

THE WORKERS' CALL

"Workingmen of all countries unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

SECOND YEAR.—WHOLE NO. 102.

CHICAGO, ILL., FEBRUARY 16, 1901.

PRICE ONE CENT

HOLDS THE RECORD

Apex of Capitalist Exploitation Reached by Chicago.

CLASSES CLEARLY DEFINED

Specialist Victory Here Would Mean the Immediate Overthrow of American Capitalism.

The very fact that capitalism has reached its climax in this city lays new duties upon those who are conscious of the tendencies of that capitalism. There is no city on the face of the earth where the gospel of greed is so orthodoxly observed as in Chicago. At no other point is the rule of mammon more absolute, the hideousness of capitalism more obtrusive. Countless foreign observers have told us this. The killing of pork and the hogghishness of the "yards" have become typical of Chicago life, and the most appropriate device that could be suggested for a city seal and coat of arms would be a "hog rampant" with "out for the stuff" as a municipal motto.

There are no divisions of birth, intellect or breeding in the social maelstrom of Chicago. There are only the eaters and the eaten. Her geographical democracy prevented the appearance of any natural superiority of elevation in different portions of the city such as have made aristocratic "heights" and "hills" in other cities. Here the best that could be done was to put a little better pens around a portion of the population that were least useful to society and thus transform a section of plutocracy into an aristocracy. But in spite of all precautions new intruders were constantly climbing over the wall and no one dared to ask whether these newly-made "aristocrats" had arisen through pork, beer, brothels or hotels.

But the leveling influence of capitalism wiped out differences among capitalists, it prevented their formation among laborers and quickly eliminated any original lines of demarcation. From the very fact of its heterogeneous and ever-changing population the nationality line could not be drawn and maintained. With the old Nineteenth ward speaking seventeen languages in as many different colonies it would be a good racial surveyor who could run the curved and twisted line necessary to show the racial divisions. The fiercest exploitation the world has ever known made short work of intellectual lines of demarcation between producers, until the Western Electric works have any quantity of college graduates among its employes working for no more than it pays its porters and less than it is forced to give to teamsters, while Armour Institute graduates in chemistry are working in the Armour packing houses for very much less than their master finds it necessary to pay those who clean intestines for sausage covers.

One of the first things that strikes a Chicago man when he visits the great cities of this or any other country, is the very much larger number of small producers that still remain, compared with those in his native city. It comes as a surprise to one who has been accustomed to see the long lines of "To Rent" signs that act as memorial tablets to the deceased middle class of Chicago, to find that in New York, London, Paris or Brussels, this class is still flourishing in almost countless numbers.

Plutocracy in Chicago stands face to face with exploited democracy with no buffer class between them and no disintegrating strata within their respective ranks. This gives rise to the sharpest class antagonisms known to modern society, and the person who in Chicago talks of "no class distinctions" or of "bringing the various classes together" is either a designing knave, or a philanthropist too hopelessly idiotic concerning social phenomena to be worth consideration.

But if the lines of the class struggle are so sharp that all who look can see that it only remains for the workers to enter in and take possession of their inheritance through the political overthrow of their exploiters, it is no less true that the appointed time is at hand for action and that the industrial field is ripe for the harvest of socialism. Nowhere else are there such gigantic social aggregations of industrial capital as here. The Krupp gun works are sometimes given as an example of the largest industrial community of today, yet this employs but about 15,000 men, while the stock yards and packing houses of Chicago employ over 50,000. Deering South Chicago Steel Mills, ship yards, McCormick's, Western Electric and several others have industrial armies of over 5,000 each. These men are already drilled, classified, organized and prepared for social production independent of the capitalist. Once they are made to realize that they are today carrying on production independent of their exploiters it will not take them long to learn enough to use their votes to out the tie of

bondage that prevents them from distributing their own product as they see fit.

All this leads to the conclusion that the progress of socialism in Chicago will be like wildfire among the prairie grass when once its principles have been well understood by even a few men in each of these great industrial centers. Furthermore there is not a shadow of a doubt but what if this city should once fall into the hands of the Socialists that the existence of capitalism would be terminated so far as America is concerned. It has often been said in these later days that no nation can declare war without the assistance of the packing houses of Chicago. The transportation lines of the greater portion of America focus in this city and their present concentration in a few hands lays all that territory under tribute to those few owners.

What then would be the effect were Chicago to be captured for socialism? It would mean the possession of the vantage point of American capitalism, and the consequent almost immediate downfall of the whole system. It would permit the formation of an industrial unit, not only sufficiently large to be economically independent but large enough to economically dominate a large portion of our present society. It would mean the possibility of the immediate application of the principles of socialism to a greater extent than would be attained by the capture of any other city on earth.

These positions, if true, lead to the conclusion that not only is Chicago the easiest city to capture for socialism, but to the somewhat contradictory position that it is the most important stronghold of capitalism, the key, so to speak, of the industrial situation. All this means increased responsibility and also increased encouragement for Chicago Socialists. It means that every class-conscious worker has a more pressing need than anywhere else on earth to see that his knowledge of socialism is increased and its propaganda more widely spread.

A. M. Simons.

On the Steel of Repentance.

The Chicago Chronicle, organ of the "first principle" Democrat, is desperately trying to convince the capitalist class that there is no taint of socialism in the element which desires "reorganization," a la Grover Cleveland. To this end they make editorial comment upon the failure of a so-called socialist "colony" in Zoar, O., as a proof of the impracticability of socialism. The Chronicle evidently supposes that a continual attack upon things "socialistic" will help retrieve the old reputation of the party and induce the capitalist, business men to entrust them again with office. It is a rather shallow trick at best, and it is hard to believe that it will have the desired effect, for the great capitalist journals could pick a "colony" scheme to piece with a neatness and dispatch which the Chronicle never dreamed of. But still imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Mud Throwers Tell Tales.

