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PRICE 2 CENTS.

ILLUSIONS Ruthlessly Torn Along the Puget Sound. "EXTRAORDINARY EMERGENCY."

The War, Which Furnishes the Emergency for the Capitalist Class to Enrich Itself Still More, Also Furnishes the Emergency for the Breach of Labor Laws—Patriotism's Broad End of the Funnel for the Idle Class, and Narrow End for the Working Class.

SEATTLE, Wash., June 10—There are more ways to kill a cat than one. On the same principle, there are more ways than one for the capitalist class to circumvent and get the best of the working class. For instance:

If, pestered by the "unreasonable" clamor of labor for shorter hours, and compelled, for the sake of the influence of the labor fakirs, to make it appear that capitalist legislatures are the "friends of the workmen," the capitalist class allows an "Eight-Hour" law to pass, then there are as many ways of avoiding the law, and making it hang on the pegs of the Court Room like a rusty mail in monumental mockery than there are tales in the "Arabian Nights". One of these ways is a war, a good patriotic war, a war that should so completely absorb public attention and enlist enthusiasm as to cause every thing that may tend to hamper it to be forthwith frowned down, and denounced as unpatriotic. This way is now being applied in this State of Washington, and thus the war is doing to perfection each and every one of the things it was intended to do.

After much lobbying in Washington, D. C., a federal eight-hour law was passed a few years ago. Upon the strength of it, the politicians who passed it and the labor fakirs who advocated it, returned to their constituencies demanding a new lease of office. In the mean time the law was violated right and left; protests rose against that; lawyers and "labor leaders" and politicians "met in consultations"; but it all availed not; the wrangling went on. But the wrangling is now brought to a summary close by the war.

It so happens that there are fortification works being constructed on Puget Sound, at various points, particularly here at Seattle and at Townsend. The contractor in charge of the work, one J. S. Antonelle, did not undertake the job "for his health." He undertook it "for all there was to be made out of it." The economic law of capital speedily asserted itself, and thereby fell foul of the "Eight-Hour" law; the contractor wanted to "make" as much as possible; this can, obviously, not be done without fleecing the workmen as much as possible and proportionally. Indeed, it is a principle that no one can run from, much though he may want to deny it, that the more wool the clipper takes in the less there is left to the sheep: whatever the capitalist "makes" is taken away from the workman who produces it; and, consequently, the more the capitalist does "make" all the more the workman must sweat. The wish of the contractor of the fortification works to "make" a pile, a big pile, a bigger pile meant and could mean nothing less than that his workers should expend a pile of sweat, a big pile, a bigger pile of sweat. In pursuit of this desire the "Eight-Hour" law was at first "strained," then it was dislocated, and finally it was broken through: 9, 10, 11, 12 hours' work were demanded on the fortifications by the patriotic Antonelle.

The workmen who applied for jobs at the works, did so like veritable innocents. Mark Twain's "Innocents Abroad" were not a circumstance to these. These were double-dyed innocents: they innocently imagined that a federal law for "Eight Hours" could or would be enforced, notwithstanding its enforcement was to the advantage only of themselves, the class that was not in control of the government, and to the disadvantage of the bosses, the class that was in control; then, also, they innocently imagined that the national fortifications were intended to benefit the people, and that the war was to redound to the glory and advantage of the whole people, the working class included, instead of to the glory and advantage of the capitalist class only. Thus soaked in illusions they applied for work on the Puget Sound fortifications. And then the trouble started.

Illusions are not easily gotten rid of. The lover may discard his faithless sweetheart; the child may throw away the toy that disappoints him; all this may happen with comparative ease; but for a class-unconscious workman to drop the illusion that the government of a capitalist social system is there for the benefit of the workman as well as of the idler, of employer as well as of employee, of exploiter as well as of exploited, in short, of capitalist as well as of wage slave,—that illusion is the hardest of all to get rid of.

It so turned out here and along the Puget Sound. When the federal "Eight-Hour" law began to be "strained" on the fortification works, the workers thought it must be by accident; they imputed the occurrence to an "oversight" that would straighten itself of itself, and they plodded on; but instead

of any straightening of the "oversight" matters got worse and worse. Then, illusion-guided, the men began to appoint committees to "see the employer"; that availed not; then they reported to their "pure and simple" organizations, the very flower-beds of their illusion; these, in turn, appointed further committees to "see the employer"; still no success: more and more hours were being piled on, i. e., more and more of the workers' sweat was being sponged up by the capitalist contractor. The illusion that had seized upon these men seemed proof against all this experience. Their class-unconsciousness prevented them from perceiving the strong link of flesh that connected their employer with the officers of the government. Failing to get redress from the employer, they decided to get it from the government officials. To him whom class-consciousness gives eyes to see, such a procedure differs in nothing from seeking redress at the paws and fangs of a lap-cur against the wrongful act of the lap-cur's own master. Our Puget Sound workers wended their way, two abreast, to Mr. Wilson R. Gay, the U. S. District Attorney, and demanded to go before the Grand Jury; they demanded of Mr. Gay that he have Contractor Antonelle indicted under the act of Congress of August 1, 1892, chapter 352 (27 stat. page 340). How much these innocents paid to some local slyster for this accurate, expensive but valueless knowledge does not appear. Mr. Gay gayly listened to them; he declared that "the law must be enforced intelligently," he promised he would see to it that "justice was done," and he bowed them out of the office. When he had shut the door behind them, he rolled over the floor in a fit of hysterical laughter.

The innocents departed. On the 7th of this month the Grand Jury was to meet; the innocents would then be called upon by Mr. Gay to give their testimony; a true bill would be found; Contractor Antonelle would be arrested, placed under bonds, tried, convicted,—in short, "Labor's Power" would be vindicated, and, simultaneously, the "pig-headed" Socialists would be given a lesson to prove to them that their theory about the "classes" and that the capitalist class and the working class are hostile classes is utter bosh, and, what's more utterly un-American.

That our Mr. Gay did not roll on the floor very long, but speedily availed himself of the opportunity to make himself "solid" with the upper lap-curs is manifest. He forthwith wrote to United States Attorney General John W. Griggs stating his views on the case and asking for instructions. A passage in his letter, as published by the "Post-Intelligencer", of this city, is as follows:

"I have decided under the present conditions, this country being at war with a foreign nation, and this coast being unprotected, that it is a case of extraordinary emergency, and have refused to entertain any complaints for criminal prosecutions."

"There will be a grand jury in this city on the 7th of June next, and it is threatened by those making complaints that they will go before the grand jury and seek indictments."

"I am desirous, of course, of enforcing all laws upon the statute books, but feel in this case like advising the grand jurors and all other officers whom I am in law authorized to advise, against any such proceedings."

"I would be glad to have an immediate indication from your office respecting the correctness of the position which I have taken in the premises."

An answer to this did not stay out long. The Attorney General promptly telegraphed back as follows:

"Your views, as stated in your letter of the 18th inst. with reference to the eight-hour law are approved. There is no doubt that an extraordinary emergency exists and you will be justified in officially maintaining that position."

And there the matter ended, with the lap-cur master Contractor Antonelle on top, and his lap-cur public official wagging his tail and fawning on his master. Have the innocents learned the lesson this teaches, and have they dropped their illusion? It is yet hard to tell. But surely a complete one, short of the underscoring on the Hazleton plan, can hardly be imagined.

Thus the war furnishes the "extraordinary emergency" to justify the downing of the workers aghast breaches of the law, while the same law furnishes the "extraordinary emergency" that enables railroad magnates, money lenders, contractors and other precious branches of the loafers' class to make more money by. Emergency, extraordinary or otherwise, is always for the capitalist class and against the working class—so long as the latter, allowing itself to be bamboozled by illusions, keep the former in control of the government.

