True enough. But I was starting from the principle that I got 100 cents.

U. S.—And there is where your "principle" is a clown. If, indeed, you could continue to earn 100 cents a day after prices had come down 50 cents, then you would be a gainer; if you don't keep up your wages, then you are not a gainer. And the fact is that your wages will go down as much as prices; because, remember this:

Wages are the market price of labor; under capitalism labor's price is controlled by the same laws that control the price of all other merchandise; the price of all other merchandise falls in the measure in which it can be more cheaply produced; the cheaper the goods are on which labor must subsist the cheaper also is labor; consequently, if the tariff is lowered and the price of goods goes down, down also goes the price of labor, to wit, wages; and there you are!

B. J.—Then, this tariff reduction and free trade is an unmitigated swindle?

U. S.—Unmitigated!

B. J.—But why, then, do these free traders grow so enthusiastic?

U. S.—If you had understood why we workingmen are no better off, free trade or no free trade, you would not ask the question.

B. J.—I understand that we are no better off because our wages go down in proportion to the lowering of prices.

U. S.—And what, do you imagine, becomes of the difference. If prices fall 50 cents and your wages come down as much, what do you imagine becomes of the other 50 cents? Do they vanish in smoke?

B. J.—No; that's true; what becomes of them?

U. S.—They fall into the pockets of your boss. We now get one dollar's worth of wealth in wages for every four dollars' worth of wealth that we produce. If prices go down 50 cents, then they will pay us back in wages only 50 cents for every four dollars' worth of wealth that we produce; in other words, they will keep three and a half dollars' worth of the fruits of our labor.

B. J.—The rascals! That's what they are after, is it?

U. S.—Yes, me lad; don't let them stuff you. Join the S. L. P.

Daily People Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged	$1,585.36
April 30—Minneapolis, Minn.	25
May 1—Two betting Comrades	1.00
May 2—Collected at the N. Y. Labor Lyceum for an arrested carpenter	1.00
May 3—Achille Estienne, N. Y. city	45
May 3—Workmen's Laundry, N. Y.	2.50
May 4—George Heckel, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5.00
Total	$1,595.56

HENRY KUHN, Fin. Secy.

P. S.—In the issue of April 18th, a misprint made a contribution by H. F. Sahlender, San Francisco, $2 instead of $1, as it should have been. The total, however, is not affected by the error.

To complete a file.

A reader of THE PEOPLE wishes No. 3 of Volume VI. to complete a file. Will exchange for any other issue of that volume. Send it to THE PEOPLE, 184 William street.

CAPITALIST JUGGERNAUT.

It Grinds out and then Grinds Down the Class of the Proletariat.

In all countries in which the capitalist system of production prevails, especially in such countries as the United States where capitalism has reached the point of production on a large scale, we find the population divided mainly into two classes: First, the capitalists, who possess the means of production—tools, machinery, land, etc., but who take no part in production itself; and secondly, the wage-workers, the proletariat, who possess nothing but their labor power, on the sale of which they live, and whose labor alone brings forth the whole wealth of the land.

Capitalists need a large supply of proletarians; originally, in other countries and in ages gone by, forcible methods were resorted to, to furnish this requisite supply. To-day, however, in the United States especially, such methods are no longer needed. The superior power of capitalist production on a large scale over small production is to-day sufficient, without doing open violence to the law or to private property, but, on the contrary, with the very assistance of these, year in year out to strip of all property a sufficient number of small farmers and industrialists, who are then thrown upon the streets, who merge with the mass of the proletariat, and who thereby satisfy the ever increasing capitalist demand for more human flesh.

That the number of the proletariat is steadily on the increase in this country is such a palpable fact that even they no longer attempt to deny it, who would make us believe that society to-day rests upon the same basis that it did a hundred years ago, and who try to paint in rosy colors the picture of the small producer. Indeed, a revolution has taken place in the makeup of society, the same as it has in the system of production. The capitalist form of production has overthrown all others and become the dominant one in the field of industry; similarly wage labor is to-day the dominant form of labor; a hundred years ago the farming peasantry took the first place; later, the small city industrialists; to-day it is the wage earner or proletariat.

In all civilized countries the proletarians are to-day the largest class; it is their condition and modes of thought that control those of all the other subdivisions of labor. This state of things implies a complete revolution in the condition and thought of the bulk of the population. The conditions of the proletariat differ radically from those of all other former categories of labor. The small farmer, the artisan, the small producers generally, were, namely, the owners of the product of their labor by reason of their ownership of the means of production; contrariwise, the product of the labor of the proletarian does not belong to him, it belongs to the capitalist, to the purchaser of his labor-power, to the owner of the requisite instruments of production. True enough, the proletariat is paid therefor by the capitalists, but the value of his wages is far below that of his product.

When the capitalist in industry—and let it be here said, once for all, that at the present stage of development in production, agriculture is as much an industry as any other—purchases the only commodity which the proletarian can offer for sale, to wit, his labor power, he does so for the only purpose of utilizing it in a profitable way. The more the workingman produces, the larger the value of his product. If the capitalist were to work his hands only long enough to produce the worth of the wages he pays them, he would clear no profits. But however willing the capitalist is to pose as the benefactor of suffering humanity, his capital cries for "profits," and finds in him a willing listener. The longer the time is extended during which the workmen labor in the service of the capitalists, over and above the time needed to cover their wages, the larger is the value of their product, the larger is the surplus over and above the capitalist outlay in wages, and the larger is the quantity of exploitation to which these workmen are subjected. This exploitation or fleecing of labor finds a limit only in the powers of endurance of the working people and in the resistance which they may be able to offer to their exploiters.

In capitalist production the capitalist and the wage-worker are not active together as the employer and the employed used to be in previous industrial epochs. The capitalist soon develops into and remains essentially a merchant. His activity, in so far as he may be at all active, limits itself, like that of the merchant, to the operations of the market. His labors consist in purchasing as cheaply as possible the raw material, labor power and other essentials, and to turn around to sell the finished products as dearly as possible. Upon the field of production itself he does nothing except to secure the largest quantity of labor from the workmen for the least possible amount of wages, and thereby to squeeze out of them the largest possible quantity of surplus values. With regard to his workmen he is not a FELLOW-WORKER; he is only a DRIVER, an EXPLOITER. The longer they work the better off he is; he is not tired out if the hours of labor are unduly extended; he does not perish if the method of production becomes a murderous one. Of all ruling classes the capitalist is the most reckless of the life and safety of his operatives. Extension of the hours of work, abolition of holidays, introduction of night labor, damp or overheated factories filled with poisonous gases, such are the "improvements" which the capitalist mode of production has introduced for the benefit of the working class.

The introduction of machinery increases still further the danger to life and limb for the workingman. The machine system fetters him to a monster that moves perpetually with a gigantic power and with insane speed. Only the closest, never flagging attention can protect the workingman, attached to such a machine, from being seized and broken by it. Protective measures cost money; the capitalist does not introduce them unless he is forced thereto. Economy being the much vaunted virtue of the capitalist, he is constrained by it to save room and to squeeze as much machinery as possible into the workshop. What cares he that the limbs of his workingmen are thereby endangered? Workingmen are cheap, but large airy workshops are dear.