In a dispute between Mahon and Sulzer upon the floor of the congress a few days ago a glimpse might be obtained of the profound wisdom with which we are governed. Mahon taunted Sulzer with the notorious Boer fund transaction, which left a residue of \$18 for the Boers, after expenses amounting to nearly \$1,200 had been deducted. Sulzer asked Mahon if he contributed to it. Mahon replied in the negative, giving as a reason the fact that he knew the gang who were running it, and claimed that their benevolence was mostly hypocrisy and cant. Sulzer then "denounced" the Republicans who falsified the charges as liars and falsifiers, claiming that he had nothing to do with the disposal of the funds in question. "As there is a disposition to throw mud," said Sulzer, "I'll throw a little myself." He then read a letter which he had received, charging Heath, the secretary of the Republican campaign committee, with being concerned in the appointment of Neely, the Havana postoffice thief. Another member moved to appropriate \$5,000 for an envoy to the Boer republics, and upon being turned down, another Solon arose and read a poem on the "Man With the Big Mouth," which was received with shouts of laughter.

If the warning poem had not been read at the opportune moment it is quite probable that several other anecdotes would have been related by the disputants. What a mass of scoundrelism and rascality could be uncovered were there only some effective method of making our legislators unfold the stores of learning they have acquired in politics.

Organizer's Notice.

The Socialists of the new Twenty-fourth ward are notified that a meeting will be held at Stern's Hall, 215 Fullerton avenue, corner of Ward street, on Wednesday, February 20th at 8 p. m. for the purpose of organizing the Twenty-fourth Ward Branch of the Socialist party. Do not fail to be present.

More subscribers are ALWAYS wanted.

IN THE ASCENDANT STEP DOWN OR OUT

The Trust Lifts Business Ethics to a Higher Plane.

EVOLUTION OF "MORALITY"

Competition and Speculation Become "Unethical" When They Are No Longer Possible.

Last week a discussion took place at the Woman's Club in this city in which the opinion was expressed that "business" was "unethical." This harmless verdict, however, was not permitted to pass unnoticed by that part of the press which is charged with looking after the interests of the great capitalist class in particular, and it at once started in to mould "public opinion" by shifting the accusation upon the shoulders of that stupidly hopeful subject, the little "business man."

So, after a preliminary confession that "business dealings have never embodied the higher ideas of the ages," the "public" is duly informed that one of the most significant tendencies towards making business more "moral" is to be found in the elimination of waste due to competition. The conclusion that Rockefeller, Morgan, and others of that ilk, are really engaged in elevating "business" to a higher ethical plane is left to the reader to infer.

The next great aid to this uplifting process is seen in the introduction of uniform prices and terms and the extinction of much of the favoritism, deception and bargain-driving which was characteristic of small competing business establishments before the great moral wave of concentration set in.

Again the "public" is assured that "morality" has gained since "manipulation" in Wall street has succeeded "speculation." The immorality of the latter form of exploitation is only now apparent, since the entrance of Mr. Rockefeller upon the scene of operations has made it all but impossible.

The small exploiter will doubtless find little consolation in the alleged improvement in business morals which has resulted in his elimination, but it is to be hoped that he will now recognize the fact that what is yet left of this class are now considered as an obstacle in the way of business "reform," a hindrance to the coming of the capitalist millennium. It is not alone the press of the great capitalist class that thus stigmatizes his efforts as immoral, but even the language of the ordinary financial journals convey the same idea. Only recently one of the most influential of these, in reviewing the business of the preceding month, stated that while the number of failures for less than \$5,000 showed a large increase, yet the outlook for LEGITIMATE business was good.

The ruling ideas of every age are invariably the ideas of the ruling class, and it is not strange that the more successful exploiter declares that his efforts and methods tend to produce a higher standard of "morality" in business. Lacking economic and political power to restore the "morality" of the earlier period of competition, the disappearing middle class as such, must accept the dictum of their more successful brethren as to what constitutes sound ethics, and while they still uphold the capitalist mode of production they may vainly strive to set aside the verdict. In vain they appeal to the "public opinion" to restore their vanishing status, in vain do they assemble in "anti-trust" conventions to attempt the impossible task of blocking economic progress. The evolution of capitalism is the evolution of "morality." Now that the period of competition is fast passing, now that "speculation" is becoming all but impossible, those whose growing economic power has been instrumental in making them so, do not hesitate to declare them unethical and immoral because they are no longer needed in "legitimate" business. The era of the trust has evolved a "morality" suitable for its own preservation.

There is but one power on earth that can in turn supersede the new business ethic of today, and it is to be found only in the working class, the proletariat, who have nothing to lose by the utter disappearance of capitalism, but on the contrary everything to gain. The "morality" of the trust will survive while economic and political power remains in the hands of its upholders. In short, while the latter remain the ruling class. Socialism, which will raise the working class to that position, is the only power that can finally definitely and effectually declare the present system immoral and unethical, by abolishing it.

When the means of production and distribution are collectively owned by the workers, people will remember with amazement that the Rockefeller-Morgan combination was once considered "gigantic."

If you want more recruits for socialism spread the circulation of this paper.