FURTHER CONVENTIONS.

Indiana Class-Conscious Workingmen Nominate a Ticket.

A Full State Ticket Nominated—Appeal to the Proletariat of the State—Endorsement of the Party Press and its Tactics—Preliminary on the War—Stand Towards all other Parties—Conscious Ascendency Marks the Proceedings Throughout.

INDIANAPOLIS, June 13—An enthusiastic Socialist Labor party State convention for this State met here on the 28th of last month. It performed its work with promptness and precision, and adjourned with cheers for the S. L. P. and the song of the Marseillaise. The convention set up this

TICKET:
For Secretary of State,
WILLIAM YOCUM,
of Muncie;

besides Frank Helbich, of Evansville, for State Treasurer; Gustav Rempler, of Indianapolis, for State Auditor; Chas. Beam, of Marion, for Superintendent of Public Instruction; D. E. Meyers, of Marion, for Chief of Statistics, and I. Goldberg, of Fort Wayne, for Judge of Supreme Court.

The following declarations were adopted:

APPEAL TO THE WORKERS.

The S. L. P. of Indiana, in convention assembled, reaffirms its allegiance to the Socialist Labor party of the United States and endorses the platform of the S. L. P. of the U. S., as adopted by the National Convention, held July 4th, 1896, in New York.

WHEREAS, Capitalism has shaped the condition of society everywhere alike, which means misery, dependency and utter demoralization—in fact, conditions which must sooner or later be abolished, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we call upon the wage-workers of Indiana to rally around the banner of the S. L. P., and by their support of the above mentioned principles help to destroy the present inhuman system of organization, and to institute a Socialist system, a system natural and necessary to the human race.

ON PARTY PRESS.

RESOLVED, That we heartily endorse the tactics and action of our national organs, THE PEOPLE and the German N. Y. "Vorwärts."

WHEREAS, We recognize the value of a sound and solid press to further our agitation; be it

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Convention that every member should at the time of his admittance to the party become a subscriber to one of our national organs.

ON THE WAR.

WHEREAS, The present war between the United States and Spain is the result of capitalism in all its worst operations, and the workingman has nothing to gain by it but only the capitalist;

WHEREAS, The capitalists and corrupt politicians use this war only for making profit, to find positions for their friends and relatives, while the workingman has to do the fighting, lose his life, and limb and health on the battlefield for capitalism; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the S. L. P. denounces this war as utterly unnecessary and harmful to the working class of this country as well as that of Cuba and Spain. The spirit of Socialism compels us to say to the workers of Spain, Cuba and the rest of the world: "We want peace now and forever; capitalism, so long as it is in existence, wants and needs war; Socialism needs no war, but the opposite, and that is peace."

We further maintain that every workingman should stand on the platform of the S. L. P., as it is the most scientific, sound and progressive platform, and one which everybody who favors better conditions for the human race should endorse.

Therefore we urge the workmen of this State to cut loose from every other political party, be it Republican, Democratic, Populist, or Social Democracy, as they all are working only for the upholding of the present capitalist system.

With the conviction of healthy growth at polls next November, the Convention adjourned amid cheers for the party.

On the 17th instant N. I. Stone will deliver a lecture at 165 East Broadway, this city, on "Trade Unionism in England"; on the 18th James Allman will lecture at 414 East Seventy-first street, this city, on "Recent Political and Economic Events in Europe". Both lectures should be well attended.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 100 copies, \$2.50.

HEADLONG PLUNGE

To Ruination of the Fakir-Run Cigarette-makers Int'l Union.

An Increasing Deficit with a Decreasing Power to Meet It—The Paltry Sum of \$46,661.89 the Real Barometer of the Union's Financial Resources—As the Stomach cannot be Cheated, Neither Can the Pocket—Inflated Figures Functured.

Last month's issue of the 'Cigarette-makers' Official Journal' publishes at last the union's financial report. It is the first that has appeared since 1896. During these whole two years a running fire has been belching between THE PEOPLE and the officers of the International Union. The question was understood to be important, not by the combatants only but by the onlookers as well. It involved nothing less than the question of unionism old and new. The question whether the old British or "pure and simple" system of unionism could continue with its theory of "fighting capital with capital" and organizing for the economic action alone, or whether the Alliance or new theory of unionism is right, which maintains that a labor organization, to be effective, must combine both class-conscious political and class-conscious economic action. In the battle between these two principles, the status of the International Cigarette-makers has been a leading storm center. And justly so. The management of that union is conspicuously pure and simple; and the special issue has all along been its financial standing. The large treasury it once boasted of (over half a million dollars) rendered it the envy of old unionists, gave it a commanding position, and seemed to justify the theory upon which it was run. Whether its treasury was preserved or was melting away; whether it was holding its own and growing stronger, or whether its "capital," and, therewith the benefits it promised, was vanishing; in short, whether it was solvent or bankrupt, this was, indeed, a question of deep interest. And this was the question all along: the International Union officers maintaining its solvency, THE PEOPLE maintaining, and proving its claim with the official figures of the union itself, that it was bankrupt. We shall again prove the point with the freshest figures furnished; and demonstrate that not only is the International Union bankrupt, but that it is plunging headlong, and with increased speed, towards a speedy crash.

It will be well at this point to review rapidly the main features of the last two years' discussion.

In our issue of May 31, 1896, an article appeared with the title "Bankrupt", the first of the series, proving the International Union bankrupt by its own official figures, and that was followed in our issue of February 14, 1897, by a second article entitled, "Lapses", giving further confirmatory details. It was shown that under the union's constitution its reserve fund to meet its liabilities should be \$277,600; and that, instead of that sum, the maximum it had, leaving aside all disputed items, was \$194,622.24; in other words, that its one time huge treasury was a transient affair; that its "pure and simple" tactics had begun to bring on ruin; that so far from half a million dollars its treasury did not contain even the reserve fund provided for by its constitution; that, instead of that, and much less, a surplus, it had a shortage of \$82,977.76. And in subsidiary articles, computing the receipts and expenditures, THE PEOPLE further indicated the downward march of the union by pointing out that, unless heavy special assessments were levied on the membership, the union would, within two years, be stripped wholly of the reserve fund, and unable to meet its obligations.

The only attempt at refutation of this formidable array of facts and figures was a circular, signed by several local cigarette-makers' unions of this vicinity maintaining that:

"With the \$1 International assessment levied by the International President, and the balance cash on hand, January 1, 1896, will bring the funds of the union within \$13,626 of the \$10 per capita."

Silly as this statement was—as any child could figure out its fallacy—it was the best answer that came from the International Union's quarter. The other answers were pure abuse. This was poured over our heads by the bucketfuls for the last two years. But we abided our time. While meeting arguments with vituperation and billingsgate, the International Union officers sought to escape furnishing further data of their unfitness by suppressing the financial report for the next year, and scheming to suppress it for this year, too. But the revelations we had made opened the eyes of many of its rank and file; protests against the suppression of the financial report poured in upon the International Union officers; their hands were forced. Thus this year's report came out, and what do we find? Let us see:

A larger deficit and a smaller membership! Instead of an \$82,977.76 shortage, as in 1896, a shortage of \$101,432.11, with a membership nearly 1,000 less than then; instead of an actual reserve fund of \$194,622.24, the much smaller one of \$153,977.89!

unexplained, give the full picture of the ruin that has overtaken the International Union, and the greater ruin in store and approaching.