There is still another respect in which the capitalist application of machinery lowers the condition of the working class. It is this: The tool of the former mechanic was cheap; it was subject to few changes that would render it useless; otherwise with the machine; in the first place it costs money, much money; in the second place, if, through improvements in the system it becomes useless, or if it is not used to its full capacity, it will bring loss instead of profit to the capitalist; again, the machine is worn out not only through use but also through idleness; furthermore, the introduction of science into production, the result of which is the machine itself, causes constant new discoveries and inventions to take the place of older ones, and renders constantly, now this, then that sort of machine, and often whole factories at once, unable to compete with the improved ones before they have been used up to their full extent; owing to these constant changes, every machine is in constant danger of being made useless before it is used up; this is sufficient ground for the capitalist to utilize his machine as quickly as possible from the moment he puts it in operation; in other words, the capitalist application of the system of machinery is a particular spur that drives the capitalist to extend the hours of labor as much as possible, to carry on production without interruption, to introduce the system of night and day shifts, and, accordingly, to rear the unwholesome system of night work into a permanent system.

At the time the system of machinery began to develop, some ideologists declared the golden age was at hand: the machine was to release the workingman and render him a free man. In the hands of the capitalist, however, the machine has become the most powerful lever towards making heavier the load of labor, borne by the proletariat, and to aggravate his servitude into an unbearable condition.

But it is not only with regard to the HOURS OF WORK that the condition of the wage-worker and proletariat has suffered with the introduction of machinery. It suffered also with regard to his WAGES. The proletarian, the workman of to-day, does not eat at the table of the capitalist; he does not live in the same house. However wretched his home may be; however miserable his food, nay, even though he may famish, the well-being of the capitalist is not disturbed by the sickening sight. The words WAGES and STARVATION used to be opposites; the free workingman could formerly starve only when he had no work; whoever worked earned WAGES, he had enough to eat; STARVATION was not his lot. The unenviable distinction was reserved for the capitalist system of production to reconcile these two opposites—WAGES and STARVATION, and to raise STARVATION-WAGES into a permanent institution; yes, into a prop of the present social system.

On Top Again.

(Continued from Page 1.)

cure any level-headed man. When Weissmann concluded, a member of the American Section announced that Comrade DeLeon would speak on the 14th of May, which notice was received with an Indian howl by the hoodlum element of Union No. 4, although most of them never heard DeLeon. Then there were a dozen Socialists ready to speak. A member of the Liquor Makers' Union asked for the floor, whereupon Anthony Flynn stated that only bakers of Union No. 4 were allowed to speak, and he wanted to introduce Thomas Walsh, an office seeker, as the next speaker.

At this moment a member of District Alliance called upon the Socialists to leave the hall, whereupon three-fourths of the audience walked out, leaving only the hoodlum element of Union No. 4 in the hall, and ending what was announced as an "eight-hour" demonstration.

For four years we have been eagerly looking for a chance to face Weissmann on a platform, but he always has some arrangements to keep us patiently listening, and suddenly the meeting is over.

Two and a half years ago, when he was blowing up $400 trying to break up the Protective Union, he announced in Caledonia Hall that as soon as he was through a discussion would be opened. At the finish of his speech he announced a recess of five minutes. We went out, and when we returned we found all the chairs removed and the meeting adjourned. This time we relied on the fairness of the chairman. At all the mass meetings of the Protective Union we gave the opposition the floor and always welcomed fair critics. In many mass meetings we discussed the labor movement with our opponents in a brotherly way, but Union No. 4 conducts every meeting in Salvation Army style, and Mr. August Gronau struck the right tune by asking Otto Harsbecker: "Do you want to buy a 'War Cry'"?

The whole evening a dozen hoodlums of Union No. 4 were walking around and talking about fighting and throwing out. They also got a policeman, but outside of their own members, nobody was looking for trouble. The decent element of the former Protective Union No. 2 was absent, being disgusted with the union.

The outsiders had a chance to see the mental quality of Weissmann's followers—who has been supported by the labor fakirs like a hot-house plant for five years.

Weissmann had a chance to see that the bulwark of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance in Boston stands safer than ever. HENRY WEHNER.

Notic.

If you are a resident of the 14th Assembly District and receive a sample copy of THE PEOPLE, will you read it carefully and subscribe? You are invited to attend the business meeting every second and fourth Friday at 238 East 10th street. We want you to join the S. L. P.

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

LABOR'S SHARE.

Why, Despite Protection or Free Trade Wages Must Go Down.

Wages can never rise so high as to make it impossible for the capitalist to carry on his business and live; under such circumstances, it would be more profitable for the capitalist to give up his business. Consequently, the wages of the workingman can never rise hign enough to equal the value of his product. They must always be below that, so as to leave a surplus; it is only the prospect of a surplus that moves the capitalist to purchase labor-power. It is therefore evident that in the capitalist social system the wages of the workmen can never rise high enough to put an end to the exploitation of labor.

This surplus, which the capitalist class appropriates, is larger than is usually imagined. It covers not only the "profits" of the manufacturer but many other items that are usually credited to the costs of production and exchange. It covers, for instance, rent, interest on loans, salaries, merchants' profits, taxes, etc. All these have to be covered with the surplus, or the excess of the value of the product over the wages of the workingman. It is evident that this surplus must be a considerable one if a concern is to "pay;" the exploitation of the workingman must be great, even where the wages are high. It is clear that the wages of the workingman cannot rise high enough to be even approximately equal to the value of his product. The capitalist wages system means, under all circumstances, the thorough exploitation of the working class. It is impossible to abolish this exploitation without abolishing the system itself.

But wages rarely reach the highest point which they might even under these circumstances; more often they are found to be nearer to the lowest possible point. This point is reached when the wages do not even supply the workman with his barest necessities; when the workingman not only starves but starves rapidly, all work is at an end.

The wages swing between these two extremes; they are found to be lower the lower the necessities of the workman, the larger the supply of labor in the labor market, and the slighter the capacity of the workingman for resistance.

In general, wages must be high enough to keep the workingman in a condition to work, or, to speak more accurately, they must be high enough to secure to the capitalist the measure of labor-power which he needs. In other words, wages must be high enough not only to keep the workingman in a condition to work, but also in a condition to produce children who may be able to replace them. It follows that the industrial development has a tendency that is most pleasing to the capitalist, to wit, to lower THE NECESSITIES OF THE WORKINGMAN IN ORDER THAT HIS WAGES MAY BE LOWER IN PROPORTION.

There was a time when skill and strength were requisites for a workingman. The period of apprenticeship was then long, the cost of his training considerable. Now, however, the progress made in the division of labor and the system of machinery render skill and strength in production more and more superfluous; they make it possible to substitute unskilled and cheap workmen for skilled ones; and consequently, to substitute weak women and even children in the place of men. Already in the early stages of manufactory this tendency is perceptible; but not until machinery is introduced into production does the wholesale exploitation commence of women and children of tender age—an exploitation of the most helpless among the helpless, who are made a prey of shocking maltreatment and abuse. Thus machinery develops a new and wonderful quality in the hands of the capitalist.