RAILROAD CONSOLIDATION AND ITS EFFECT UPON OFFICIALS.

ONE STAFF ALONE REQUIRED

SUPERFLUOUS EMPLOYEES WILL NOW HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH SOCIALISM.

No capitalist transaction has occurred in many years so fraught with educational significance as the great railroad consolidation deal recently engineered by the Morgan-Vanderbilt-Harriman syndicate, and a class who have heretofore rejected socialism as visionary, are now in a fair way of seeing that the things they have been accustomed to look upon as permanent and "practical," are in reality the vision, while a little more experience will show them that socialism is not only a reality, but the only reality of the present.

The control of transportation having now gravitated into the hands of one group of exploiters, the revolutionizing of this instrument of production may be expected to proceed at once, and incidentally the life conditions of those dependent upon its previous mode of operation will be similarly affected. A host of presidents, directors, traffic managers, freight and passenger agents, superintendents, and other officials, will find that their services can be and will be dispensed with, and that the "disturbance of existing relations will ultimately pass downward through every grade of labor employed in operating railroads, leaving as a residue a multitude, who dreaming permanent situations, will waken to find themselves in the "reserve army of industry" amongst the unemployed.

The consolidation took place for the express purpose of saving expenses, which will now appear in increased dividends for the group of shareholders composing the syndicate. A dozen different lines, each with separate staffs of officials and operatives, are now controlled from one central office.

The separate management and operation of each, at once becomes an anomaly, a source of useless expense, which reduces gross profits and must at once be eliminated.

One complete staff is alone required, and can be readily composed of the materials of the dozen old ones, leaving a surplusage with whose future the syndicate are not in the least concerned.

So instead of promotion, those who are even fortunate enough to retain employment, must prepare to step down to a position which they had occupied years before and which they were accustomed to regard merely as a stepping-stone to the positions which they held just previous to the advent of the enterprising syndicate. And even in this they may consider themselves favored, as above the others whose services are no longer required.

These people have in reality no good ground for protest against their apparent evil fortune. They had set their faces sternly against those who advocated a society in which each toiler could be guaranteed absolute security in making a living, the right to produce and own and enjoy their product. They regarded socialism as dangerous—they were "practical" men and looked upon untried innovations with dislike, and now comes an untried innovation which has no respect for their opinions, but considers them merely as a useless expense, and prepares to hurl them into the street.

It is entirely probable that very many of these people, when socialism was brought to their superior attention, hastened to declare that it "wouldn't work." They need have no doubts upon the working efficiency of the new order of things which has declared that they "won't work." Men more "practical" than themselves have assumed the helm.

It is by successive economic revolutions like the above, that the necessity of the great social revolution is impressed upon the minds of men. Whole sections of the middle class forced into the proletariat from time to time, are events which preach socialism louder and with far more conviction than the efforts of a thousand agitators. In acquiring control of, and consolidating the railroad transportation of the country, the syndicate, while reducing expenses, will as certainly increase the number of Socialists. Their action, (in which they have no choice), will compel a certain number of men to face their real conditions of life and learn from the past what the future has in store for them. When these men have learned from personal experience that the beneficiaries of the profit-system today may be its victims tomorrow, they will see the necessity of joining with the Socialists for its abolition.

Our premium offer is a stunner. If it stipules you, bathe your cranium in ice water and try it again.

A MODERN "IRONCLAD."

How the Stockyards Wage Slaves Are Rendered Powerless for Mutual Defence.

The cold weather of last week tended to emphasize the discontent of many of the workmen at the stock yards with a condition imposed upon them before they are accepted in the slavery of the big packers. Little enough at any time are the wages they receive but in the cold of the winter their scantiness makes a smaller showing than ever against the wants which cold weather increases. Therefore it is that the holding back from each man of fifteen dollars in accordance with the provisions of the "iron-clad" as it is called, is a severe hardship to them. The "iron-clad" works in the following manner, viz.: In any week in which the laborer works four consecutive days or more, one dollar and fifty cents is withheld from his wages of that period; if he gets less than four consecutive days' time in a week nothing is taken out (he couldn't live and work if it were); this process is followed until the company has fifteen dollars (\$15.00) of the worker's money held out against him. Now, if he quits the employ of the company without giving ten days' notice, he forfeits the fifteen dollars, but the company may fire him without a moment's warning by paying him his wages and the amount held in the iron-clad. "Death cometh like a thief in the night." It is at once seen that this deposit of fifteen dollars is practically useless to the worker. If he gets it at all it is accompanied by a notice that his means of life have been severed until he can find service in the slavery of a new master, or if he finds a new master who will impose a less galling yoke and before going to him gives ten days' due notice so that his place may be filled with a properly picked slave. Of course if a man is driven by sickness or distress in his family to supplicate his master for the deposit he may turn the stony heart to yield the favor, but the "iron-clad" must be put into operation at a future time again, to protect the master.

The whole arrangement was put into operation to keep the men from forming unions and striking. The men are now scrambling about it but they can do nothing. No industrial organization, no political sense, and the laboring-man's friend, the Chicago American, has not even taken up the case. Therefore the only thing left for them to do is to form an "iron-clad" of their own by uniting politically and at the ballot box showing their power. If such action had no other result, they may be sure it would knock on the head any such tyranny as the "iron-clad" in the quickest possible manner.

The Campaign Fund.

Comrades:—Again it is necessary to call your attention to the financial state of the party, as regards campaign funds. Although subscription lists have been sent out over seven weeks ago, the returns have been exceedingly small, in fact utterly insufficient to make even a pretense at running a campaign. You are earnestly requested to bend every effort towards securing the necessary funds, as the need is pressing and the campaign cannot be neglected without entailing severe loss to the Socialist movement.