The sum \$153,977.89, given as the actual cash in the International treasury, conveys a false idea of the union's resources. The figure that conveys a correct idea of the union's financial power is not \$153,977.89, but \$46,661.39. This amount it is that serves as a real barometer of the union's real strength; and for the following reason:

The sum \$153,977.89 in the treasury is not made up through the regular channels of dues, initiations and regular assessments only. The degree in which that sum is made up from such sources is the real measure of the union's financial force or resources. The sum of \$153,977.89 is made up partly from extraordinary sources, from special or extraordinary assessments levied on the membership during the last two years. Of these special assessments there were during these last two years four of the amount of \$1 each (April 27, August 24, and October 31, 1896, and January 30, 1897). Computing the average membership, during the two years, that was thus drawn upon at 26.24, the sum of \$107,316 was flayed from the membership during these two years, and that sum is in the make-up of the gross one of \$153,977.89 now actually cash on hand. In order to ascertain the present real resources of the union this \$107,316 must be subtracted from the \$153,977.89 in the treasury. The difference—\$46,661.39—is the amount on hand collected through regular channels, and that is the amount that indicates the real status of the union.

What this means, and how important it is to keep this in mind the following figures will reveal:

REGULAR INCOME—
In 1897.....\$480,689.45
EXPENDITURES—
Benefits.....\$336,971.15
Administration 117,725.81
Shortage..... 109,433.11—\$564,129.07

Shortage.....\$133,439.52

Which means:

1. ONE SINGLE YEAR WILL, ALMOST WHOLLY WIPE OUT THE RESERVE FUND AND LEAVE THE UNION BUSTED WIDE OPEN.

2. Two years ago the status was by a hundred per cent. better. Then, computing the actual cash in hand, regular receipts and expenditures, it would have taken TWO YEARS to wipe out the reserve fund.

3. Final collapse was staved off during those two years by the extraordinary method of a special assessment aggregating \$107,316, besides higher dues and smaller benefits.

4. Now, to prevent utter collapse in one year, OVER \$4 will have to be extorted from the membership in the term of ONE YEAR.—[Indeed, they have already started that game and started early; almost simultaneous with the appearance of the financial report another special assessment of \$1 has been ordered by the International President.]

5. What could be done during the last two years can not be repeated even in that period, let alone in one single year: The dues have been increased since the report of 1896, on the other hand, the membership has grown weaker, less taxable; the membership is smaller, the times are worse and getting worse, initiations have fallen off, and the benefits have been curtailed;—with an INCREASED burden of dues and DECREASED earnings and benefits, the DECREASING membership left is infinitely less able to meet the burden of such heavy special assessments as were levied during 1896 and 1897, all the less able after having during these years been bled of \$107,316 dollars.

And all these sacrifices, what do they accomplish for the workers? Nothing. The officers' and administration fees go up, while the rank and file declines.

The plight of the International Cigarette-makers' Union, plunging headlong towards ruin, with its officers' salaries growing, is a spectacle worth contemplating. It illustrates the career of organizations that are not built upon the understanding of the class interests of the proletariat. Such organizations consume the marrow of the workers, and, in exchange feed them on illusions. They do worse. Becoming endeared to the rank and file, the labor fakir officer, committee-man or what not, utilizes this esprit de corps; sucks ever larger shares of the workers' marrow, and runs the organization, so long as a timber is left, in his own private interest—to the joy of the exploiting capitalist class that all the while grows more powerful by wealth and concentration.

The New Trade Unionist is now ready to hear the usual howl of abuse in answer to the array of facts and irrefutable reasoning here presented; he shall be all the more patient in the year of grace 1898, seeing that the hard facts are opening wide the eyes of the rank and file, and his reward, the enlightenment of the proletariat, is all the surer.

The worker can not muster up capital enough to fight the capitalist with. His ground work must be the understanding of the fact that the capitalist system grinds him down, and that his only salvation lies in grinding down the capitalist system.—a feat that can be accomplished only by class-conscious organizations that fight the capitalist class politically as well as economically, and are so pronouncedly class-conscious as to render the life of that execrable vermin, the labor fakir, impossible in their camp.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. city. Price 25 cents.

SOCIALISTS,

And Friends, Aid Your Struggling Comrades in Italy!

A TIME FOR SOLIDARITY.

The Capitalist Government of Italy Should be Made to Feel that Back of the Proletariat of Italy Stands the Proletariat of the World—It Seeks to Crush the Rebels Against Starvation by Courts-Martial Whose Effect is Expected to be the Inspiring of Terror to the Families of the Workers and Plunging them into Deepest Distress.

In sunny Italy, distress and starvation have driven the masses to rebellion. The wrath of the Italian workers, aroused by political corruption and economic pressure, has given vent to an uprising which has been most brutally suppressed.

Large numbers of the workers of that country have, with their blood and their lives, given testimony of their political convictions. Thousands were imprisoned, and court-martials are busy filling penal institutions. Many have been compelled to seek safety in flight from their country.

In bitter want and distress are those whose providers were killed or imprisoned. Hundreds are wandering about who will be driven into the hands of their pursuers, unless aided.

And what the fate in store is for those who fall into the clutches of the enemy is shown by the verdicts of the courts-martial, whereby a woman was sent to state's prison for three years, simply because she had called upon her co-workers to go on strike.

The workers of Switzerland have set an example of international solidarity that should be emulated by other countries. While the government of "free" Switzerland, to its everlasting shame be it said, handed over to their pursuers the men who battled for Italy's freedom, the workers of the Helvetian republic have pooled the funds in the treasuries of their organizations to help their persecuted Italian brothers. Calls have been issued, subscriptions started, and energetic steps taken to mitigate the suffering consequent to the uprising.

But Switzerland is a small country, and the number of its workers is proportionally small. We ought not leave to them all the sacrifices that must be made to give support and aid to the Italian Comrades and their families. The National Executive Committee, S. L. P., in conjunction with THE PEOPLE, consider it their duty to demonstrate in this case as well the international solidarity of the working class. Workingmen of America!—Extend a helping hand to the proletarian fighters of Italy!

Stand by the families of the men who for years to come will be buried in prisons and dungeons because they rose against want and oppression!

Demonstrate that when we speak of the common cause of the working class of all countries, we are not mouthing an empty phrase, but show that the workers of America mean to stand by those who battle for our cause wherever they may be! Organize committees to collect funds; get up local subscription lists; send the funds collected either to the National Secretary, Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, New York City, or to THE PEOPLE at the same address. Do what you can as individuals or organizations to help make clear to the capitalist government of Italy that behind the men whom it persecutes there stands the working class of the world.

"Down with Gompers!" that is the cry of the Horseshoers' International Union. They have found out that while they had a strike on against the Anheuser-Busch Brewery, Gompers made the company feel easy by promising that no boycott would be ordered upon it.

Apart from this crookedness on the part of Gompers towards one of his "constituencies", which we must admit is nothing surprising, it does look surprising to have a concern like the Anheuser-Busch Brewery fear an A. F. of L. boycott. It has no power to boycott a fee. Its strikes are lost one after another in the most disastrous manner; witness the way the miners were defeated only last year, and its boycotts are the laughing stocks of the land.

"Bluff" that is Gompers' motto; he bluffed the Anheuser-Busch people. Had he at least done so to the benefit of the workers, it would not be so bad; but he did so at the expense of the workers. And who profited by it? Let Gompers answer.

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

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table with 2 columns: Year and Socialist Vote. Includes data for 1888, 1892, 1896, and 1897.

The revolutionary threats of the middle class and of their democratic representatives are mere attempts to frighten an adversary...

MAKING HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES.

An excellent letter, found elsewhere in this issue, from a recruit, now in the camp at Chicamauga, furnishes ample matter for meditation.

It appears from that letter that the camp is a huge sweat-shop, or, rather, a cross between a sweat-shop and a baby farm with the capitalist politicians as the beneficiaries.

That huge swindles would be perpetrated in this war, along with "legal" strokes of fortune, no sensible man ever doubted.