Originally the wage-worker, who was not a member of the family of his employer, had to earn wages high enough to defray not only his own expenses but those of his family in order to enable him to propagate himself and to bequeath his labor power to others. Without this process on his part, the heirs of the capitalists would find no proletarians ready made for exploitation.

When, however, the wife, and, from early infancy, the children of the workingman are able to take care of themselves, then the wages of the male workingman can be safely reduced to the level of his own personal needs without the risk of stopping the supply of fresh labor power.

Over and above this, the labor of women and children affords the additional advantage that these offer less resistance than men; and their introduction into the ranks of the workers increases wonderfully the quantity of labor that is offered for sale in the market.

Accordingly, the labor of women and children does not only lower the necessities of the workingman, but it also diminishes his capacity for resistance in that it overstocks the labor market; owing to both these circumstances it lowers the wages of the workingman.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

Organizer, Section Holyoke, Mass.—On last April 7 a letter was addressed to you from this office inquiring about certain official reports made to the Section by its delegate to the last National Convention. The letter was repeated two weeks later, on April 21. It is now May 5; four weeks have elapsed, and no answer. Have the letters miscarried?

A. K., Washington, D. C.—We are simply swamped with poetry. It is not always timely, and is then kept for the right moment. If every poet who favors us were to be communicated with and explained matters, it would take a clerical force working 12 abreast, 12 hours a day. Kindly notify the kind friend.

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at $1.25 per 1,000 or $1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO.,
64 East 4th Street, New York.

SAD PLIGHT

In Which Capitalism and Pure and Simpledom Have Left British Workers.

The following is an extract from an article by H. R. Sherard in "Pearson's Magazine" on the woolcombers of England. He who reads it and is at all familiar with the condition of the British toilers in other departments will find the description of the woolcombers to apply to others as well. And he watches the fate of the working class in America under the superintendence of the same twin vampires—Capitalists and "Pure and Simple Labor Fakirs—may perceive not only a similarity of conditions here and there, but may foresee what is in store for us in America unless New Trade Unionism quickly predominate. Mr. Sherard says:

Although some of the Bradford woolcombers frequent The Swan in the Manchester road, the principal house of call of these operatives is the Malt Shovel, in Nelson street, a small beerhouse of poor appearance. The one tap-room is roughly furnished with benches and chairs. Over the mantelpiece are nailed two decorative cards, on which are printed, as though in irony, wishes of a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all.

To the left of the fireplace is a large board on which each morning the barman chalks the latest tips for forthcoming races, for to the race course these workers, like so many thousands of Englishmen, alas! look as their one hope of a little comfort, a span of good time, or, it may be, for the means of escape from the cruel thraldom of their present lives. And even as a woolcomber the Yorkshireman is a keen sportsman, manifesting all the interest which his despairing nature can compass in our national sports.

As one sits in the Malt Shovel one might fancy oneself in the forecastle of an oceangoing steamer, for the whole place throbs and vibrates to the unceasing motion of the machinery which, in the large factories on every side of this public-house, goes night and day and day and night with a grinding and merciless noise, while through the open windows of the workshops there pours forth into the air clouds of foul and yellow dust.

"That soon plays the dickens with a man's lungs," said a woolcomber, who coughed and coughed as, from where he sat, he pointed to this yellow cloud. He was a wan man and pale, an anæmic marionette, stunted and weak, to whom, as to all the woolcombers whom I saw, the word "sweated" could be applied with pre-eminent appositeness.

Indeed, amongst the pale hordes of the slaves of England, no class can, at a first glance, be more easily recognized than the men who are the Nethinim of the great wool industry. Their pallor, their great weariness, stamp them with an appearance almost ethereal or wraithlike. Exhausted by the superhuman efforts of their nightly toil, their movements in their leisure moments are slow and deliberate, a very parody of human dignity.

One is reminded, as one looks at them, of the haschish eater, such languor is theirs. But the eyes, the eyes to which he who scrutinizes another man will always look first, have an expression which characterizes these men beyond doubt or hesitation. It is an expression of utter hopelessness, of fatigue which surpasses words; it tells of shattered nerves, of depleted veins. It is a terrible look, to be seen on this side of Styx.

It is in this sordid tap-room that the only purple moments of the colorless lives of the Bradford woolcombers are spent. "Low wages are demoralizing; when people get starvation wages they go to the public-house," said to me Mr. Samuel Shaftoe, shipmaker and justice of the peace, the secretary of the Bradford and District Woolcombers' Association, to whom I am much indebted. He made me free of the Woolcombers' Club during my stay in Bradford, gave me much information, and afforded me every assistance in his power.

There is, however, little excessive drinking amongst these operatives. For one thing, they have so very little money; for another, they are so weak from constant exhaustion that a very small quantity of the nameless beer renders them powerless.

I heard of one man "who works at neet," who was so debilitated that a single pint sent him home to bed, mad. They were talking about him at the Malt Shovel on the first morning that I was there. It appeared that the night before he had had his pint, and, having gone home, had nailed up the door and window of his cottage, so that when his wife returned from work in the evening she had to break into the house. For her edification, her husband had chalked on the fender, "Clean my boots."

"It's bed and work for us," explained a woolcomber, "and as for amusement we get together two or three, and have a pint or two and get boozed." On Sundays there are more pints, few, but effective, and dominoes. When a party gets together the liquor is served in a pot, and only one mug is supplied, which is passed round in good fellowship—an earthenware loving cup—with "Have a soop, lad."

Not very far from the Malt Shovel public-house stands an automatic weighing machine, to which, one Saturday morning, I conducted, for the sake of visual evidence, a few of the woolcombers with whom I had been conversing. There were tall men amongst them, but not in one single instance did the machine register a heavier weight than 10 stones. This was the maximum, and an exceptional case, and there were the makings of a fine fellow about the man who weighed it.

His story was that, having given up woolcombing for tubbing (making washtubs for the wool-cleaning rooms), he had gained 21 pounds in weight during nine or ten weeks. "I then returned to the works, weighing 10 stones 9 pounds, and in a fortnight my weight was reduced to 10 stones. It all goes out of you in water. You can wring my shirt in the mornings, are, and my trousers, too—that is to say, when I work in trousers, for, for the most part, I change these and work in a woman's skirt."

This was an exceptional case, for the man was well built, and at the time had only been working a few weeks in the factories. The average weight of the men fell far below 9 stones, and in each case was from 2 stones to 3 stones below what, according to the table on the machine, each should have weighed if in health. One man, who registered 7 stones 7 pounds, told me that when he entered a certain notorious rushing shop seven years before, being then only 17 years of age, he had weighed 10 stones 7 pounds. The rest had gone in woolcombing.

Another man had weighed 10 stones before entering the works, and in a short time had been reduced to 9 stones. "I then went off to sea for a spell and got back my weight," he said. He had been back a month at woolcombing and scaled a little over 8 stones.