We recognize of course that capitalism leaves you with scanty funds to spare for anything outside of physical necessities. Nevertheless the effort must be made by your class. The poorer you may be, the more need for socialism. Your exploiters are always ready to put up money so as to maintain your slavery. You at least should do proportionately as much for your freedom. Get your names on the list.

Fraternally,
The Executive Committee,
Per R. A. Morris.

The Church Militant.

For thorough-going brutality and a downright lust for blood and rapine, commend us to your sanctimonious man of God, and his journals. Amid all the jingo hooligan howling of the past eighteen months no voices have shrieked louder than those of the people and press which are supposed to be devoted to the "Prince of Peace." The most outrageous atrocities in South Africa and China have met the hearty and enthusiastic approval of both parson and parsonical press, and many of our readers will doubtless remember the incident narrated by Dr. Conan Doyle of a parson who expressed his indignant impatience because the soldiers were not quick enough in setting fire to a Boer farm. The following from the "Church Times" fairly represents the clerical sentiment with regard to warfare: "There are namby-pamby individuals in our midst today who think to build by pen and intellect the New Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant land." He who would learn to love must first learn to hate; and the man who would shrink from using shot, shell and bayonet is a poor fellow who will become extinct by the operation of the law of the survival of the fittest."
—London "Justice."

Get your neighbor to read the Call.

Socialist Pointers

You know somebody has to circulate those petitions. Couldn't you get a few names?

What profit will it be to turn out "Bobbie" Burke and turn in another of his kind?

We do not preach the class struggle. We simply point it out and it does its own preaching.

Isn't it strange that with everybody advocating municipal ownership that we don't get it.

People who have faith in a republican form of government don't shout "God save the King."

Did you send in those subscribers to the Workers' Call last week that you were going to?

Just a little more life in the campaign would not hurt it or make John Collins' chances any the less.

Legislatures that are enacting laws about cigarettes have at last got down to something of their size.

Some of the ward branches could learn valuable lessons in organization from some of the other branches.

The members of the Municipal Voters' League claim to be much better than "Rinky Dink," but they will have to show us.

Because we are so few each man must do his share of the shouting. Have you got out on the street yet and hollered for John Collins?

If you vote the Republican or Democratic ticket you need not worry. The bosses will soon tell you who you are to vote for for alderman.

The census shows that Berlin is about the size of Chicago, but it is ten times as progressive. The Socialists control its municipal government.

The inventor of smokeless powder was sent to jail but it was because he got drunk, and not for the greater offense of inventing the powder.

Some people think that the election of United States senators by popular vote is socialism. They need to have the Workers' Call sent to them.

Miners who are obliged to strike to get \$1.10 a day, do more useful work in half an hour than the aldermen who want \$5,000 a year, do in a lifetime.

Very kind of J. Pierpont Morgan to collect and organize the railroads all under one management so the people can step in with little or no confusion.

Several pretenders are again looking cross-eyed at France, but the Socialists are too strong there for the pretenders to ever be anything but a laughing stock.

Middle-of-the-road Populists are still holding conferences. It will take a death certificate to convince them they are dead if the recent election had no effect.

They may be able to run a campaign on the kind of wind they raise in Kansas but it cannot be done on the Chicago brand of wind. Pay in a little to the fund and help set the wheels going.

Mrs. Nation is more logical than the average reformer—she does something, but how much more good she could accomplish by taking her little hatchet and hacking away at the cause instead of at the effect.

J. W. C.—Your inquiry regarding socialism and atheism can perhaps best be answered by referring you to the opening paragraph of Professor George D. Herron's speech at Central Music Hall on February, 1st. It can be found in the Workers' Call, date February 2nd, on the third page, and will, we think, be accepted by most Socialists as generally correct. The entire extract may also be profitably read as throwing additional light on the subject. Towards what is usually termed "free thought," "secularism," or "atheism," with which the names of Ingersoll, Bradlaugh, and others, are frequently connected, socialism stands in an attitude of indifference—it is neither hostile nor partisan. Socialism has no time to devote to the "Mistakes of Moses," or the arguments pro and con relating to "inspired books," or infallible popes and churches. It deals primarily with economics as the basis upon which human society is built, and seeks the overthrow of the capitalist system by the united political action of the working class.

Does the man beside you in the shop read a socialist paper?

THE WORKERS' CALL

Published every Saturday at 36 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. Entered at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., as mail matter of the second class.

Subscription Rates: One year \$2.00, Six months \$1.25, Three months \$0.75, Single copies \$0.05.

Advertisements: A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted.

Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.

Death throes of competition: Because the rubber trust and the independent rubber manufacturers are to engage in a competitive war...

Intelligence needs to be told what use the bosses will make of their victory, when they are called upon to deal with individual trades.

Let the workmen of this city adopt workmen's politics in their unions and their economic organizations will grow stronger and better able to resist disruption...

COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL

Socialist Festival in Kensington Turner Hall Breaks All Previous Records.

The comrades of Pullman, Kensington and Roseland made a great success of their concert and ball at the Kensington Turner Hall, Sunday.

The first fires could not have been made nor kept burning, the first animals could not have been caught and tamed to give us the cow, horse, sheep and hog, except by co-operative effort.

A TWELVE MONTHS STRUGGLE

After a struggle lasting over a year the building trades lockout comes to an end, and in all probability the same fate awaits the Building Trades Council.