This circumstance is Dewey's victory in Manila harbor. Dewey's achievement, his real achievement, the achievement that gave us greatest force in the war was a thing that appeared to be simply an incident; and yet it was the paramount thing.

Nevertheless, out of a sense of decency these reports of "insurgent victories" should not have been dropped quite so soon.

pretences of helping Cuban independence look quite fishy.

All this makes the much-applauded Teller amendment, "disclaiming any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island," a trifle embarrassing.

The war is not yet ended nor are the surprises all in that are in store for the wise and fools alike.

In the meantime, it does seem rather soon for rumors of conquest in Cuba to be set afloat. But murder will out.

The strikes in the government works are multiplying. At Key West, in far away Washington, in New York, everywhere the same story: cheated with promises of good pay and eight hours; swindled, maltreated and bullied.

It does begin to look as though this war is to turn out into a good-sized boomerang. Intended to hypnotize the people with the false cry of "patriotism" and thus subjecting them all the more completely to the international capitalist class, it bids fair to become the most effective eye-opener on what patriotism means on the lips of the criminal class that rules the country.

It is to be hoped that the total absence of reports about Cuban insurgent victories does not escape the public; nor the meaning either of such conspicuous absence.

Before the war, and while our own government acted as an ally of Spain, keeping filibustering expeditions from landing, and when the hands of the Spanish officers in Cuba were absolutely free to deal with nothing but the "insurgents", reports of victories, gained by these, were numerous.

The "promenades", "scalpings", "encounters", "victories", etc., were to this war only what the scaffolding is to a building. The scaffolding is needed only while the building is being raised.

Nevertheless, out of a sense of decency these reports of "insurgent victories" should not have been dropped quite so soon.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The "British Medical Journal" makes the following contribution to the already mountain-high pile of evidence on the sort of "cleverness" that capitalist production incites. It says:

"A French analyst some time ago amused himself by constructing a menu of the dinner of one who greatly dined would dine at a cheap restaurant in Paris. The exact items do not matter, but the general idea was that the diner after swallowing soup made from a meat extract preserved by the addition of boric acid was regaled with fish preserved from putrefaction by the same means; that his vegetables had been preserved in a bottle and given, by the addition of copper, a bright green color which produced a delusive appearance of freshness; that his sweet was made from fruit preserved in a solution of salicylic acid; that he ate with his cheese, which itself was loaded with mutton fat or cotton oil, margarine spread on bread whitened with alum, and made from flour to which plaster of Paris had been added to give it weight in the scales. These delectable viands were washed down with a plastered wine colored with fuchsine, while the liquor, with which he hoped to correct the evil effects of the rest, was made of crude spirit sweetened with beet root sugar and flavored with a coal-tar product. His coffee—but the analyst refused to discuss the coffee; the subject, he said, was too complex. M. de Nansouty has recently been withdrawing the veil which conceals the composition of coffee in France. He tells us that even the careful man who buys his coffee in the green berry is not altogether safe; very inferior berries are dyed to match the better sorts, or some of the berries are made of gaily moulded and dyed to look like the genuine berries with which they are mixed. If he buys his berries roasted he is more easily deceived. The artificial berries in this case are made of coffee grounds mixed with baked flour. The berries, false and true, are then roasted with a little fat, white of egg, sugar or molasses, and acquire a beautiful brown varnish 'pleasing to the eye.' The weight of both green and roasted berries is increased by exposing them to steam so that they imbibe moisture. But the man who buys his 'coffee' ground is indeed rash. The list of constituent parts is long: chicory (which itself is sometimes adulterated), beet root, turnips, parsnips, carrots, dandelion, acorns, horse-chestnuts, hazel nuts, figs, prunes, couch grass, pistachios, almonds, walnuts, peanuts, dates, apples, pears—all these sub-

stances, generally in "damaged" condition, are mixed together, ground, and roasted, and mixed with a little real coffee."

Here we have wholesale cheating and poisoning for profit. And what is more, the above is not a picture of "paradoxical" perverseness, it is a picture of what substantially takes place here too;—witness the cry of righteous indignation, and "patriotic" wrath that goes up here every time a bill is introduced to prevent adulterations.

A new "reform" paper, the Denver, Colo., "New Nation," has risen to afflict the reform public. Myron W. Reed writes the salutatory, out of which this pearl of thought (God help the mark!) may be fished by the patient diver:

"It (The New Nation) will not begin with 'scientific Socialism.' Karl Marx is good when you have come up to him. We can not begin with Karl Marx—we will endeavor to master long division before we undertake to prophesy the date of a comet."

The "long division" of this "comet" passage, or the plain English of this flight of rhetoric is:

"It will not do to learn arithmetic by starting with the Addition Tables. Before you can learn that 2 + 2 = 4, you must be taught that 2 + 2 = 3, another time that 2 + 2 = 5; and so on; after your mind has been thoroughly broken in (read 'broken') by such elemental teachings and gropings, then will you be in condition to appreciate the otherwise un-understandable Addition Tables."

Incidentally, the Myronreedian passage means:

"In the meanwhile, who you undertake the noble task of thus 'leading you up to the Addition Tables will so conduct ourselves as not to miss butter on our bread."

Truly these "reformers" are like barnyard cattle who follow the sunshine round the hay-stack while they feed.

For the rest, it may be noted that "they are all there": there is hardly a reformer freak in the land who does not appear on the "New Nation" list of "directors", "editors" or what not.

The Schenectady, N. Y., "Toiler" is boiling over with wrath at the Socialists. It will be remembered that we published some time ago a letter from a former editor, or, at least a co-manager, giving his strange experience with that "official journal of the Schenectady Trades Assembly." He had taken it serious; thought it was really an organ of labor, and wrote in that sense; when, lo, and behold, the strings began to be pulled upon him. The paper depended for its existence, and for the perquisites of some of its runners, upon its advertising patrons. These did not like its language, and threatened to withdraw their ads. Thereupon he was removed, and the "official organ of the Schenectady Trades Assembly" became the mouthpiece of the interests of the Schenectady capitalists. That the status then established continues in full force appears from the present "bollings-over."

Let her boil! It is a sure sign that the Schenectady capitalists and their lapdogs, the labor fakirs, are feeling THE PEOPLE'S lash.

A correspondent to the New York "Evening Post", commenting upon the way the Platt Republican machine swamped the "better element" at the polls, angrily calls these élites stupid, lazy and indolent, and exclaims:

"Oh, that Zeus might launch a thunderbolt at the thing that shackles all attempts to better political conditions—the criminal indolence and indifference of the 'intelligent' citizen."

There will be no such thunderbolt. Zeus knows better what to do: he is in the habit rather to lull such "intelligence" into deeper indifference, so as to render them all the easier prey to the social thunderbolt that will annihilate them.

HOW TO BECOME RICH.

(Written for THE PEOPLE by a Latimer Miner.)

If ye would be winners, Ye poverty spinners, Be meek, and obey your masters well. Don't doubt the priest! Or else ye'll feast. On brimstone fermented with saltpeter yeast, And be tossed on the horns of a spear-tailed beast. Into the tropical broth of hell.

Lift never your hand 'Gainst the laws of the land. Bow in submission to things that are. Let the rich thieves Laugh in their sleeves, As they pick up the statutes and turn down the leaves: For laws were enacted for him who believes.

In the justice of POVERTY, WANT AND DESPAIR.

Then, if ye are good, And are anxious for food, They may give ye a job, now and then, And will tell you how high Ye will be when ye die, In a golden paved city, far up in the sky. With plenty of feathers and nothing to buy, And as rich as the richest of men.

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

THE PASSING OF GLADSTONE.

