





THE WORKERS' CALL.

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Advertisements. A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted. Rates will be made known upon application.

Editorial Announcements.

To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed. Contributions must reach the office by Monday evening preceding the issue in which they are to appear.

A. M. SIMONS, Editor.



The Socialist Vote.

Table showing the Socialist vote in the United States from 1890 to 1908. 1890: 13,704; 1891: 16,552; 1892: 21,512; 1893: 25,088; 1894: 30,090; 1895: 34,889; 1896: 36,375; 1897: 41,540; 1898: 46,204.

Copies sold last week 9,750.

GOOD CAPITALIST POLITICS.

Last fall a wave of municipal ownership sentiment swept over this country. In a host of cities it was made the "issue." Socialists were told to stand aside in order that the "practical" men might "do something right off."

Rose of Milwaukee, Harrison of Chicago, Jones of Toledo and Pingree of Detroit were only a few of the mayors that were elected on this "issue." Now nearly three-quarters of a year has passed since this election, and we would just like to rise and ask how many cities now own their street cars.

The capitalist press are forced by the demand for news to ever lend scant praise to the socialists of France, as is seen in the following from the Chicago Tribune: "Jaures' statement that if the French Republic was to remain stable it must depend upon the socialists as the only party able to save it from reaction has been proven since the socialists have been in the cabinet. Things are better in every respect. There is genuine alarm in Europe over the admirable work of the socialists in France, who are evidently destined to play an important role in the politics of the future."

from a different point of view—that of the laborer, says that the trouble is that we are today living under a rule of the capitalist class, and that, while this class may be split into different factions whose interests differ on minor points, they are solid on the one point of keeping the laborer in wage slavery. Hence, however much the right hand does (7), or promises to do, for labor or the middle class, we may be sure that they will keep their left hand well informed, and where there is any need that hand will be called in to stop action. In England and on the continent of Europe it was possible for the small capitalists to gain many concessions and to block temporarily the advance of capitalism at many points. But in America the process of trustification has gone too far and the great capitalist rules. From the standpoint of the laborer this is an advantage. He has less "muddledom" to contend with. The fight becomes an open one. The lines are clearly drawn. Upon the one side is the man who owns the tools and the land. Because of this ownership he makes the laws and forms the institutions that declare that the laborer shall remain in wage slavery. Opposed to this class stands the great body of workers. They cannot, like the capitalist, live upon what others produce. Therefore they must themselves produce or die. But all the instruments with which to produce are in the hands of the other social class—the capitalists. If the laborers wish to use them they must give up to the owners of these instruments nearly all they produce. The laborer cannot protest because he does not make or enforce the laws—and is helpless to obtain his product. There is but one thing for him to do. That is not to fool with changes in his master's government, laws and courts, but to abolish the master entirely. He can do this through his ballot. Let him unite with all the laborers of the world, and, going to the polls, vote to make his class the rulers of society. Having gained this ruling power, he will be in a position to make laws in the interest of the laboring class just as they are now made in the interest of the capitalists. As all the institutions of society will be in control of the workers, there will be no chance for courts to declare legislation in the interest of the laborers unconstitutional any more than they could at present so declare legislation in the interest of the capitalists. So long as the capitalists remain the ruling class, there is no use of talking legislation against their interests. No matter how many Joneses, Pingrees and Altgelds may turn up, the condition of the laborer will remain unchanged. It is only by uniting with the Socialist Labor Party on the platform of overthrow of capitalist class rule that anything can be accomplished.

William Jennings Bryan, Gov. Theodore Roosevelt, Gov. Hazen S. Pingree and the executives of many other states have been invited by the Anti-trust league of the state of Illinois to attend and participate in an anti-trust mass meeting to be held in this city early in August. Ald. John Powers presided yesterday at a meeting at the Sherman house of the central committee of the league from the various wards of this city, at which he was chosen chairman of the Chicago branch. A thorough ward and precinct organization will be completed as rapidly as possible, and a national organization is contemplated.—Chicago Daily News.

The above list of notables is a good one to start a reform, anti-trust meeting with. Later on a few labor fakirs will be added to gain the support of the unions and then a sprinkling of reformers will be thrown in to give the whole affair "respectability." That is the recipe according to which all these conventions are prepared. To be sure there is sometimes a flavoring of little business men and professional good people to vary the monotony. But there is one class of people who have never yet been caught at any of these conventions and that is the straight Socialist Labor Party men. No matter how hungry the convention organizers are for "information" they never meddle with the S. L. P. fellows. They might find out something, and the laborers might catch on and then who would hold trust conventions and get the political jobs?