The agreements made with the contractors as to wages, hours, etc., may be maintained, at least while the rush of the building season lasts...

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE

A professor in the department of political economy, speaking to a body of students in that institution who had not formed themselves in a government club...

In raking up the record of Croker, the Tammany king, it has been discovered that in an election held in 1865 he voted no less than seventeen times in one day.

The Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railway company was defendant last week in a suit brought by a workman for the loss of a leg...

Mr. Franklin McVeagh declares that Chicago is destined to become the great educational center of the United States.

Newspaper biographies of Mr. Andrew Carnegie have appeared in almost all the capitalist journals...

Those high-priced railroad officials who are slated to lose their jobs when the Vanderbilt-Harriman-Morgan syndicate takes hold...

The purchase of the Carnegie interests by J. Pierpont Morgan and the consolidation of the iron and steel industry will perhaps be hailed by some as a step towards socialism.

Steps toward socialism are only manifested in the development of class-consciousness amongst the workers, and this demands the activity of every Socialist.

Hearst's Chicago American wants "municipal ownership" and its editorials strongly oppose any modification which falls short of this position.

One Jacob Rile, an alleged sociologist, attended a ball given recently by the political bosses of the First ward...

Mr. Rile viewed the proceedings and analyzed the elements it contained in a spirit of mingled cynicism, satire and depreciation.

This "sociologist" then reproaches the "better element" with refusing to join in the politics of the ward...

Perhaps Mark Hanna wants the ship subsidy bill passed so he can contribute to the Socialist campaign fund...

CIRCULATION NOTES

Three yearlies from Comrade Prince, of Chicago.

Two yearlies from Comrade Kennedy, of Kansas City, Mo.

A club of ten from Comrade Seavy of Wabash, Indiana.

A club of four half-yearlies from the old Fourth Ward branch.

Four yearlies and two half-yearlies from Comrade A. Eisenman, of Chicago.

A club of four half-yearlies from Laura Willard Taft, of South Chicago.

Eight half-yearly postals went away with Comrade R. A. Morris, of Chicago.

Those premium books are going fast, comrades. Better get in on the ground floor.

Four yearlies and one half-yearly sub from Comrade Becours, of Chicago.

Two yearly and four half-yearly postals go to Comrade Kuchenbecker, of Chicago.

Twenty new subscribers from Missouri, come by way of the regular S. D. P. organization.

Comrade H. F. Lindgren of Chicago, brings in a club of four yearlies and one half-yearly.

Comrade Lightfoot of Gas City, Ind., sends us one yearly sub and an order for a bunch of half-yearly postals.

Comrade Thomas Lamay, of Concordia, Kansas, sends in an order for three yearly and two half-yearly postals.

The following comrades have sent in clubs of two this week: D. A. Boswell, Herrin, Ill.; W. H. Leffingwell, Chicago; A. Mork, Chicago.

Comrade H. T. Vernon, of the Machinists' Union, sends in a club of five yearlies and three half-yearlies.

Comrade Allen K. Gifford writes to us from Manila, Philippine Islands, and encloses a yearly subscription to The Call.

Next to Davenport, Iowa, Sacramento, California, holds the palm for Workers' Call subscribers.

If the Twenty-fifth Ward branch does not carry off the palm in the coming municipal election, it will not be the fault of the indefatigable comrades who are devoting themselves to subscription hustling.

A club of eight yearlies from Comrade A. S. Montgomery, of Monmouth, Illinois. This is another comrade who finds that it is just as easy to get yearly subs as any other.

At the last meeting of Local Erie, of the Socialist party, the foregoing appeal to the brewery workers was read and a resolution at once adopted...

BOOK REVIEWS

SOCIALIST SONGS WITH MUSIC. Price, 25 cents; Charles H. Kerr & Co., 56 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill.

This book is the first attempt at providing a collection of songs with complete piano accompaniment, for use at Socialist meetings in the United States.

Temple of Socialism

The comrades of the West Side celebrated Lincoln's birthday by holding a rousing evening meeting, where it was decided to rent the vacant chapel at 126 S. Western avenue...

It is safe betting that in the libraries to be established by Brother Carnegie, Socialist literature will be conspicuous chiefly by its absence.

Great Premium Offer

It is with pleasure that the Workers' Call announces to its friends and patrons that it has completed arrangements with one of the largest Socialist publishing houses in the country...

With every two dollars worth of subscriptions or Workers' Call postals, paid for at the rate of 50 cents for yearlies and 25 cents for half-yearlies...

With every one dollar worth of subscriptions or Workers' Call postals, paid for at the same rate, we will give any two of the following classics of Socialist literature...

Also with one dollar's worth of subscriptions we will give any one of the following 25 cent books: "The Civil War in France," by Karl Marx...

It is unnecessary for us to dilate to any extent upon the merits of the books which we thus place within the easy reach of every comrade in the country.

The Workers' Call, 36 N. Clark St., Chicago. Comrades:—Enclosed you will find to pay for subscription on the names elsewhere enclosed...

Subscription form with fields for Name, No., City or Town, State, and a section for Correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved, That we respectfully urge the Chicago and Springfield committees to call a convention at or near Buffalo, N. Y., on the birthday of American political independence...

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing be sent to the Socialist press, and that all organizations be solicited to endorse the same...

Meetings for the Week

- The following meetings have been arranged for the coming week: Sunday, 3 p. m., Central Music Hall, Speaker, Prof. Geo. D. Herron...

A CAPITALIST PEACEMAKER.