The below article by Comrade H. M. Hyndman, in the London, Eng., "Justice", is certainly timely. Though it does not review Gladstone in his relations to America, it photographs him pretty well in his other relations:

It seems inevitable, nowadays, when a great political personage dies that all the world should enter into a conspiracy of exaggeration. Never, assuredly, was this tendency more clearly displayed than in the case of the dead statesman whose loss the country mourns to-day. The thing has been most outrageously overdone. To read the panegyrics of the press, Tory and Liberal alike, we should believe that Mr. Gladstone, possessed in his own person the eloquence of Demosthenes, the administrative capacity of Hadrian, the piety of Sir Thomas More, and the self-sacrificing spirit of Sakya Mouni. The Almighty himself will feel abashed, if we take it, when he meets a man of this quality "on the other side." We Social Democrats, such as we disliked Mr. Gladstone both as a statesman and as representing a political type, would have quite content to join in the general mourning, or at any rate to be silent. If the eulogies on his career had been kept within the limits of decency. We always admired his extraordinary physical vigor, his marvellous power of adapting himself to changing circumstances, his vigorous if somewhat redundant oratorical verbosity, his great industry, and his devotion (when in office) to the public service. If we could not enter fully into his somewhat oleaginous religionism, that no doubt was our loss. Now, however, that we are called upon to admire Mr. Gladstone as the greatest and noblest statesman of modern times, we think it our duty, without in the least degree belittling those great faculties which long ago roused the admiration of that cold-blooded critic, Sir George Cornewall Lewis, to point out that the Right Honorable William Ewart Gladstone was, so far as statesmanship went, little better than a reactionist, and a dexterous champion of the capitalist and profit-mongering class. To call him a friend of the people is utterly ridiculous. Never at any time of his life, though he had endless opportunities, did he carry, or even try to carry, a great measure for their social amelioration. The very man who, to his honor be it said, vehemently denounced the infamous prison system of Southern Italy in the days of Bomba, nevertheless allowed a prison system to be developed in the United Kingdom to the full as scandalous in its way as that to which he took exception, and treated political prisoners to a mental torture, quite as bad as anything which any Italian could have devised. Mr. Gladstone, the inspired nationalist, passed the worst Coercion Act that Ireland has suffered under since the Reform Bill, and gloried in putting in gaol the representatives of the Irish people. Not only so, but having declared that the Egyptians were "rightly struggling to be free," he exhibited his practical sympathy with them in their laudable endeavor by bombarding Alexandria and sending Khadi Pasha into exile for life. In home affairs we have recently had special occasion to bless him; seeing that it is owing to his miserable Education Act of 1870, engineered by Mr. W. E. Forster, that we are behind nearly every other nation in Europe in our system of public education, and that reaction has had its own way for the time being.

As a financier, Mr. Gladstone came in on the flood-tide of railway development, steam navigation, the gold discoveries, and free trade. That he showed himself in this capacity as the last of the great commercial statesmen we should certainly not deny. But what benefits of an important character did he confer upon the people? For our part—and we have most of us stated this as our opinion on public platforms from one end of Great Britain to the other—we fail to recognize any. Whatever may be thought of his cynical rival Disraeli, he at any rate recognized that there were "two nations" in this island, and did his best to educate the unteachable Tory party into something approaching to a conception of what was due to the wealth-producing class. But for Mr. Gladstone trade and money were the be-all and end-all of national prosperity. He lived and worked and died true to the mercantile class from which he sprang. When it suited him no doubt he spoke of the "classes and the masses"; but the moment his sympathy was claimed for any actual measure that would be to the advantage of the disinherited he turned his head the other way. Even when he retired from the leadership of his capitalist Liberal party he refused absolutely to speak a word of encouragement to the workingmen, who appealed to him at the end of his life to hold out his hand to help those who were struggling to release themselves from wage-slavery to the class which Mr. Gladstone himself belonged to. His partisan eulogists of to-day, too, have very short memories, and Sir William Harcourt's crocodile tears seem more than ordinarily out of place when we recall that, when in 1874 after offering the meanest bribe ever offered to the middle class, he was beaten at the polls, he ran away to his library, and left it entirely to Lord Hartington to put together the remains of his disheartened and discredited faction.

Let us have just a modicum of truth to this monstrous deal of greasy adulation. Active, vigorous, studious, learned—a great debater, a stirring agitator, a capable Parliamentary leader. All that Mr. Gladstone was. But he had, as Carlyle is reported to have said, "an extraordinary faculty of convincing himself that he conscientiously believed whatsoever tended to his political advantage." He took to politics as other men take to the Church, to the Bar, or any other profession. He played the game, and he played it well to his own behoof, the nation paying him liberally for his services. As a portion of the political history of his time he has well earned his place in Westminster Abbey, and the public funeral which will lay his ashes in that great national edifice is justly his due. But he had no real sympathy whatever with democracy in any form, he failed to discern, or at any rate, to appreciate the coming social problems of his time; and we venture to predict that his fame as a statesman will steadily fade from this time onwards, and that posterity will marvel,

if it thinks of him at all, that a middle-class rhetorician of a reactionary type should ever have greatly influenced the minds of the nineteenth century Englishmen.

THE PASSING OF THE DEBS DEMOCRACY.

CHICAGO, Ill., June 13—If that which never really was can justly be said to have passed this heading may stand.

On the 7th instant there took place in this city a convention of the "Social Democracy". There were present 75 delegates, representing, as they claimed, 55 organizations. When it is considered that 5 members are enough for one of these organizations, and that not less than 11 of them were organized right here for the express purpose of packing the convention, one may form an idea of the multitudes represented. But however that may be, the whole vanished. The convention sat 5 days. During that period a fierce tempest boiled in the Social Democratic tea-pot, till its cover flew off; the pot burst, and the steam escaped.

It is difficult, if at all possible, to give a serious account of the farce.

Just a year ago the "Social Democracy" was launched. The speeches made at the time were pregnant with sneers at the Socialist Labor party; it was slow, it was visionary, it could not attract the American people, it sought for the distant millennium; on the contrary, the Social Democracy was to rush quickly, it was to be practical, it was to attract the American masses, it was to do something NOW. The year has passed, and all there is of it is debts; a bankrupt treasury; a subscriptionless paper; soiled reputations; and fragments strewn the floor.

A bird's-eye view of the convention before the explosion showed that the Debs Democracy had indeed attracted "Americans". But what Americans! The types of the worst thoughts and most backward ideas that this country ever produced. One of these, a Southern delegate, summed up the "American" element there present in these words: "We Americans don't believe in CLASS-consciousness; we believe in RACE-consciousness."

Outside of this element, which, as a whole, was for colonization and against political action, in other words, was there simply on business, there was a rabble-rot of queers, most of them expelled members of the S. L. P., or constructively so; in short, the offal and refuse of the party, and they looked it. This element was against colonization and for political action.

This analysis of the convention's make-up leads me to point to another of its striking features. Looking at it, and especially hearing the speeches of the two elements, one could not help being struck by the impression that the thing uppermost on the minds of the delegates was—THE S. L. P. But the thought affected each differently; how and why is of real interest.

The colonization element knew that the S. L. P. had smashed their first colonization scheme, and thereby endangered all their subsequent ones. They do not quite realize that THE PEOPLE did so because all such "Socialist Experiments" are harmful. They imagine the S. L. P.'s attacks were due to their organization's claiming to be also a political party. Hence they sought to disconnect themselves from all political party pretences, thus seeking to remove the opposition of the S. L. P., and, in pursuit of this policy, they even sought to gain the S. L. P.'s good will by speaking well of it. Delegate G. C. Clemens, of Kansas, of the colonization element, typified this idea, and he voiced his element's feelings and purposes when he said: "If, as some here claim, the convention is packed against political action, then I am with those who did it. FOR POLITICAL ACTION THERE EXISTS IN AMERICA THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY. It should be the business of the latter to look out for politics, and it is our duty to devote our time to the economic question, namely, colonization."