The capitalist press are forced by the demand for news to ever lend scant praise to the socialists of France, as is seen in the following from the Chicago Tribune: "Jaures' statement that if the French Republic was to remain stable it must depend upon the socialists as the only party able to save it from reaction has been proven since the socialists have been in the cabinet. Things are better in every respect. There is genuine alarm in Europe over the admirable work of the socialists in France, who are evidently destined to play an important role in the politics of the future."

You ought to have a half dozen numbers of the "Pocket Library of Socialism" with you all the time to hand out when you get into an argument. Remember you get a copy with every twenty-five-cent subscriber you send in to The Workers' Call.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

The Chicago Record of the 8th inst. has a dispatch stating that the wages of the employes of the life-saving stations on the lakes will be reduced \$5 per month. To offset this a "state of war" will be declared in the Philippines, and the pay of the life-destroyers will consequently be raised \$3 per month. This is perfectly in accord with the capitalist system and is an excellent illustration of the love of "humanity" with which our masters are filled, and which was such a valuable catchword in precipitating the late war with Spain.

We see in the papers that the granite for the new post office building will arrive next month. We await with interest the action of the Chicago Building Trades Council in this matter, as it is said to be the strongest organization of its kind, but they do not believe in political action on the part of the working class, except to secure jobs for fakirs.

Here is their dilemma. The Italian granite cutters have started an organization of their own, and named it the "Legal American Union" in opposition to the already established union. We repeat that we await the result with interest.

Cruelty to animals. The Social Democratic mongrel has been deprived of its caudal appendage. The National General Executive Board successfully performed the amputation with the hope of making the beast more presentable, and the "Farmers' Plank" has shared the fate of the "colonization scheme." The dissection of political platform is only a trifle to the giant intellects of the Deb's movement, who are quite as proficient in such matters as their republican and democratic fakirs.

Kickers in our party are requested to note that this operation was performed without any referendum vote. The rank and file were not consulted in the matter. Their part is to "trust their leaders" as the immortal Debs has so often enjoined them. These leaders, all men of "honor" and "knowledge" stood not on ceremony. The cur's tail was unsightly, so they simply chopped it off.

To celebrate this event two grand mass meetings were advertised, and the name of Debs lead all the rest, although Chase, Carey, and other satellites were to be present. On the hand bills of this purely "American Socialist Party," (printed in three languages), music by a band was promised, and the work of the N. G. E. B. was to be held up to public admiration. The meetings were held, and all the shining lights were conspicuous by their absence, as was also the case with the promised band. They were going to "beat the band," but the band was up to snuff and didn't present themselves to be beat.

Although the capacity of the hall was about 2,500, scarcely 200 were present, and even of this small number a good many were Socialist Labor party men, who would have asked many inconvenient questions, which perhaps explains the absence of the shining lights.

Among those who spoke (not on the bills) was the Rev. Strickland, who was the capitalist candidate against our Comrade Collins in the 13th ward last April. He said that he was now a "class conscious socialist," and to prove it, held up his platform, still bleeding where the amputation had taken place. Another was George Koop, who at any rate is a better man than any of those notable by their absence. He was expelled from the S. L. P. because he could not subject himself to its discipline, but he will learn by bitter experience, that by rigid discipline alone can the working class achieve its emancipation.

When this purely "American" meeting was over, and as the disappointed audience wended slowly from the hall, remarks like the following were heard: "Was ist der madder mit 'Teps,'" "He makes one tam fool off us."

As a pleasant contrast to the above doleful recital, our picnic, with no other advertising than that given in The Workers' Call and the activity of our comrades, brought about 3,000 of the working class from all parts of the city to Gardner's Park, and netted a goodly sum for the benefit of our paper, The Workers' Call. The older members of the party were inspired by the sight of the large number of new young men, who are rapidly forging their way to the head of the movement, which is their proper place. While the veterans have no intention of discarding the harness, they are well pleased and satisfied to know that the movement loses none of its vigor and virility in passing into the hands of the younger men.