Influential Burgher Defines the Position of the "Working Class" in Modern Society.

Many of the events which have recently occurred in connection with the progress of the struggle in South Africa are well worthy of the attention of the working class in other lands.

And now the brother of the Boer General DeWet, appears in the role of peacemaker, and has addressed a long lecture to the latter urging him to abandon the conflict.

Should the war continue a few months longer the nation will become so poor that it will become a WORKING CLASS AND DISAPPEAR AS A NATION.

Here in the United States we have a theory that the working class is by far the most important factor in our national existence, a theory which is exploited to the utmost when an election is to be held.

As Piet DeWet tells his brother, the best thing for the Boers to do now is to accept the inevitable without further waste of life and property.

This opinion admits that the working class cannot rule in any country, that the wage laborer has no individuality, and that his class is in no sense the nation.

It would be well for workmen to discover for themselves how their position in present society is estimated by those whose wealth is derived from the toil of the workers.

In urging his brother to make terms with the enemy Piet DeWet gives additional evidence of the truth of the familiar Socialist phrase that the "patriotism of the capitalist is in his pocket."

See that your subscription is renewed promptly.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Glimpses of the World-wide Struggle of the Proletarian Army for Its Liberty.

BELOGIUM. Vanderweide has brought in a bill authorizing women to practice at the bar.

FINLAND. A new weekly paper published in Sweden has appeared at Helsingfors. In its program I notice that it will advocate a reduction of hours of labor.

FRANCE. There is an election pending in one of the arrondissements of Paris and there were several Socialist candidates.

GREAT BRITAIN. At the weekly public meeting held by the Edinburgh branch of the S. D. F. on Sunday last, when G. S. Yates lectured on "Socialism and Science During the Last Century" the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, By the grace of God, by inheritance, and by the slavish apathy of class-conscious working people, Edward VII. is now proclaimed king; and Whereas, Out of unpaid labor, royalties, for its own purposes, annually draw the extraordinary recompense of over £1,000,000 sterling, besides having the power of creating and disposing of places at the taxpayers' expense; and Whereas, The splendors of a court consist of the most successful land thieves, company promoters, godless bishops, stock exchange riggers, bailed generals, mammoth brewers, widows whose husbands had been scoundrels of defenseless blacks, scandal-mongers, actresses, duchesses (imported and home-grown), and all that other foam and jetsam of a commercial society, who are pleased to style themselves ladies and gentlemen of quality, but who may nevertheless be more aptly described as needy, seedy, or greedy; and Whereas, The monarchy and aristocracy, saved as they were by fear of a working class victory, from the general wreck of feudalism during the French Revolution, have now become capitalist, and, together with big brother Capital, are allowed a share of the spoils of labor; and Whereas, Inasmuch as the monarchy is not democratically elective, but hereditary, and an imposition, it cannot claim to be defended, but its continuance must be determined at every opportunity, and overthrown at the first opportunity by a working class that is class-conscious; therefore, be it Resolved, By this meeting of Socialist Democratic citizens that any support given to the monarchy, by workmen, either individually, in societies, or in a representative capacity, cannot be considered other than as treachery to the true working class position.

GERMANY. It is intended to erect a monument to Liebknecht in Berlin.

"Vorwärts" states that Bernstein and Motzler will shortly leave London and return to Germany, as the German government has decided not to prosecute them for the old press offenses of issuing the "Social-Democrat" in the eighties.

HOLLAND. Van Koll, the Dutch Socialist deputy, has been giving a lecture in Paris on the Dutch East Indian colonies.

SPAIN. There has been recently great activity in organization of the workmen in the province of Asturias.

Rush Those Signatures Along. Comrades:—The signatures necessary to place the party on the ballot in the coming election must be collected far more rapidly than heretofore.

Fraternally, The Executive Committee, Per R. A. Mofsin.

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

Branches are expected to pay the carfare of speakers who address their agitation meetings.

The Fifth Ward branch has reorganized and will hold agitation meetings every first and third Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at their hall, 374 S. Halsted street.

The comrades of the new Sixteenth ward completed an organization last Monday evening at the headquarters of the Socialist Educational club, 1132 Milwaukee avenue.

Comrade Chas. H. Ketz spoke at the meeting of the Eighth Ward branch at Sherman Hall, South Chicago, Saturday evening, on the subject "The Ethics of Socialism."

Last Wednesday evening the Socialists of the new Seventeenth ward reorganized at Aurora Hall, corner Huron street and Milwaukee avenue.

The Third Ward branch, formerly the Fourth, continues to hold agitation meetings every Sunday evening at 8 P. M. at their hall, 335 State street.

As agitation work progresses through the medium of the regular party organization, propaganda among the trade unions is not being neglected.

"Poverty a Crime" was the subject of an address by Comrade F. W. Knox at a big agitation meeting of the Twenty-fifth Ward branch last Sunday evening at Proletarian Hall, 89 S. Sheffield avenue.

The Socialists in the new Twenty-eighth ward reorganized last Monday night at their headquarters, Socialist Hall, Milwaukee and Armitage avenues.

Last Thursday evening there was an interesting and well-attended meeting of the Socialists of the Thirty-first and Thirty-second wards, at the headquarters of the Thirty-first Ward branch, 608 S. Halsted street.

LABOR ITEMS. And Notes From Trades Union Journals and Exchange, Throughout the United States. The Alpena, Mich. Trades Council has declared for socialism.

KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.

An Answer to the Charge that Socialism Finds Its Adherents Only Among "Ignorant Workmen."