On the other hand, the element that was for political action and against colonization, being in the main a refuse element of the S. L. P., is incapable of any feeling except hatred for the party that would not tolerate their monkey-shines, and of any thought except how to hurt it; and, in the conceit that it is characteristic of such folks, they imagine they can. That element knew what a blank the colonization plan offered to the S. L. P. attacks. To spite the S. L. P., to endanger its progress by setting up a party that looks like it, the colonization plan had to be dropped. These are the "hows" and the "whys" of the lines on which the conflict raged; they reveal fundamental objects and aims that were irreconcilable. A smash-up was inevitable, and it came: the Spirit of the S. L. P. stalked through the convention, and scattered it like a potter's vessel.

While it is undeniable that the colonization rump has the better vitality, seeing that it is purely on "business" bent, and is made up of "business" material, while the political action rump has in its midst not one man of average common sense, and, being a hatred element, consequently, a negative element, is as sterile as a mule, the revelations made against "Organizer and National Secretary" Kellher in particular are of such a nature as to throw both sides into hopeless disrepute. Moreover, Mr. Debs can't be with both: he lumped himself with the political action element and against the colonization one. That helps to kill both. As a man and his liver are inseparable, so are colonization and Debs: without Debs, the colonization element must go out of business quicker than it would otherwise have to do; on the other hand, without colonization the political wing is stripped of the only pretext for being an opposition party to the S. L. P.; well-meaning and even sensible people, who are uninformed, might be taken in with the colonization scheme and thus join a party with that attachment. But who is there who could be taken in by an opposition party to the S. L. P. that does not have something "American" to distinguish it, and is run on no programme other than—"Damn that S. L. P."?

The rapid going to seed of the "Social Democracy of America" is one of the most promiseful symptoms of our time and our country.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—It does seem to me that you act very foolishly in bothering with Socialism.

Uncle Sam—Why so? B. J.—I'll tell you. If you were out of work and on your uppers, then I could understand your giving up time to Socialism; but you are not so situated. You and I have work; we might earn more, that's true; but I would leave well enough alone.

U. S.—So would I. But what we have is not well enough.

B. J.—We are not running into debt—U. S.—Leave aside the matter of debt. Have you a hen on your job?

B. J.—Not exactly; but—U. S.—But what?

B. J.—But the boss won't discharge us.

U. S.—You know how it was with John Jones?

B. J.—He was sacked.

U. S.—Was he a bad worker, lazy, drunken, or otherwise no good?

B. J.—No; he was all right.

U. S.—And despite that he one day was told to go. Why?

B. J.—There was no work.

U. S.—Under this capitalist system the worker gets a job only when the boss thinks he will get orders, or has them. If there are none, we are laid off. We may be lucky enough not to be laid off for a long time; but some day bad luck will strike us. Why?

B. J.—Because this capitalist system is not run for the benefit of the people but for the benefit of the bosses. It matters not how much wealth we may have produced, if orders drop, out we are and must starve. Is it of no interest to us to pull down a house that threatens any day to fall together over our ears, and to establish one that will be safe to live in?

B. J.—In that sense it is.

U. S.—Differently from the capitalist system, the Socialist system would be to every man a guarantee against want.

Differently from the capitalist system, where the more we produce the greater is the danger of our being thrown out of work, the more we produce the more we would have.

Differently from the capitalist system, where, if more is produced than the people can buy, a panic is the result, under the Socialist system, if much more were on hand than could be used up, there would be a grand vacation.

Differently from the capitalist system, where every invention that turns up throws more men out of work and a proportional share of burden on the shoulders of all of us who are at work, the less labor is needed by a machine the fewer would be for the workers.

Finally, differently from now under capitalism, where we workers are wage-slaves, dependent for a living upon the will, whim and caprice of the capitalist we must depend for our welfare upon ourselves.

Is not that worth striving for?

B. J.—Well, you see that is all very good and true; but it is so far off.

U. S.—Even if the final goal of freedom were far off, that is no reason to throw it still farther off by not working for it, eh?

B. J.—That's so.

U. S.—But however far the final goal may be, one thing is quite near, and that is our poverty and dependence, and the certainty that that will get worse all along. Will you deny that?

B. J.—No.

U. S.—So then if you have not spring enough in your mind to work for a high goal that seems far off; you should at least have sense enough to work to stem the troubles that are actually upon us. That's why I am not foolish for working for Socialism and you are for not doing so.

THE SQUIRREL.

You little forest-ranger, Long have I been a stranger!— Since when I watched your gambols On the wild hills of Wales, I've shrunk at many a censure, In many a cursed adventure. Low down amid life's shambles, Where well-nigh manhood falls!

Oh, careless Jackey Squirrel! I have no thought to quarrel With so-called Dispensation, Or Providence or Fate; But you—see sprightly dinner— Cock-sure of bread and dinner, Feel not the degradation Of envy, scorn, and hate!

Here, in this leafy forest, What evil—aye the sorest— Weighs against the sin and sorrow In that Babylon behind, Where in pain and squalor, Men scramble for the dollar, Still promising to-morrow The rest they never find.

In forests of brick houses Old Nicky-Ben carouses, Holding his grim revel 'Mid dirt and dire disease; But in Nature's sweet seclusion, Where's no farcical illusion, He grows a paltry devil That's trampled o'er with ease!

Still—man's great test, his action, Flowers 'mid fields of action, I'll covet not, sweet creature, Your nuts and hazel bowl; The old love is the stronger, More, true, and lasts the longer— Though dearly I love Nature, The City hath my soul!

—G. W. S. From London "Justice."

STARVATION WAGES.

The Motto of the Capitalist, Wether Democrat or Republican.

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 today 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 today 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 make-up 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 producer generally, were, namely, the owners of the product of their labor by reason of their ownership of the means of production; contrarily, the product of the labor of the proletariat 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 therefore by the capitalist, 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 the development in production, agriculture is as such 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 and 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 value. 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 former 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 as 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 most 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 workmen 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 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 the 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, yea, into a prop of the present social system.

A Good Sign.

An Educated Canadian Breaks Loose from his Class.

LONDON, Canada, June 4.—Section London, S. L. P., of Canada, steadily gains ground, and has recently secured a convert, whose addition to the ranks of the International in Canada is specially significant in view of the circumstances noted in communications below appended. Just the right age (about 35) for vigorous work in the future development of our organization in Canada, Comrade Darch's past activity as an executive officer of the most conspicuously notorious Conservative Club in the Dominion (membership from 1,000 to 2,000) has made him a prominent figure in an extensive circle of political acquaintance. His defection from the powerful capitalist organization of the Canadian Tory combination, as a result of intelligent study of Socialist principles (Comrade Darch has been a subscriber to THE PEOPLE for some long time past) has already attracted considerable local interest to S. L. P. propaganda, and added strength to the organization of the local Section.

The following press notice is from the Toronto "Globe" (Canada's leading daily) of May 24th, 1898 (under London news): "MR. F. J. DARCH, FOR MANY YEARS AN ACTIVE WORKER IN THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, AND TREASURER OF THE LOCAL CONSERVATIVE CLUB, HAS RESIGNED THAT OFFICE, SEVERED HIS CONNECTION WITH THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, AND JOINED THE RANKS OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR ORGANIZATION. HIS REASONS ARE CONTAINED IN THE LETTER FORMALLY NOTIFYING THE PARTY OF THE ABOVE FACTS."

Appended is a copy of the letter notifying the capitalist organization of Comrade Darch's resignation. We congratulate our new Comrade on the course of his convictions.