That the capitalist classes throughout the world are looking toward the disfranchisement of the workers as a temporary salvation, is becoming very apparent. Our Austrian comrades are now resisting an attempt to curtail their voting power, while the proletariat of Belgium, Italy and Germany are still on the alert against capitalist efforts in that direction. Let us have a clear, class-conscious movement, and the propertied classes may unite as they please. The future is ours.

We do not ask for cash contributions but if you have a dollar that you think you can spare toward securing your freedom, send it along with ten names and addresses and it will help you and us also.

SURVIVAL OF FITTEST

Historical Changes That Have Taken Place in the Character of the Struggle for Existence.

There are certain catch phrases that have sprung from the new evolutionary thoughts that are often used as arguments against socialism. At some future time we hope to be able to enter at some length into the contributions to sociological thought made by the evolutionary theory, but it must now suffice to simply mention one or two of the instances where evolution is quoted as opposed to socialism.

One of the first of these is that competition is necessary to insure the survival of the fittest. But fitted to survive means simply suited to a certain environment. For some conditions, indeed for many, the clam is far more fitted to survive than man. Underground, the mole is more "fitted to survive" than the horse. So before we pronounce any judgment regarding the desirability of preventing the survival of anybody it is well to see what are the character of those who are fitted to survive at the present time.

The environment of anything consists of everything outside of the thing considered that in any way affects it. With man, one of the most important things to be considered in the environment is the society in which he lives. It is the social organization more than anything else that decides who shall survive. Now what kind of a man best succeeds under our present economic organization? In a competitive world that man succeeds best who can live the nearest like a beast, who can adulterate his goods without being detected, who can bribe legislatures and courts, who can grind labor the closest, who, in short, can best combine the acquisitiveness of a hog, the cunning of a fox, and the ghoulishness of a hyena. Now if this is the type of man that it is desired to develop then we must admit that socialism will fail to secure his survival and perpetuation.

Another phase of this same objection is that it would remove the "struggle for existence" and hence would no longer "eliminate the unfit." Therefore there would be no progress. Part of this objection is simply the reverse of the objection just considered in that it does not stop to analyze what is meant by "unfit." But regarding the "struggle for survival" there is something more to be said. It must be remembered that this struggle constantly embraces larger larger social units. At one time it was every man's hand against every other as INDIVIDUALS. Then they united in families, tribes, races and nations and pursued their fight against nature in common. This went on until nature was well-nigh subdued, until the primary conflict for life with natural forces, drought, heat, cold, etc., was well-nigh over. Then the fight began again within the various social units. The tribe, or nation constituted a new SOCIAL environment within which there was a new struggle for survival. This struggle was over the possession of the product that had been secured from nature. At first this was between individuals, but gradually the parties to the contest grew in size centuries the battle has been between and social importance until for many social CLASSES. Each individual finds his personal interests bound up with those of a large number of his fellow men so that he becomes a part of a class. Survival now becomes a question of membership in the ruling class or of making the dependent class sufficiently powerful to either overthrow or at least withstand the encroachments of the rulers. Furthermore, just as the progress of society in an earlier stage depended upon the survival of the strongest and best individuals, so today the character, rapidity, and indeed the fact of social advance depends upon the nature of the class that survives and rules. Just as in the individualistic stage if by any chance there had arisen an environment which would have caused the feeble minded or the flat-footed persons to have survived it would have developed a race of flat-footed imbeciles, so today if the environment could be such as to encourage the victory of the idle parasitic class instead of the working producing class the result would be, if such a thing were conceivable, a race of idle parasites. But the entire history of organic life has shown that before such a point is reached the basic physical environment again arises to prominence and eliminates such a dependent class.

Today we are in the midst of a struggle to decide what the social environment of the next social period shall be. The question at issue is between the idle parasitic capitalist class and the toiling producing laboring class. Our present social environment is fixed by the rule of the former. They seem now to be "showing themselves" "unfit to survive" and hence must give way to the more virile laboring class. But with the victory of this latter class it is proposed that the elemental conflict for the physical means of existence be abolished. It is held that at present, it is possible, with the modern methods of production to secure from nature enough to supply the wants of all and that the age-long fight with elemental nature can be ended. The socialists, who advocate and seek to secure the victory of the workers maintain that it is at present easily possible to produce far more than can be used by all the members of the human race. He therefore proposes that when he shall have gained the ruling power, the conflict between man and man for the means of existence shall be abolished and that the struggle for existence shall be between the entire group of mankind, and

external nature. He need not be particularly proud of this as he will then have only placed his race on a level in this regard with all gregarious animals. No animal that hunts in herds, packs or droves, but has learned that it is more advantageous to suppress the fight within the group and turn the common energies against the outside world than it is for each individual to enter into a universal fight with all the rest of the universe.