In common with other alleged reasons, we are sometimes told that socialism is wrong because its adherents consist mainly of "ignorant" workmen.

We have no need to be ashamed of our adherents, for our adherents would have been best apparent had we maintained the usual indifference to misgovernment, and have been contented with our gradually growing wretched condition.

As agitation work progresses through the medium of the regular party organization, propaganda among the trade unions is not being neglected.

LABOR ITEMS. A Review of Socialist Effort During the Past Year Shows Most Satisfactory Gains. "Social-Demokrat" official organ of the Danish Social-Democratic party and leading Danish daily, comments on the passing of the old year as follows:

LABOR ITEMS. The Switchmen's National union has a membership of 12,000, with splendid prospects of an addition of several thousand in the near future.

electrician and inventor, is treated with scant courtesy because he says "the worst criminals are the idle rich."

Recently a safe in the office of the Standard Oil company at Youngstown, O., was blown open and robbed.

MISSOURI SUPREME COURT. The Missouri Supreme Court handed down a decision that the Western Union corporation's income cannot be taxed.

The Missouri legislature is preparing to pass a law to prevent Christian Scientists from attempting to cure diseases by "faith."

REPORTS FROM MANILA. Reports from Manila show that capital invested in industries in the Philippines are yielding enormous profits in spite of the fact that a condition of war prevails there.

REPORTS FROM MANILA. The Department of Labor Bulletin No. 22 gives a list of the wages paid in different industries in Manila.

PROGRESS IN DENMARK. A Review of Socialist Effort During the Past Year Shows Most Satisfactory Gains. "Social-Demokrat" official organ of the Danish Social-Democratic party.

"The year 1900 was an election year. It began with city and town elections, and proved that the government party, (the party of the right), no longer has a majority in the city councils throughout the land.

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members of the city administration. At elections held in several towns, in the months of August and September, the Social-Democratic party polled a big vote and elected 74 representatives for minor offices.

"The Social-Democrats held at the beginning of the year 1900 230 communal mandates and at the close of the year had increased the number to 556.

"A compulsory arbitration law has been passed, and the state has been forced to recognize the trade union as the representative organ of the working class.

"The party press has made great progress during the last year. "Social-Demokraten," the party's leading organ has, since March 24th, issued special editions with offices in the towns of Lyngby, Helsingor, Roskilde, Holbek, Nakskov and Rone.

"Since July 1st new papers have appeared in the towns of Silkeborg and Ringkjobing.

"Several red flags have been dedicated during the year, and hundreds of Socialist meetings have been carried on in country and town.

"Dr. Gustav Bang has lately given a series of lectures on socialism in the University of Copenhagen, which have been well-attended.

"All in all it can be said that the Socialist movement in Denmark through the past year has proved to be on a sound and solid basis."

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FOR SOCIALIST UNITY.

Waterbury, Conn., Socialist Club Submits Plan for Uniting the Separate Socialist Bodies.

To the Socialists of the United States of America.

Whereas, It is evident to thoughtful people that the time is nearly fulfilled when, in the evolution of society the Socialist state will become unavoidable if humanity is to go forward.

Whereas, The present political situation demands a united front of all Socialists against common enemies, but we behold a condition of division among us, being divided into jealous, petty factions, quarreling about leaders and small matters.

Whereas, Economic conditions are rapidly bringing home to the hearts of the people the fact of the class struggle, causing class lines to be consciously drawn as they never before have been drawn in America's history and thus causing a disruption of old party ties and a new alignment of forces; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a national convention be called of all Socialists, without regard to previous affiliations, party ties or factions, who accept and will firmly maintain these two fundamental principles:

First, The fact of the inevitable class struggle between the working class which produces all on the one hand, and the capitalist class which owns nearly all on the other, yet this is without hatred of individuals or exclusive blame of either class, but simply scientifically recognizing the results of social evolution.

Second, That assisted as it may or may not be by individuals of other classes, it is the mission of the working class to establish the public ownership and control of all the means of production and distribution.

Resolved, That the purpose of this convention shall be to accomplish the organic unity of all Socialists.

Resolved, That the basis of representation in this convention shall be the combined vote of the S. L. P. and the S. D. P. in each state or territory, using the highest number cast for any candidate, each state or territory to have one delegate for every five hundred votes cast or major fraction thereof, provided however, that each state and territory shall be entitled to at least one delegate.

Resolved, That each delegate shall have only one vote.

Resolved, That these national delegates shall be elected by the state or territorial convention or by a referendum vote taken as the state or territorial convention shall prescribe.

Resolved, That said state or territorial convention shall be constituted after the following manner, to wit:

(a) A call shall be issued in each election district, town, city, or county, as the case may be, for a caucus of all Socialists who will subscribe their names to the two fundamental principles declared above. All persons of legal age who attend said caucus and sign said declaration shall have equal voice and vote without regard to race, nationality, sex, or previous party affiliation.

(b) The call for this caucus shall be issued by a combined committee of all the local Socialist organizations or as many as shall be willing to act, or by any one of them in case of failure to meet or to agree. Provided, however, that in any locality where there is yet no organization or where the local call to issue said call within a month after receiving the same, any Socialist who shall send his subscription to these resolutions to the nearest committee or authority issuing the same, is by that act, empowered to call such a caucus.

(c) Each local caucus shall elect delegates to the state or territorial convention, one delegate for every fifteen or major fraction thereof, signing the declaration.