May, 1898.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Conservative Club Executive: I herewith beg to tender my resignation as Treasurer of the Conservative Club. In doing so, I beg to say that I feel this is the only honorable course to pursue in view of the following: I thoroughly endorse the principles of the Socialist Labor party platform as declared by their candidate, Mr. Hy. D. Ashplant in his recent address to the electorate in this city. Holding these views, I cannot conscientiously continue to hold office in the Conservative Club, and do justice to the position.

Many of my friends will no doubt think this a hasty action on my part, but I beg to assure them that I have not taken this step without very careful and mature consideration, founded on several months of careful study of the subject of Socialism. I quite expect to be misunderstood by many of my friends as a result of this decision on my part, but I am also well aware that the great International Socialist movement is itself also misunderstood at the present time.

I hope, however, the friendship that has existed between myself and so many members of the Conservative Club, especially those of the Executive Board, will still continue to exist, and I see no reason why it should not be so, notwithstanding out differences of opinion in regard to political and economic matters. I trust that it will be so, and I beg to assure you that so far as I am concerned the many pleasant hours I have spent in session with you will linger long in my memory. Yours very truly, F. J. DARCH.

ADORATION OF GOLD.

A Passage From the Capitalist's Prayer and Hymn Book.

Gold, wonderful merchandise, who carriest within thyself all other merchandises; Gold, first-born merchandise, who convertest all other merchandises into thyself;

Thou, who weighest and measurest every thing; Thou, the completest, most ideal personification of the God Capital; Thou, the noblest, most wonderful element of nature;

Thou, who canst be tainted by neither worm, mildew nor rust; Gold, unchangeable merchandise, blooming flower, brilliant ray of light, luminous sun, thou immaculate metal, who, torn from the entrails of the earth, the noble mother of all things, turnest thyself away, burlest thyself in the safes of usurers, and the vaults of banks, and from that place of concealment, where thou liest in large heaps, transfertest thy power to common, wretched paper to the end that it multiply and increase tenfold;

Gold, inert metal, that settest the world in motion, before thy brilliant majesty mankind has bent the knee for centuries, and has humbly adored thee! Oh, bestow thy godlike grace upon the faithful, who invoke thee, and who, to possess thee, sacrifice every thing—honor and virtue, the esteem of mankind, the love of woman, their soul, the children of their own marrow and bone—and who are not held back even by their own self-respect!

Gold, thou supreme, invincible, all-conquering power, oh, hearken unto our prayer!

Thou builder of cities and destroyer of empires;

Thou load-star of morality;

Thou custodian of conscience;

Thou, who dictatest laws to the nations, and who bendest to thy yoke Congresses and Parliaments, Presidents, Kings and Emperors;

Oh, hearken unto our prayer!

Thou, who purchasest the decisions of judges, and the votes of Congressmen;

Oh, hearken unto our prayer!

Thou, who callest into being flowers and fruits, unknown to nature;

Thou, who spreadest vice and virtue;

Thou, who quickenest art and luxury;

Oh, hearken unto our prayer!

Thou, who smildest upon the capitalist in his cradle, and who frownest and maltreatest the proletarian on the lap of his mother;

Oh, hearken unto our prayer!

Gold, thou tireless wanderer, who art versed in all rascality and in all the tricks of scoundrelism, incline thine ear toward us!

Thou interpreter of all tongues;

Thou most skillful of all pimps;

Thou resistless seducer;

Thou standard of man;

Oh, incline thine ear toward us!

Thou messenger of peace and herald of strife;

Thou distributor of leisure and of excessive toil;

Thou staff of virtue and of corruption;

Oh, incline thine ear toward us!

Gold, thou art cursed and invoked in numberless prayers; who art honored by capitalists and loved by prostitutes, incline thine ear toward us!

Thou, who startest evil and good;

Thou, who art the fortune and misfortune of man;

Thou, who healest the sick, and who art balm to all pain;

Oh, incline thine ear toward us!

Thou, who bewitchest the world, and confuseth the human intellect;

Thou, who turnest ugliness into beauty, and dulness into cleverness;

Thou, who reconcilist all things; who makest shame and dishonor estimable, and renderest theft and prostitution respectable;

Oh, incline thine ear toward us!

Thou, who heapest upon cowardice the glory that belongs to bravery;

Thou, who securst to ugliness the homage that belongs to beauty;

Thou, who procreant to senility and impotence the love that belongs to youth and vigor;

Malignant wizard, incline thine ear toward us!

Demon, who incitest to murder, and lettest insanity loose;

Oh, incline thine ear toward us!

Thou flaming torch that lightest the path of life;

Thou leader, protector and savior of the capitalist;

Oh, incline thine ear toward us!

Gold, thou lord of fame, and sun of justice;

Gold, thou strength and warmth of life; illustrious gold, oh, come to us;

Gold, thou well-beloved of the capitalist; thou scourge of the workingman, oh, come to us!

Thou mirror of enjoyment;

Thou, who turnest to the idler the fruits of labor, oh, come to us!

Thou, who fillest the cellars and pantries of those who neither plow nor sow, who neither plant nor harvest, oh, come to us!

Thou liberator from labor, who degrades man and corruptest his race, oh, come to us!

Thou sun of all the strength, knowledge and intellect of the capitalist, oh, come to us!

Oh, come to us, seductive gold, thou highest hope, the beginning and end of all capitalist activity, of all capitalist thought, and of all capitalist feeling! Amen.

General Agitation Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$487.85
E. Sadler, N. Y. City..... 2.00
Ernest Lemmon, Barre, Vt..... 5.00
Total..... \$504.95
HENRY KUHN, Secy.

Daily People Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$2,228.36
H. Reich, N. Y. City..... 28
G. Q. N. Y. City..... 25
Martin Reuch, Campbell, Cal..... 15
Total..... \$2,296.39
HENRY KUHN, Fin. Secy.

Boston, Mass.

THE PEOPLE and Socialist literature can always be had at Comrade C. O. Bruckner's store, 84 West Canton street.

Syracuse, N. Y.

THE PEOPLE always for sale at M. Lemp's, 470 S. Salina street, Syracuse, N. Y.

THE DAILY PEOPLE \$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to June 15th, 1898. \$4,575.

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.

Grand Picnic and Summer Nights Festival OF SECTION

Greater Socialist Labor Party, New York

on MONDAY, July 4th, 1898. Sulzer's Westchester Park, West Farms.

Combined with Gymnastic Exercises by the Social Democratic Turn Verein, New York.

The Socialist Band of Greater New York will also entertain the guests.

Prize Bowling and Shooting for Gentlemen, also various Games for Prizes for Ladies and Children.

MUSIC BY THE CARL SAHM CLUB. To commence at 2 P. M.

TICKET for Gentleman and Lady 25 Cents.

Take West Farms Trolley Car at 129th Street and 3rd Avenue. THE COMMITTEE.

OFFICIAL.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 184 William Street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Sandlow, 193 Chapman St., Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary George Moore, 61 Ryde St., Montreal.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Session of June 14th, Comrade Teche in the chair. The financial report showed receipts to the amount of \$18.25; expenditures, \$45.46; deficit for the week, \$27.21. James Taylor, of Knoxville, Tenn., was upon application admitted as a member at large.

Reports were read from organizers Hickey and Keindard about past and prospective work on the road. Resolved, that the National Executive Committee to render a full report at their standing with the party.

Absent, Comrade Matkilek. A. S. BROWN, Rec. Sec'y pro tem.

General Vote.

The Sections of the Socialist Labor party are hereby called upon to forthwith proceed to vote upon the below candidates for delegate to the National Convention of the S. L. P. & L. A. to be held in Buffalo, N. Y., on July 4, 1898. The candidates who have accepted the nomination are: AVERY, MARTHA MOOHE, of Boston, Mass.; KENNEDY, Arthur, of Washington, D. C.; and MORGAN, THOMAS G., of Chicago, Ill.

