



THE PEOPLE.

Published at 184 William Street, New York, EVERY SUNDAY.

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS

Table with 2 columns: Term (One year, Six months, Three months, Subscription Trial, one month) and Price (\$1.00, .80, .50, .10).

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office, on April 6th, 1891.



SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist votes in Presidential elections from 1888 to 1892, with total votes of 2,068 in 1888, 18,331 in 1890, 21,187 in 1892, 23,122 in 1894, 26,544 in 1896, and 55,673 in 1897.

The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender. Proverbs, XXII, 7.

WHY WAR?

The war wave, which a fortnight ago was beating high, and then went somewhat down, has again risen almost to its former high water mark.

A foreign war ever has been the refuge of tyrants from the danger of turbulent elements at home.

With the first issue of next April, the price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced from \$1 to 50 cents a year; six months 25 cents; single copies 2 cts.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

To judge from a correspondent to the San Francisco, Cal., "New Charter," the Rev. W. D. P. Bliss is there at the old tricks for which he became notorious here in the East, and had to move away.

It is a pity that it takes so long for such characters as this Rev. Bliss to be found out, and rendered harmless.

The Lincoln, Neb., "Courier" seems to have learned something from Comrade Martha Moore Avery's recent course of lectures in that city, as may be judged from the following:

"Mrs. Martha Moore Avery's recognition of the service which trusts are doing humanity indicates that Socialists are not far long to be scared by words.

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Dempsey is an expert color mixer, and during many years, had been gathering in a book his experience in this line of work.

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The decision on this point amounts to this: "If a workingman's property is needed by the capitalist, the capitalist is entitled to it; if the need of a certain property is urgent to both the workingman and the capitalist, the latter's wants are alone attended to, and the former must give up his own; finally, and as a matter of course, if the workingman's ability to perform his work, if his business would be disturbed or destroyed, and the enormous loss of his whole earnings would result if the capitalist were to keep his own, such loss, disturbance and destruction is not worth considering."

ated with Anarchists and fakirs. The lampoon above referred to deserves notice only in one respect. In it occurs this passage:

"It is well known that we Socialists are opposed to the system of representative government."

Not the Socialist but the Anarchist is opposed to the system of representative government.

Representative Government is the inevitable result of large social systems. Small communities need no Representative Government. The pure democracy is enough with them, because all their members can meet together, and in that way have Direct Government.

The Anarchist knows this; as he wants no Representative Government, he demands small communities where direct government is possible.

Large machinery of production is a requirement of civilization because only large machinery of production can produce wealth as amply as civilization requires.

While incidentally proving by his lampoon, that marks him an Anarchist, the justice of the action of Section New York, Mr. Modest has, by setting his signature to the lampoon, whoever else may have produced it, furnished opportunity to re-state the position of Socialists on the question of the form of Government and the scientific reasons therefor.

Even a Modest may thus aid civilization forward.

"A phrase sprang up in Palmerston's days which was employed to stigmatize certain political conduct beyond all ordinary reproach. It was meant to stamp such conduct as outside the pale of reasonable argument or patriotic consideration. That was the word 'un-English.'"

"Thus writes Mr. Justin McCarthy of the England of thirty or forty years ago, with the approval, of course, of all true American Jingo, Irish or otherwise."

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influence; or, more definitely though with less of the fascination of mystery, 'Cobdenites,' members of the Peace Society, 'friends of Russia,' and so on.

"But 'un-English,' with its implication of final contempt, belongs as much to the past as the 'barbaroi' of the Athenians. The country has outgrown it. It lies rusting like battle-axes and spears in the armory of out-worn political weapons. England gets along with milder, less overwhelming destructive artillery. Even in Palmerston's time, it was only used on one portion of the political battlefield. Like its modern equivalents, it was confined to the region of foreign affairs where it might originally have had an almost scientific justification. It was not employed, nor are its derivatives to-day, in the settlement of purely domestic matters.

"In this, as in everything else, America sets a lesson to the unprogressive democracies of Europe. We alone have formed a word that is applicable to every human industry and equally disparaging of them all. That word, of course, is 'un-American.'"

"There is nothing abstruse in the working of this doctrine. Do you believe our currency system is open to amendment? If so, you are a hypocritical humber, a despicable mugwump, a Clevelandite. Are you in favor of a lower tariff? If so, you are a friend of the English, in the pay of the Cobden Club, an enemy to our country.

"The Boston 'Liberator' helps to draw the line between the capitalist class and the 'pure and simple' labor fakirs, on the one hand, and the Socialists or New Trade Unionists, on the other:

"The factory people of New England should not permit themselves to be divided by the Socialist enemies of trade unionism. There is no short cut to better conditions. Where the factory people have organized and built up a reserve fund, there they have made progress. The method is slow and arduous. Trade unionism promises less but performs more than Socialism.

The Indianapolis, Ind., "Deutsch-Amerikanische Buchdrucker," etc., announces and declares:

"The General Committee of Section New York, S. L. P., decided with 29 votes against 8 to suspend our colleague Julius Dolinski for one year, and to strike his name from the list of candidates for members of the National Executive Committee, because—as stated literally in the report—'the Grievance Committee found Dolinski guilty of criticizing the party in public.'"