(e) Each local caucus shall elect a permanent committee to communicate with all other caucuses and decide by a referendum vote of such committees the time and place of the state or territorial convention. The number of such committees shall be twice the number of delegates. Each local caucus shall pay the expense of its delegates and devise ways and means to raise the same. It may also effect a permanent organization, adjourn from time to time, and transact any other business which it may seem good for the Socialist cause. Provided, however, that nothing in this movement shall be construed to supersede or be inimical to the interests of existing Socialist organizations until the national convention shall have been held.

(f) The call for a caucus shall be for the call?

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posted in a public place, and published in the party press, in a local daily paper or weekly if there be no daily, or on default of either, in the paper having the best circulation.

Resolved, That the national delegates elected in each state or territory arrange with the other state and territorial committees, similarly constituted, the time and place of the national convention.

Resolved, That upon the closing of this national convention all Socialist parties thereby cease their previous separate existence and that all Socialists thereafter order and combine themselves as such convention shall have determined.

Resolved, That no national officer of any Socialist party or faction existing previous to November 6th, 1900, shall be eligible as a delegate to this national convention, but any such officer may be present at the same and, by a three-fifths vote of the convention, be given the privilege of the floor at such time and duration as the convention shall permit.

Resolved, That Socialist shall be our simple name, and solidarity our aim and watchword.

Resolved, That such local organization or unaffiliated Socialist who indorses these resolutions shall forward one copy of their action on the same to the secretary of its state committee, one to the secretary of each national executive committee, if there be any, and return one to this committee.

Irving C. Chatfield, John Swan, Louis Bock, Committee.

Waterbury, Conn., January 8, 1901. Comrades:—The foregoing resolutions have been adopted by the members of the Waterbury Socialist club, who, recognizing the present unsatisfactory condition of affairs, are desirous of securing organic unity of forces in the United States. We urge all Socialists to give this matter the gravest consideration, believing that the time is come when the Socialists of this country, must see the folly of being divided among themselves and that to insure success we must create a solidarity of forces.

Irving C. Chatfield, John Swan, Louis Bock, Committee.

Address communications to John Swan, 267 Walnut street, Waterbury, Conn.

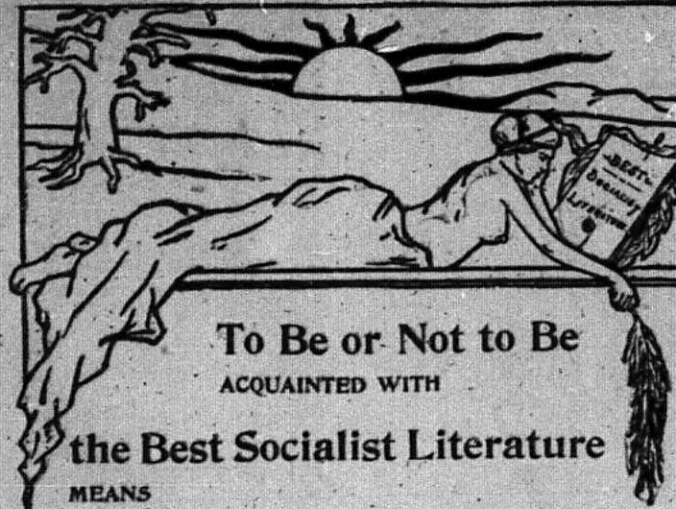
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The Haverhill Social Democrat, remarks on The People's Marx as The Bible of the working class, a Bible whose study is as beneficial to the workingman as is the orthodox Bible to the average Christian.

OTHER OPINIONS OF THE PRESS

The New York People on The People's Marx: Deville, in this abridgement and popularization of one of the profoundest and one of the most difficult economic works ever undertaken, has succeeded admirably in this respect: That he has held close to the outlines of the original work, has preserved its essentials of form as well as of matter, but has considerably reduced its size, and to a very great extent has simplified it and brought it within the understanding of the ordinary reader.

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"These lessons are showing to me how each stage of human progress grows of necessity out of the previous ones. They make one want to find out to what the world is growing now, and then try to help it along." G. Andersen.

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This is the only periodical in the English language reckoning among its contributors all the great Socialist writers of the world. Among those whose writings have appeared in its columns in the last seven months are Charles H. Vail, Leonard D. Abbott, W. T. Brown, H. M. Hyndman, Paul Lafargue, E. V. Debs, Job Harriman, Ernest Crosby and Emile Vandervelde, while Edwin Markham, Kier Hardie, Rev. T. McGrady and Jane Adams have promised articles.

PROF. GEORGE D. HERRON conducts a department each month on SOCIALISM AND RELIGION, containing matter of great interest and value to all students of social questions. It is the only instance in the history of Socialist literature where a regular department was conducted upon this subject by a man who combines such rare natural talents with a thorough knowledge of the literature and doctrines of both Religion and Socialism.

MAX S. HAYES, equally well-known as a writer and speaker in both the Socialist and trade union movement, edits a department on THE LABOR WORLD. This consists of a thorough summary of the happenings in the field of organized labor, with descriptions of the more important mechanical and industrial changes of each month.

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The department of BOOK REVIEWS is edited with the special aim of making it a continuous and complete compendium of the wealth of material in current literature that is of interest to Socialists. The regular EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT is conducted by the general editor, A. M. SIMONS, who discusses topics of current interest in the light of the Socialist philosophy. An interesting phase is a financial summary of the month, giving the facts as to prices, wages, bankruptcies, financial consolidations and general trade movements that are of interest to Socialists, but which have hitherto been buried in trade and financial journals and inaccessible to the average reader.

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