But, they all agreed, if I wanted to see the champion lightweights of the industry, to grasp fully what woolcombing can do for thinning a man, I ought to recruit my subjects at ———'s works, of all rushing shops in Bradford, the worst. Here, with luck, I might even fall in with Mr. Billy Parkin, commonly known as the Walking Skeleton.

But Billy Parkin apart, any one of these men would do as an object lesson. "We calls them ———'s Marionettes" said one; "because they are that thin and washy and pale," explained another. "But," said a third, "If you go to ———'s works, to meet the men coming out of a morning you had better take your opera-glasses with you; you'll want them to see some of ———'s men."

And, indeed, a more ghostly sight than the sortie from these works witnessed by me one morning just before dawn it would be hard to conceive. There was so little substance in each emaciated figure as it sidled out wearily through the door into the street that its sudden disappearance into the night seemed less the result of any movement on its part than of a fading away. Pale, haggard, puny, these men were more like spectres, which the night swallowed up noiselessly. They appeared and vanished, white and silent, like clouds, whilst behind them the huge black factory shook and throbbed to the unceasing grinding of the merciless machines.

We had halted at the weighing machine on our way from the Malt Shovel, in Nelson street, to the Woolcombers' Club, in Albert Buildings, and as we walked on to this, one by one the men tailed off, each to his home. In the end I was left alone with a very old man, Mr. James Berry, who told me that he had not averaged twelve shillings a week all the years he had worked. "None of them belongs to the club," he explained, when we were left alone, "they are none of them union men." He could not explain why this was so, and, indeed, seemed to prefer to talk about "my namesake, the hangman," and to point out his haunts.

So poor are the wages that in hundreds of families of woolcombers in Bradford both husband and wife have to work in the factories, the husband at night, the wife by day. No better device for the separation of the sexes could have been invented. The husband comes in as the wife goes out; the wife enters as the husband leaves. It is matrimony on the principle of the barometrical figures.

At a quarter to six any night this may be seen. Outside the factory the men are grouped, expectant, near the door. Now a bell rings, scarce audible above the grinding rattle of the untiring machines. Yet it jerks into life the inert forms of the men, who move in sheep-like procession towards the door, through which, at this moment, a sheep-like procession of jaded women pours forth.

The two streams meet, commingle, and in that moment, and for a moment only, husband and wife may meet. They meet, but must not tarry, for the hungry machine is calling. A "Hullo, lass!" a "Hullo, lad!" and each passes on his way. Man by man is swallowed up in the yawning portals of the factory, and soon in the long street there is nothing to be seen but the widowed women on their homeward way; weary little dots they seem as they pass out of sight into the dark.

In twelve hours the same may be seen reversed, the fatigue now on the faces of the men, the machines as active as ever, shaking the whole street, so that the foul, yellow dust that pours from the casements dances in the air, at times enveloping these male and female crowds in such a mist that the picture is all blurred, so vague that one cannot discern which tide is flowing, which is on the ebb.

One may imagine the home life of such husbands and such wives. Yet, as both men and women must work at this trade, as wool must be thrown day and night unceasingly to the tearing teeth of the insatiable machines, it is as well that by the limits of human endurance the two should be separated.

The heat in the woolcombing rooms is at times so extreme that perforce men, and women, too, return to the simplicities of tropical climates.

In each factory the machines are run at top speed; in one factory the employer was able to extort from his machines, iron and flesh, as much work, by greater heat, in sixty hours, as he had done previously in sixty-four.

A mere rapid walk through a woolcombing room is to an ordinary man a nerve-shaking and distressing experience. The room is usually about 100 feet long, and in such a room sixty machines, running at full speed, are at work. The noise is deafening—a grinding, screeching noise; the whole place vibrates. The heat is very great, and the air is full of a yellow, noisome dust.

In the daytime there is a woman at each machine, and these are women of every age, from bent old grandams of 70 down to mere children, the rest, for the most part, wearing the passée look of middle age. "Girls of 20 look 40," said one to me.

At night it is the men, and when the men are at work the rush is even more noticeable. Indeed, as one told me, "if they don't see you moving about in the shop, you've got to be moving out of it. There's not much crawling allowed."

During the twelve and a half hours of the night shift, two intervals of twenty minutes are allowed for "a smoke of 'bacca in the wash-houses" and for the formality of eating. It is eating under difficulties and unappetising. "The men carrying the wool," said a woolcomber, "literally walk over us, brushing the nasty, dirty wool over our food."

RHODE ISLAND ITEMS.

Comrade F. G. R. Gordon's Interesting Experiences.

MANCHESTER, N. H., May 1.—Having been on the stump in Rhode Island for several weeks, I have gathered impressions on the movement there which I think the Comrades elsewhere will be glad to be made acquainted with.

The movement in "Little Rhody" is certainly in a most healthy condition. Not only is its health correct, but, being born right, nursed scientifically and taught in that militant Socialist school, it could not be otherwise than a power—not so much in the fact that we have over three per cent. of the total vote, but in the further and more important fact that the movement is in strong hands. The R. I. Socialists started right, and have kept right ever since, and to-day they have a Socialist movement that in the near future will send one of her militant Socialists into the United States Congress. Not only will they do that, but in the not distant future the Socialists will own "Little Rhody."

Two and two make four, and it is easy to demonstrate in an ever increasing ratio that the twos soon number thousands. Here then are the facts by which I make the above prediction:

Rhode Island is pre-eminently an industrial State, the home of trusts, millionaires, plutocrats and misery. She has a cosmopolitan population, and the Socialist movement has drawn to its support representatives from nearly all nations. The Irish, English, Yankies, Jew, German, Swede, the colored race, the Italian, the French, and so on, work in perfect harmony for the Social revolution.

To be sure, the organization is not being extensive, owing mainly to the great depression of the past four years. However, in the city of Providence alone there are five branches—Jewish, German, Scandinavian and two American. The prospect is first class for one or two more to be organized shortly. Much of the preparatory work has already been done. There are so many active workers that the movement cannot fail to rapidly grow.

Comrade Franklin E. Burton, many times the Socialist standard-bearer, is certainly entitled to be called war veteran. For years he has held aloft the banner of Socialism, and no one will ever know just how much he has sacrificed for a cause he holds so dear.

James Jefferson, our colored Comrade, is also a war veteran. Comrade Jefferson was with Fred Douglas in the underground railroad forty years and more ago. Among the younger Comrades who are untiring in the work of making Rhode Island a Socialist State may be mentioned T. P. Muldowney and family—mother, sisters and brothers are all militant Socialists. James P. Reid, "the boy orator," as his friends call him, and he merits it, too. Comrade Reid is national secretary of the Textile Workers' Union; popular "Andy" McDonald, Bernard J. Murray, "Commodore" John Devlin, John W. Thornton, E. W. Theinert, John Garmon, A. Guldbrandsen, organizer of the Scandinavian Branch; Sam. Fassell, George A. Ballard, secretary-treasurer of the Textile Workers' Union of Olneyville; and Comrades Curran and Crowell, editors of "The Beacon," of Providence, and finally, the irrepressible James McGuigan, the agent of THE PEOPLE, is doing great work.