LETTER BOX.

I would call your attention to article in No. 8, "Negro Outrages" and ask that such articles be omitted in the future. May Day People had several such and result is movement here was injured no little. These discussions can do no good and do great harm. The negro will never be allowed to rule in this section of N. S. He is unfitted for the party who informed you the men assaulted negro women in the South is a liar. I would like you to reply as to course your paper will in future take in the matter. Why our papers should boom negroes at expense of death of movement amongst white people here is queer.

The above letter is published because it comes from one whom we had always supposed to have some idea of the philosophy of socialism, but this communication shows that he is woefully ignorant as to its fundamental principles. Until the white laborer of the South gets over his idiotic race prejudices and realizes that the color line is as imaginary as the national one, he will never be free. The white race hate is part and parcel with the capitalist patriotism. Both seek to divide the laborer while he is being plundered. It sounds very nice (to capitalist ears) to prate about the negro never ruling, but the cold fact is that the capitalist will rule in the South as long as he can get whites to talk such nonsense. The white laborer makes a great fuss about race distinctions, but the capitalist does not distinguish when he is looking for labor, and here as everywhere else, the artificial distinctions raised by capitalism to divide the laborers are being wiped out by capitalism itself.

As to our facts—they are notorious throughout the South, and how a wage-slave can be so impregnated with the capitalist ideas as to defend his masters from the exposure of their outrages upon members of the laborer's own class passes our understanding.

As to the attitude of this paper—that is a matter for the party to decide at all times, but as long as it remains a socialist paper it will not take notice of race distinctions within the laboring class. As for that attitude hurting the socialist movement in the South—there is no socialist movement where race hatred rises above class-consciousness and if there are S. L. P. sections or members in which this condition exists the sooner they are made aware of this fact the better.

My notion is that our salvation lies with those who have a little leisure, education, and sense of justice to investigate and act. The average laborer has none of these qualifications. He is simply a plutocrat without the opportunity. He is slavish and greedy. But easily quiet so long as his belly is fairly full. Indeed he can do a long time on short rations. I am not his enemy, but his friend. I've been trying for years to open his mind to a sense of his rights. Have pinched myself and my family in so doing. But I'm tired of him; of his slavishness and selfishness. I rather think you fellows are wrong in "cussin" every other kind of socialism save your own. These things come by degrees, and there are many ways of helping them. Every S. L. P. man has been made one by successive stages of thought. You have to work a subject through the different stages in nine cases out of ten. It is impossible for him to jump wholly into what it took you years of thought and action to attain. You S. L. P. fellows forget all about the rungs of the ladder you mounted on, and assume the right to "cuss" everything that has not climbed as high as you.

But I haven't time to write. The workers hereaway are a long way from socialism. They don't believe that they have any rights in common with the negro except the right to serve some one who has more money than they have.

Class hatred in the South is a mighty barrier to the unity of the workers; and the papers and politicians work it for all it is worth. You people have the same sort of class distinctions, though not so strong (quite) as the colorphobia. The counter-jumper, at \$5.00 a week, fancies himself the infinite superior of the man that swings the hammer at \$3 or \$4 a day. Don't you see? What are you going to do about it? And the laborer has the same selfish instincts of the wealthy robber, unmodified by the usually toning effects of education and leisure. How then is he going to fill in and give us wisdom and justice when he is unwilling to do justice to his own fellow-workers? He is even hired to kill them, and is doing his work finely in the Philippines.

The above letter contains so much that is half true and so many common objections that are very well stated that it deserves attention. The very fact of the laborer's selfishness is the thing that will in the end bring social deliverance. It is because if he follows his selfish class interests (which is only another name for that first law of nature, self-preservation), he must vote himself and all of society out of slavery. Up to the present time self-interest (of a more or less enlightened type) is the only thing that has made for progress in the entire sentient world, and so far as can be seen at present the only result upon any organism which should follow any other motive would be its dissolution. This self-interest in all the gregarious animals and in society always can be best sought in co-operation with others, and hence involves common action of groups of men.

his class instead of trying to crawl into the capitalist class socially, and politically, while economically he is a laborer. But sooner or later the fact of what his true self-interest is will be forced upon the worker by economic development and when that day comes capitalism is doomed.