The following comrades were also nominated but declined: JUDITH, Samuel, of Washington, D. C.; Barnes, Thomas A., Hickey, Hugo Vogt, Daniel De Leon, Joseph Manning and Matthew Maguire.

Organizers will please note that the vote must be reported in figures, and in figures only, and that statements to the effect that the section has voted "unanimously" for this or that candidate, without stating the vote cast, cannot be accepted. The vote closes on TUESDAY, JUNE 23rd, the day of the last meeting of the National Executive preceding the convention. All reports cast at hand on that date cannot be counted. Only one delegate is to be sent and members vote for only one candidate of the three.

Organizers will please submit this matter at the above date to the National Executive Committee, 184 William Street, New York, N. Y.

Dominion of Canada.

MONTREAL, June 5th, 1898. Meeting of National Executive Committee held on the above date at International Club in the chair. Members present, B. Saunders, J. Brennan, J. Clarke, M. Saunders, R. J. Kerrian and G. Moore. Communications received from Toronto and Montreal. Proposed amendments to the platform and constitution to be re-submitted for a general vote; a vote will also be taken on the advisability of recognizing THE PEOPLE as the organ of the S. L. P. in Canada pending the publication of a Canadian paper under the control of the party.

Secretary of the National Executive Committee, BENJ. SAUNDERS, Rec. Sec'y. Address of National Secretary for Canada: G. MOORE, 61 Ryde St., Montreal.

Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, June 9.—The State Convention of the Socialist Labor party of Indiana was held on the above date at Indianapolis, with 15 delegates from various parts of the State. The delegates of the different Sections throughout the State reported progress. From the following remarks: That since the inauguration of this State has increased largely since the last convention and a large vote may reasonably be expected. The convention was enthusiastic throughout.

Kansas.

There will be a mass convention of the members of the Socialist Labor party at Fort Scott, Kansas, Tuesday, June 28, 1898, at the Court House, at 10 o'clock A. M., to put in nomination a full ticket for State officers for the election this fall. Any person who holds a membership card of the S. L. P. will be eligible to a seat in the convention.

Any person wishing to become a member at large can do so by writing the Secretary of the National Executive Committee, 184 William St., New York, N. Y., and urging the formation of Sections all over the State, especially at county seats.

J. F. ELKNER, State Secy. Box 354 Pittsburg, Kas. By virtue of the above call, all those who do not belong to any of the capitalist political parties in Cloud County, who will support the S. L. P. ticket, are requested to meet at the Court House in Concordia on June 22, next at 10 o'clock A. M.

By order of the Ex. Com. A. A. CARNAHAN, Secy.

Massachusetts.

Secretary of State Officially states, in answer to the question whether the S. L. P. nominees for State offices will be placed by him upon the official ballot without further ceremony on the part of the S. L. P., that Chapter 323, Acts of 1897, provides that any party designated therein is subject to "such restrictions as apply to a party that cast three per cent. of the vote for governor"; that among these restrictions are those imposed by section 76 of the election act of 1893, which requires that every certificate of nomination, besides stating such facts as are required by law, shall be signed by the presiding officer and by the secretary of the convention, etc., and shall be sworn to by such officers to be true, etc.

He also adds that the provisions of said Chapter 323 are permissive and not mandatory, and the Socialist Labor party may, if they so desire, nominate by nomination papers as in former years.

Michigan.

DETROIT, JUNE 12, 1898.—Comrades: This is a notice to sections and comrades in Michigan to be ready to move on to the arrangements of the politicians that are required by law for the arranging of elections and the filing of tickets, it becomes necessary to postpone the date for the State convention until further notice is given.

M. MEYER, Sec'y Mich. State Com. New York.

ALBANY, June 13.—At the last regular meeting of Section Albany, the following resolutions were adopted: WHEREAS, in the death of Frederick Hazard, Section Albany has suffered the loss of a faithful comrade and an earnest worker for the cause of Socialism; and WHEREAS, the members of Section Albany desire to express their appreciation of his services and sorrow for his loss;

RESOLVED, That we tender to his bereaved family our sincere sympathy, and assure them that his earnest labor for our glorious cause has left an impression on our hearts that will ever hold in remembrance the high esteem and fraternal feeling we bore towards him.

J. E. ALEXANDER, Organizer. BUFFALO COMRADES, ATTENTION! All members of the American Branch, Section Buffalo, N. Y., are urged to request to attend, without fail, the meeting of the branch to be held this Sunday, June 19th, at 8 P. M. sharp, at the Labor Lyceum, 559 Broadway.

After the discussion on the subject: "What Edward Bellamy Contributed to the Cause of Socialism," the branch will take action on several resolutions. A large attendance of the members of the branch is therefore particularly required. Admission free.

CANTON, O., June 12, 1898.—To the Comrades in Stark County, Ohio: The Sections S. L. P. in Stark County, O., will hold a convention on Saturday, July 3rd, at 10 o'clock sharp, in Neidinger's Hall, on West Main st., Massillon.

The purpose of the convention is to nominate a county ticket for the fall election; also to find ways and means to nominate a candidate for Congress for the 18th district. This nomination to be made in conjunction with Section Columbia, Morgan, Madison, and Hamilton counties. It is to be hoped that the comrades in Stark County will turn out in full force.

Large furnished room for one or two persons in private home, reasonable. 120 Linden St., Brooklyn.

The J. M. S. E. Club of 98 Ave. C. in conjunction with the 16th Assembly District arranged a PICNIC for the 23rd of July. Organizations are requested not to make any opposition.

Workmen's Children Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The address of the Financial Secretary of the Executive Committee is: Reinhard Lachner, 13 Bible House, Room 42, Astor Place, N. Y. City, N. Y.

Office hours: Monday and Friday, 1-8 o'clock P. M.—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 8-12 A. M. and 1-3 P. M.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the New York & New Jersey Co. for the election of directors for the ensuing year, will be held at the office of the company, No. 23 Broadway, Manhattan, New York city, on the 21st day of June, 1898, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

E. E. BARTON, Secretary. Dated, May 20th, 1898.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be accepted for this heading hereafter at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings.

Carl Sandu Club (Musicians Union) Meetings every Tuesday at 10 A. M., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Fred. [?]

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. L. P. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 230 every Sunday afternoon, 3-6 East 4th street, New York City. All bona fide trade labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City.

Cigar-makers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Officers and Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street.—District I (Boston), 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 10th street, every Saturday at 8 P. M.—District IV, meets at 312 West 42nd street every Saturday at 8 P. M.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 142d street, at 8 P. M.

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every 3rd and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 54th street.—District I (Boston), 324 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 P. M.—Secretary: PETER STAPLE.

German Bakers' Union of New York. Office: 385 Water, 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.

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1088. D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 E. 43rd street. Meetings every Friday at 8 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Secy. Wool, corr. Secy, 79 E. 4th St. J. S. Krings, Business agent.

Metal Spinners Union of New York and Vicinity meets every second and last Friday in the month at 8 1/2 o'clock at 231-233 E. 83d Street.

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 9 P. M. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J.

Scandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10.30 o'clock a.m., at Teutonia Assembly Rooms, 158-160 3d Ave., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scand. Socialist Weekly, SCAND. AM. ARBEITAREN.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., 84th St. 35th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 84 Ave. and 149th St. Open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 88 of S. T. & L. A.—Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum. Meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M.

The Socialist Educational Society of New York meets every Monday evening at 206 E. 84th St. This society aims to educate its members to a thorough knowledge of Socialism. Evening classes of discussions and debates. Come and join.

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

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