In Pawtucket Comrades Austin Bondreau, Charles H. Dana and others are doing good work.

Westerly has Comrades Walker and Ward, as well as others, who are placing the city in line for the revolution.

Newport has no Section, but has a Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, Comrade M. J. Kelley being the leading worker in the cause.

A movement is just being started by Comrade Taylor and several German Comrades in Slatersville that promises to result in a good Section very soon. Not only are the men active, but the sister Comrades have done much for the movement by the organization of the Justice Club. This is a Socialist club of young ladies numbering about twenty at present. The club is gaining in membership, and will hold a picnic this summer, the proceeds going to the cause.

Plans are being laid by the Providence and Pawtucket Comrades to hold outdoor meetings three or four nights each week.

An important help to the Socialist movement in Rhode Island is the launching of a bi-monthly paper, "The Beacon." It is a solid, clear-cut exponent of modern scientific Socialism; no advertising; all solid reading, and mighty good reading, too. Comrades throughout the country can greatly aid the Comrades in Rhode Island by giving support to their paper. The price is only 50 cents a year, and a trial trip is sent for three months for 10 cents. The building up of this excellent paper will do much to push forward the cause. Comrades Curran and Crowell are giving their time to edit the paper. I appeal to Comrades everywhere to give "The Beacon" a lift. To conclude, there are no faction fights of any kind in Rhode Island. The movement is on solid, clear-cut lines. It will from now on rapidly grow, and before the ides of November, 1900, roll around Socialism in Rhode Island will be a power.

F. G. R. GORDON.

Competition.

(Continued from Page 1.)

opolistic one are the manufacturers of staple articles of a uniform quality where the deciding point with a buyer is simply price. The second stage in the process is when the necessity of a check to competition in the distribution of such articles, as well as in their manufacture, also becomes apparent.

When one is offered sugar or salt or kerosene oil there is little difficulty in the determination of quality, and the man offering to sell at the lowest price makes the sale. It is natural, then, that competition in the sale of such articles will be much fiercer than in the sale of other articles where the determination of quality or value is not such a simple matter—for instance, tea, lace, gin, pictures, etc. As Mr. Smith says, the tendency is towards uniformity. Where the grocer formerly bought and sold, say, tobacco or baking-powder in bulk, he now buys it in sealed packages put

up by concerns as well known to his customers as to himself.

He can no longer say that HIS baking powder is better than that of his competitor, because they both sell the article in a sealed and labelled can put up by the same manufacturer. The only argument he can offer is a lower price, and the result is that cutting of price becomes so ruinous that he appeals to the manufacturer for protection against himself. He asks the baking-powder company to give a rebate to those dealers who sell at an established price.

This rebate system has everywhere sprung up in the United States as soon as the manufacture of an article passes into the hands of a monopoly, or where the article is of a well-established reputation, and the trade name gave its manufacturers a practical monopoly. For instance, here in Los Angeles the grocers must sign an agreement not to sell flour or sugar below a fixed price, otherwise they lose a rebate. Then the same plan holds good of certain well-known patent medicines. The Coats' Thread keep a spy traveling all the year round to ferret out dealers selling Coats' thread below price, and if one is discovered he is not allowed to get any more of their thread if they can help it. The same is true of the Winchester cartridge people. Before they did this it was the fashion for a store to sell what in trade name is called a "leader"—that is, some article at less than cost—as a bait to make customers think that the same rate held good on other articles. The result was that when one store offered say Winchester cartridges at less than cost as their "leader," the other stores found it cheaper not to sell Winchester cartridges than compete. Hence the Winchester Company, Instead of having a dozen firms distributing their cartridges would get but one. This was a losing game for them, and they, as well as many other manufacturers, found that it was imperative for them to prevent such sort of competition among their customers. Thus came into existence the rebate and "fixed price" system.

As Mr. Smith says, and no one could be a better authority, 75 per cent. of goods sold by grocers come under this "uniform quality" head, and the grocers are in no sense selling such goods as free agents. They are simply acting as factors for the manufacturers.

Every day the percentage increases of goods that pass into the category of "uniform quality," and the metamorphosis of the merchant into the agent or factor becomes more and more complete.

It will not be long before the merchant will not be essentially different in his functions from a department postal agent for the sale of postage stamps. There will be but one price for buying and one for selling, and he will have no control over either, any more than a postal clerk has over the price of stamps. Already the competitive system itself is assuming the Socialistic garb.

H. G. WILSHIRE.

Los Angeles, Cal.

PARTY NEWS.

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

National Executive.

The meeting of May 4 held, with Comrade Stahl in the chair. All were present. The financial report for the week ending May 1 shows receipts to the amount of $30.10; expenditures, $129.40; deficit, $99.30.

The report of the Labor News Co. for two weeks ending May 1 shows receipts, $175.86; expenditures, $41.10; balance, $134.76.

Charters were granted to new Sections in Glen Falls, Binghamton, Utica and Erie.

A committee of the 4th Assembly District, Section New York, sent to protest against the stand taken by the Executive Committee in the case of Miller, was referred to the Section to which the A. D. belongs, the Section being the unit of organization according to our constitution.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Secy.

Connecticut.

The annual State Convention will be held on May 30th and 31st in the city of New Haven.

We request all Comrades to see that their Sections are well represented. Each section is entitled to two delegates.

Give your delegates the proper instructions as to what you wish to have done for the good and welfare of our cause.

The convention will be called to order May 30 at 11 a. m. At 1 o'clock an hour's recess for dinner will be taken. At 6 p. m. the convention will adjourn, to meet the next morning at 9 a. m., and finish its business.

The delegates will be the guests of the New Haven Comrades for the time of the convention. Sunday evening the Arbeiter-Maenner-Chor will give a banquet in honor of the delegates. Monday afternoon the delegates will be invited to attend the picnic of the Arbeiter-Maenner-Chor at Weidemann's Union Park.

The State Committee, S. L. P., of Connecticut. F. SERRER.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 2.—Comrade Bernardino Verro spoke here last Friday to a large and enthusiastic gathering of Italians. His remarks brought forth rounds of applause from the audience, and at the close of the meeting an Italian Branch of forty was formed. Comrade Verro will speak here again in a short time.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., May 2.—Sections of S. L. P. of Massachusetts take notice:

The State Convention of the party is to take place in Lawrence, Sunday, May 16; will be held in Central Hall, 23 Monmouth street, near Park street, at 9 o'clock a. m.

The Lawrence Comrades will have committees at depot, and try to meet every delegate.

Committees may be recognized by party button. The Lawrence Committee of Arrangements would like the delegates to inform them at what time they will arrive at Lawrence.

Each Section that will send delegates please inform Lawrence Committee.

Address all information to Charles McGuire, 273 Canal street, Lawrence, Mass.

S. E. PUTNEY, Sec'y S. C. C.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to May 5th, 1897.

$4,505.