"A companion piece to this famous judgment is the conduct of the Socialist Co-operative Publishing Association of New York, which, at the instance of the aforementioned General Committee declared vacant the seat of the cigarmaker Modest in the Board of Directors of the 'New York Volks-Zeitung,' because he—does not carry a red card in his pocket."

Whence is this passage taken? From some honest, honorable, decent publication, having the interests of the people at heart, truly respecting the word 'American'? or perchance from some Socialist paper, scornfully lashing the capitalist Jingo trick of tricking out sin with the cloak of patriotism and of seeking to misrepresent justice with the cry of 'un-American'?

No! It is taken from no less dishonorable, dishonest, and indecent a publication than the New York 'Evening Post,' a publication that interprets the word 'people' to mean the pockets of its parasitic stock-holding class, a publication that has habitually sought to cloak capitalist theft with the word 'American,' and the right and just claims of the working class to keep what they produce as 'un-American.'

lean," the "Evening Post" draws its own photograph.

Yes, indeed, history will repeat itself even in America!

The Pueblo, Colo., "Courier" seems to be of the sort of papers that make it their business to ignore facts. It says: "This is one of the main differences between the union movement and the Socialist Labor party: The first believe in protecting in so far as possible the immediate condition of the wage-earner, while the latter takes the contrary view—that is, that the sooner you can bring a man down to the starvation point the sooner will he begin to think along Socialistic lines."

There we have a bushel of facts ignored.

First—The "union movement" consists of two wings: one wing is that of New Trade Unionism or the Alliance movement, which is Socialist; the other is the "Pure and Simple" or "Old Style" or British unionist movement.

Second—If one takes the census of public meetings, from New Bedford across to San Francisco, the uniform experience will be made that the earnings of the workers have gone down, and are lower now than they were ten years ago.

Third—The "Pure and Simple" union claims that it also aims at the ultimate emancipation of the workers; furthermore, it is a fact that under its "protection" the workers are as rapidly as possible being brought down to the starvation point.

The mistaken views of the "Courier" on these points are quite general among r-r-r-e-o-f-o-r-r-m-e-r-r-r-s.

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Yes, "Deutsch-Amerikanische," etc., dear—wholly superfluous!

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers. Carl Pankopt, Jersey City.—Whatever THE PEOPLE states, it states upon good authority and is able to stand by. Of this, you among others, have ample proof in the past, and will have more than will suit any of you in the future.

J. A. Keown, M. D., Lyan.—If you desire to communicate with "Engineer & Surveyor," write to him under our care and we shall forward your letter.

We do not share your view that such matter as he wrote on must be signed in order to carry weight. Apart from the guarantee of the trustworthiness of such communications from the fact of their appearing in a responsible paper like this, their contents are of a nature to be the best verification or refutation themselves, being facts easily ascertainable.

Subsequent events have, moreover, confirmed them to any intelligent man. Among these events the following is one: "Col." Richard J. Hintze, as you may know if you are posted, sent a letter to this office "demanding," etc., and threatening all manner of suits. We called him down on the spot, and told him in these columns to go ahead, and we were ready for him. Over two months have passed; the "Col." has not been heard from again.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Uncle Sam—You look jaded.— Brother Jonathan—Good reason for it. I've been running off my legs looking for a park.

U. S.—What do you want a park for? B. J.—The Amalgamated Inter-District Council of the United Pretzel Vanishers, Shirtaal Ironers and Button-hole Pressers has just been organized by the A. F. of L. organizer; the organization is over 100,000 strong.

U. S.—Why, of course you can't get a park large enough to accommodate so big a crowd.

B. J.—No; that's not it. Of course all the members won't go. I don't expect that more than 25 people will be there altogether.

U. S.—Hem!

B. J.—Did you say anything? U. S.—No; it was only a little dust that got into my throat.

B. J.—The difficulty lies in finding a UNION park.

U. S.—How so? B. J.—I can find a park that employs union waiters, and union musicians, that sells union cigars and union bread, but not that also sells union beer.

U. S.—And such a park you say is non-union?

B. J.—Of course.

U. S.—In that case there is no such thing as "union beer."

B. J. (bristling up)—No "union beer" in existence!!!

U. S.—No; not under the premises set down by yourself.

B. J.—I'd like to know how I, a good union man, could set down any principle whereby it becomes established that there is no such thing as "union beer"!!

U. S.—Very easy to tell you how, and, moreover, to show you that your theory is correct.

If a park employs union waiters, but its musicians, cigars, bread, etc., is non-union, the park itself is non-union, eh? B. J.—Just so.

U. S.—And if a park employs union waiters and musicians, but its cigars, bread, etc., is non-union, the park is still—

B. J.—Non-union.

U. S.—Just so. And if a park has union waiters, and union musicians, and union cigars, but non-union bread—

B. J.—The park is still non-union.

U. S.—Correct again. Finally, if a park has union waiters, union musicians, union cigars and union bread—

B. J.—That's a union park, provided it does not sell some other non-union article.

U. S.—That's it. Now, could you state the principle that underlies all that?

B. J.—It seems to me I see the underlying principle, but—

U. S.—Is the underlying principle not this: "A union concern must be one made up wholly of union matter?"

B. J.—That's it exactly.

U. S.—If there is any ONE non-union thing in such a concern it is non-union, et?

B. J.—Just so.

U. S.—Now, apply this principle to the beer, and you will see that there is no union beer in the United States.