A. V. Herman, Lincoln, Neb.	$ 10	payable, $5 June 1, $5 September 1.
Wm. F. Menge, N. Y.	10	" September 1.
Total this week	$ 20	

The following amounts have been paid down to May 4th, incl.:

Previously acknowledged	$833.90
P. Campbell, City, $2; A. Simonet, Cleveland, Ohio, $2; Austin Boudreau, Pawtucket, R. I., $10; C. Eskesen, Matawan, N. J., $5; Sam. Johnson, Matawan, N. J., $2; Thos. Ceely, City, $4; S. Rosenzweig, City, $2; Geo. Luck, Brooklyn, N. Y., $2; F. Kraft, Jersey City Heights, N. J., $10; Dan'l De Leon, City, $5; Hugo Schauer, City, $5; Elizabeth, E. and O. Abramovich, City, $1.50; Dr. Margolis, City, $2; John Nagel, City, $10; J. Rosenthal, City, $5; H. H. Acton, Manchester, N. H., $5; Max Bernstein, Hamilton, Ont., Can., $10; Meyer Stodel, New Haven, Conn., $1; L. Levitzky, City, $1.50; G. Chandler, Taunton, Mass., $1; L. Funcke, City, $5; Louis Bauer, Brooklyn, N. Y., $4, C. P., Brooklyn, N. Y., $3; Adolph Klein; City, $1.50	99.50
Total	$933.40

☞ Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

Expressions of Opinion Upon the Proposal From che National Executive Committee.

Comrades—The proposition submitted by our National Executive Committee for a general vote is the forerunner of many important matters that are likely to rise up at any moment as our movement progresses, and hence the importance of considering well what the referendum means. Hitherto we have had only minor questions to decide, such as time and place of holding conventions, etc., and many have got into the habit of voting only in a perfunctory manner. To my mind the action of the National Convention in leaving the Jewish Comrades to fight among themselves was a mistake, as it practically left them alone or outside our movement. Now, the Jewish Socialist Comrades ask to be taken into full Comradeship, having in view the same principles and tactics. We should certainly welcome them, thus forming a trinity—the American, German and Jewish organs of the Socialist Labor party, to be followed by the full orchestra of organs of all other nationalities in America. "Correct ideas precede successful action." This cannot be had with irresponsible editorial management of our party press.

MATTHEW MAGUIRE.

Paterson, N. J., April 24.

Comrades—Those who have thus far expressed their opinion in THE PEOPLE opposing the proposition of the National Executive Committee base their opposition on two grounds. They allege, first, that the proposition emanates from an unconstitutional source; and, secondly, they maintain that the National Executive Committee can neither know whom to select as editor nor how to control him after he had been selected.

And first, as to the constitutional argument. Some of the Comrades, M. Turetz for example, seem to think that the right of initiative granted to them by our constitution deprives the National Executive Committee of that right. These Comrades thus show how vague their idea of this right is. The right of initiative does not aim at restricting the legislative powers of the directive or governing body, but at extending those powers to the people. It does not aim at preventing the central authority from INTRODUCING legislation, but it aims at securing the possibility of introducing legislation by the people, whenever they may deem it necessary. On the other hand, the referendum aims at controlling the central authority by restricting its powers to PASS laws. When the initiative shall have become an established institution in England and in the United States, the British cabinet and the President (through messages) will still be able to introduce bills in Parliament and Congress; but the people, who cannot do this now, will then be in a position to do this also. The National Executive Committee thus proceeded in a strictly constitutional manner. It has made use of its self-evident constitutional privilege, the right of introducing bills into the supreme legislative body, viz., the party membership; while at the same time it restricted itself to the sphere to which it is limited by our constitution, refraining from action before the Comrades had recorded their decision.

Neither can the second argument, which denies the expediency of the measure, stand the test of a commonsense examination. The Hotspurs, who now oppose not only the Arb. Zeit. Pub. Association but the policy of the party as well, have the unenviable power of swelling mole-hills into mountains, of imagining their own private cause to be the cause of Socialism and humanity, of magnifying every difficulty. They see impassable barriers and insurmountable obstacles where the unsophisticated Socialist can see only a subject for consideration and action. An editor would not be chosen out of the seventy millions of living Americans, nor out of the entire party membership, nor out of the entire Jewish party membership, but out of the very limited number of men who had shown fitness for editorial work. When we have thus succeeded in reducing the countless number of atoms in the universe to a dozen or less of individuals, the difficulties in the way of a proper choice are not so insuperable as they appear to the heated imaginations of the "oppositionists." And if the selection of one man out of a dozen is not by the nature of things impossible, how much more easy must it be to control (in his editorial capacity) this one, single, lonely individual!

I believe it hardly necessary to pay attention to some of the other strictures of the "oppositionists," e. g., the childish notion that the National Executive Committee should not be possessed of more information than party members generally. To secure this felicitous consummation, either of two things must be done: The National Executive Committee must either issue an edict forbidding the Sections, their officers and individuals, from imparting to it any information. The National Executive Committee would then quietly go out of existence, all central authority would be abolished, and the Anarchists would rejoice. Contrariwise, THE PEOPLE will have to be turned into a phonograph to record every breath of suspicion, every whisper of professional malcontents, every grumble of "constitutional" soreheads. A fine state of things! The oppositionist now changes roles. The absurd and impossible becomes now the natural and desirable. Those who have read in "Revolution and Counter Revolution" what Marx wrote of the professional Liberal oppositionists in Germany will not be astonished at this. They will see the Camphausens and Hausemanns come to life again. H. SIMPSON.

New York, May 3.

Comrades—Every sensible and loyal member of the party should, in my opinion, vote for the proposition. The question is not whether the proposition is absolutely good, but whether it is the best AT THE PRESENT TIME AND UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, and in my opinion it is. The ways and methods of the leaders of the so-called opposition to our Jewish papers, "The Abendblatt" and "Arbeiterzeitung" are not such as to inspire the party with confidence in their integrity, tact and cool judgment and intrust in their hands our Jewish press, and if the party wants at all to control this press, it must be, at least for the present, through the National Executive Committee. Anything else would mean at present to leave it in the hands of those leaders of the "opposition," and this I think the party cannot do if it intends to preserve its honor and integrity.

To the Jewish Comrades that were allured into the "opposition" I would say: Beware of your false prophets or they will land you in the mire! Their cries of "popular will," "democracy" and the like are deceptive. These cries sound rather strange on the lips of these men, who only a year ago utterly ignored the decision of the Jewish convention, rendered through the Board of Arbitration, elected by that convention to settle the difficulties in the matter of the Jewish press, and which decision they have pledged themselves on the floor of the convention to submit to and uphold; who, last summer, only a few weeks after the Jewish convention, and mostly a few days before our National Convention, sent out to the Jewish Comrades a call for a convention, while having no authority whatever to do it; who a few weeks ago again, without authority, came out before the Jewish public with the slanderous circular that precipitated the present trouble, pretending to voice the sentiment of the Jewish Comrades, while in fact every self respecting Comrade unreservedly condemned that circular; who by the very terms they use in their speeches and articles in regard to the present difficulty betray their contempt for democracy and popular will, when the will is not exactly the same as their own. The decisions of the party conventions they benignly term "ukases;" the party transactions they politely call "tricks," and the duly elected committees of the party they very kindly honor with the name of "cliques."

No doubt democracy and popular will are things sacred to the heart of every Socialist, but you Comrades of the "opposition" should not forget that the path that leads to them does not lie via ANARCHY AND STRIFE, but via DISCIPLINE, ORGANIZATION AND MUTUAL CONFIDENCE, while the methods of your false leaders will slowly but surely poison your brains with the deadly microbes of mistrust, strife and disruption.

In conclusion, I beg to say that the above opinions are the result of close watching of the affairs of the party and mature and deliberate reflection. As an excuse for some of my expressions, which to some Comrades may seem rather harsh, I offer the sincerity of my motives, which is solely an ardent wish to preserve the honor and integrity of our great party, the party in whose structure are imbodied so much of the very flesh and blood of many of the Jewish Comrades, and a goodly lot of my own as one of them.

M. GOLDSMITH,
Organizer, Sec. New Britain, Conn.

Comrades—As one of the Jewish Comrades I wish to say this: The principal argument against the proposition of the National Executive Committee with regard to the Jewish press is that according to our constitution it lies without the power of the National Executive Committee to call on a general vote, for, as argued by the organizer of the Jewish Section, Boston, "only a legislative body has a right of initiative, while the Executive Board has only a right (a wonderful right) to execute the will of the Sections." But hasn't the Executive Board also a right to call an extra session of the legislative body in case of emergency? I think it is rather its duty! And as it is too expensive and even impossible to hold conventions every now and then, it is self-evident that the Executive Board HAS to call on a general vote in such cases.

The next argument is that "the National Executive Council, the English and German Comrades, do not know what is going on in the Jewish movement." A strange argument! Why not inform them?

Comrade Goldberg states that "a vast majority of the Jewish Comrades reads and understands the 'Volkszeitung' and THE PEOPLE." This is seen also by the number of letters sent in recently to THE PEOPLE by Jewish Comrades, especially by the so-called oppositionists. Why don't these Comrades employ their knowledge then to inform the National Executive Committee and the English and German Comrades of what is "going on in the Jewish movement?" Is it because they think the English and German Comrades will not listen to their information or are not capable of comprehending the peculiarities of "converting the Jews," as they had not the training of the "old-fashioned Jews?"

Why then have a common organization at all? Of what use can the English and German Comrades be to the Jewish movement and how can the party take upon itself the responsibility for the Jewish movement when it "cannot know what is going on there," and, consequently, cannot control it?

Or do the Comrades of the "opposition" think the National Executive Committee and the English and German Comrades are in love with the adherents of the Publishing Association," and will therefore listen to them exclusively and not pay any attention to the arguments of the "opposition?" But then * * * Be men, ye Comrades of the "opposition," go straight forward, true to yourselves, as was your great luminous leader, L. Miller, and say openly: "We do not trust the National Executive Committee nor the whole of the Socialist Labor party, which is one organized clique with the Publishing Association, and the only reason why we want to come into possession of the Jewish paper is to fight there their evil doings."

The last, but not least, argument of the "oppositionists" is that the only manner to satisfy the Jewish Comrades is that the press (which?) should be controlled and represented by delegates of the Jewish Section, that is to say, the only manner to satisfy the Jewish Comrades is, as another "oppositionist" said, to "let the Jews fight among themselves." To say the truth, I am very much perplexed with this argument. Does Comrade Goldberg mean to say that the whole affair is a matter of stubbornness on the part of the "oppositionists," that they won't listen to any logical arguments and won't willingly submit to the decision of the party unless the press will be given to them?

In that case I, for my part, would say it were better and healthier for the party to reorganize the Jewish movement at once, as long as the leaders of the "opposition" have not succeeded yet in demoralizing the Jewish Comrades entirely.

Now, Comrades of the "opposition," allow me to tell you openly and warn you that you are playing a very dangerous game, that you only imagine that you, and not the National Executive Committee, know what is going on in the Jewish movement. You don't know that you and your claims are merely a mask under which the would-be luminaries—your leaders—strive to capture the Jewish press with the purpose to combat the Socialist Labor party? You don't, or you won't, know that the whole New York "opposition" is a product of different elements with different aims and purposes, and that the present fight would not end at all with the submission of the Publishing Association; that, on the contrary, it would begin more vigorously among these different elements, or more exactly, among your different leaders, and that that fight may demoralize the Jewish movement so as to make it absolutely worthless for the entire Socialist movement in this country. That will indeed compel the party to reorganize the whole Jewish movement. You don't, or you won't, know that A. C. Cahan does not want to be editor by any means; that he but "generously submits" to the will of the people.

You don't or you won't know that Winchewsky wants to fight vigorously the tactics of the party as a whole.

You don't or you won't know that L. Miller wants to make us blush for voting the ticket of the Socialist Labor party, and to make us vote for a Republican, Democrat or whomsoever in case we do not like the candidates of our party.

You don't or you won't know that the Anarchists, Barondesists et tutti quanti, support you all over the country, and that they do it not for ardent love to the Socialist Labor party.

You don't or you won't know that the organ of the so-called opposition at its very start began with preaching false Socialism and "Pure and Simpledom."

Yes, Comrades, you don't or you won't know all these and a good many other things.

For all these reasons I sincerely appeal to all Comrades: Vote for the proposition of the National Executive Committee, as this is the only way to put an end to the disgracing and dangerous fight among your brethren, the Jewish Comrades. Yours fraternally,

New York. J. MINTZ.

Comrades—It is preposterous to assume that the National Executive had no right to make the call for a general vote or that the step taken by the National Executive Committee to make an end to the dissensions between the Jewish Comrades is unwise, unconstitutional, etc. It is my opinion if the Jewish Comrades are left to themselves to settle their strife we may as well abandon the idea of ever having an honest and progressive Socialist movement among the Jews. We, the Jewish element, are controlable only when together with comrades of other nationalities or by general rules, but when left entirely to ourselves, will never yield to each other. We may agree for a while, but only to rise in more bitter dissensions. But what is the source of this imperfection some may ask? Here we approach a point which the so-called "dissatisfied" seem to ignore. The point is that the party, the good of our party, its sacred interests, are not at all considered by the so-called "moral purifiers of ours." They forget their duty as Socialists, which is to hold the party's name uncompromised, its policy and discipline untouched. The conduct of the "dissatisfied" is demoralizing, bemires the party's name, and is destroying the party's discipline.

Is it not funny to see those "purifiers" teach Socialism and talk about the rights of humanity, brotherhood, fraternity, when between themselves selfishness, malice, neglect of duty are playing the main role? Whoever you approach that way—be it an old-fashioned Jew or a young sympathizer, he will listen with reproach and surprise to such an "instructor." And now who else (I am asking all honest Socialists) than the National Executive Committee shall interfere, when it sees that the Jewish movement is being demoralized, when it sees that Socialists, instead of propagating and spreading the light of Socialism, sink into abusing the best of the party members and bemiring the party's name and seeking to destroy its influence? Who else, than the National Executive Committee should protest and take a step to finish all that is disagreeable and harmful to the party? It was the moral duty of the National Executive Committee to make that call, and we Jews can't otherwise than applaud the step it has taken. I hope and call upon all honest Socialists to whom the interests and progress of the party are dear to vote and agitate for the call, as with the party's control of the Jewish press all dissensions will and must cease.

Some are confused at the idea how is the National Executive Committee to control a Jewish press, but this is only a pretext, which may confuse some inexperienced Comrades, but in reality is a matter which can be easily managed. There is no doubt that the National Executive Committee will find means to know all about the contents of the Jewish Socialist press.

As to Comrade J. Enteen's worrying that the adoption of the "Abendblatt" would mean to declare the newly-edited "Vorwärts" as an opposition paper, I will say that the existence of the "Vorwärts" is groundless and useless. It is and will be only a burden on those organizations and individuals that are upholding it. Let those organizations spend their time, energy, activity and financial support better for something that is absolutely necessary, that is more in urgency with the demands of the day, and that is an English Socialist daily, but by no means another Jewish daily, which is entirely useless. In conclusion, I will say again that the only solution of the dissensions between the Jewish Comrades is that the party shall take the "Abendblatt" under its (the party's) control. Vote for the call. EMANUEL SHERMAN.

Branford, Conn.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

D. A. No. 1.

(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

Delegate B. Korn of the German Waiters' Union No. 1, was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.), and delegate G. Sieburg, of the Section New York, S. L. P., was vice-chairman.

The Organization Committee reported having organized the Bohemian Bakers' Union on Saturday, at No. 231 Third street. The Union sent credentials for delegates J. Doman and P. Koska, and also applied for a charter from the S. T. & L. A. The delegates were admitted.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 1, reported that they will continue to defend themselves against the attacks of the Int. Bakers' Union No. 92. On Saturday, May 22d, a joint meeting of all the branches of the Ind. Bakers will be held at 1551 Second avenue for the purpose of electing a delegate to the S. T. & L. A. Convention. It was resolved to elect a committee to attend the said meeting.

German Waiters' Union No. 1 reported initiating two members. This Friday an important special meeting will be held at 385 Bowery, at which a delegate is to be elected to the S. T. & L. A. Convention. G. Herzberg remitted a letter from Hamburg stating that he was making strenuous efforts to repay the taken money. The District Attorney notified the union that he would bring him back from Hamburg.

Empire City Lodge Maghinists reported that the agitation meeting last Wednesday was a success, and that the lecture of H. Vogt on the "Progress of the Machine Industry" had a very good effect. They thanked the Eccentric Engineers No. 3 and German Waiters' Union No. 1 for attending. A series of lectures will be arranged in the future.

The debate relative to the coming convention of the S. T. & L. A. was then opened and continued for two hours. It was decided to renew same every Sunday at 4 P. M.

At the next meeting the matter of D. A. 49, holding joint monthly meetings with D. A. 1 and 2, will be definitely disposed of.

It was was resolved that organizations whose delegates were absent for some time past, must have them attend next Sunday or be dropped from the roll.

Prog. Clothing Cutters and Trimmers.

The special meeting held by the above union on last Thursday was well attended.

The reports of the different committees, as well as that from the delegates to D. A. 49 were received and acted upon.

A blank from the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics with a request (?) to fill it out, according to law, enclosed with a communication or appeal to the organized workers to better their condition through statistics, from his royal highness, the President of the N. Y. State Branch of the A. F. of Labor, Mr. Daniel Harris, and some other President, was received and referred to the Ex. Board with full power to act as they see fit.

The business of the special meeting was then gone into. It was unanimously decided to send a delegate to the National Convention of the S. T. & L. A. in Boston, Mass. Such delegate was then elected, also by acclamation, and instructions shall be given him from meeting to meeting until his departure.

Our first anniversary which will be held on Saturday, May 15th, 1 P. M., shall be celebrated in an unusual and novel way, by holding a mass-meeting, and not as other such celebrations are held, by banquet. We wish to show our fellow craftsmen, "who shall be invited," our work for the past year, the progress of the trade in general, also the work of our opponents for the same period. THE SECRETARY.

A MASS MEETING
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
32d and 33d ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS,
S. L. P.,
WILL TAKE PLACE ON
SATURDAY, May 8th, 8 P. M.,
—AT—
2009 Third Avenue.
The Speaker of the evening will be Comrade J. Allman. L. ABELSON.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades 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 places of meetings.

Branch 1 (American) S. L. P. Discussion meeting every first Friday. Business meeting every 3rd Friday at 64 East 4th Str. Lectures every Sunday 8 P. M. at Stuyvesant Hall, 17th Str., and Hudson Building, 37th St. and 8th Ave. 222

Carl Sahm Club (Musicians Union.) Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Frei. 223

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2.30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona fide trade and labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 220

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street.—District I (Bohemian), 324 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 213 Forsyth st., meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III, meets at 1527 avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District IV, meets at 342 West 42nd street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1422 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m. 2

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street.
273 Secretary: HENRY ZINCK.

German Waiters' Union of New York. Office: 385 Bowery, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m., at the same hall. 224

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1028, D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 12 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fred. Woll, corr. Sec'y, Residence, 173 E. 4th St. 241

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 3 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J. 189

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 231-233 East 52d St., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scand. Socialist Weekly, SCAND. ARBETAREN.

Socialist Science Club. Meets at Webster Hall, 110th street and 3rd avenue, every 1st and 3rd Friday at 8 P. M. Also Free 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 Tuesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th St. Secretary, Carl Anders, 22 East 3rd street.

WORKMEN'S
Furniture Fire Insurance.
Organized 1872. Membership 10,000.
Principal Organization, New York and Vicinity.
OFFICE: 64 E. 4th St. OFFICE HOURS, daily, except Sundays and holidays, from 1 to 4 o'clock P. M.
BRANCHES: Yonkers, Troy, Binghamton, Gloversville, Elmira, N. Y.
Paterson, Newark, Elizabeth, South River Passaic, N. J.
Boston, Holyoke, Mass.
New Haven, Conn.
Luzern, Pa. 223

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 workingmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and socialist thought. Its numerical strength (at present composed of 139 local branches with more than 13,000 male members) is rapidly increasing among workingmen 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 deposit 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 $9.00 for 40 weeks and of $4.50 for another 40 weeks wether continuous or with interruption. Members belonging to the second class receive under the same circumstances and length of time $6.00 and $3.00 respectively. A burial benefit of $250.00 is granted for every member, and the wives and unmarried daughters of members between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to the burial benefit upon payment of a deposit for $1.00. Monthly taxes are levied according to expenditures. In cities and towns where no branch exists, a new branch can be formed by 20 workingmen in good health, and men adhering to the above named principles are invited to do so.
Address all communications to HENRY GRAEF, Financial Secretary, 25—27 3rd Ave., Room 68, New York City.

DR. C. L. FURMAN,
DENTIST, 189
121 SCHERMERHORN ST., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

HILLKOWITZ & HILLQUIT,
Attorneys at Law,
320 Broadway. Rooms 1314—1316

BROOKLYN
LABOR LYCEUM,
949-955 Willoughby Av.
(Formerly 61-63 Myrtle Street.)
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