Now as to tactics. You say we "are wrong in cussin' every other kind of socialism save your own." Now in the first place what "other kinds of socialism" are there? Socialism is a science whose principles, like those of any other science, have been developed by a great number of different thinkers, but whose main features are today clearly indicated and agreed upon by thousands of students of every race and nationality. If you were to ask Liebknecht or Kautsky of Germany, Jaures or Guesde of France, Vandervelde of Belgium, Adler of Austria, or Ferri of Italy, for a discussion of socialism there would probably be but little, if any more divergence in their answers than there would be if a similar variety of astronomers were asked for a discussion of astronomy. There is a well-defined science with a voluminous literature of all forms but there is little divergence as to general principles. When you come to the English-speaking countries, however, we find that while this same scientific philosophy has its representatives, there have also arisen a great number of badly mixed and half-educated social philosophers who have dubbed their vagaries socialism. These are the fellows we are "cussin'" because we believe their influence upon the working-class movement to be wholly bad. You say we "forget all about the rungs of the ladder we mounted on," but the fact is we recall those steps and realize that it was only because those at the top kept up a continual "cussin'" which made our foothold unsafe and forced us to move that we ever got higher up. We have found out by long experience that the surest way to make a man move is to build a fire under his present position. Coaxing may and it may not move him. The fire surely will, and if he insists on moving on to another hollow delusion we will keep on building fires until he moves onto the solid earth of class-conscious socialism.

Book Reviews.

PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISM, by Rev. Chas. H. Vall; Commonwealth Publishing Co.; pp. 237; paper, 35 cents.

In very many ways this is a book to be welcomed. It in a measure fills a long felt want for a fairly short and accurate exposition of socialism that is simple enough for the beginner and elaborate enough to be a help to the student of socialism. The first and last chapter are especially valuable. The first on "The Industrial Revolution" has been happily put into a separate pamphlet by the same publishers and sells for five cents. It is a pity that they did not include the last chapter, which is a short conclusion and summing up and which would have made one of, if not the most valuable short pamphlet for propaganda purposes in existence. As it is we know of no other short pamphlet in the English language that is as satisfactory to hand to someone who wants to know, "What you socialists are after anyhow?" The main work is somewhat marred, in our opinion, by rather too extensive a comment on the technical economics of socialism. In our opinion the "Analysis of Value" and "The Origin of Surplus Value" are of much less importance than the historical development of the class struggle. The chapters on "The Problem of Labor-Saving Machinery" and also on "Popular Economic Errors" contain much valuable criticism and suggestive explanations. On the whole the book is one that should and undoubtedly will, find a place among the foremost of the propaganda works on socialism in the English language.

SOCIALISM: A REPLY TO THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL, by Robert Blatchford; International Publishing Co., paper, 36 pp., price 5 cents.

This little pamphlet, written in the well-known style of the author of "Merrie England," is an extremely popular controversy of the pope's famous encyclical on labor. The ridiculousness of the pope's position is well shown up, and incidentally a fairly good discussion of socialism is included. To be sure, it is the socialism of Merrie England, and hence is merely suggestive and in no way to be considered as accurate. The pamphlet will, like all the other works of the same author, be found of value to awaken thought and dispel prejudice.

According to the Tokio (Japan) Labor World, an interesting struggle is on between the Society of Social Politik, which is deadly opposed to socialism and seeks to destroy its propaganda, and the Society for the study of Socialism, which upholds the great social science and is studying how best to apply it in Japan. It is said that the Japanese are moving toward socialism and that it is not only being studied, but will also soon be practiced as a final goal of human society. We are inclined to the belief, that after the working class of Japan wrests from its exploiters concessions through a political class-conscious party, that Samuel Gompers will recommend to the A. F. of L. to follow in the footsteps of our Japanese brothers.—Cleveland Citizen.

Do you not think that 100 copies of The Workers' Call coming to your town every week would help your cause along? You can have them with but a very little hustle. Write for supplies and get to work.

Are YOU still hustling for subscribers?



SINGLE TAX.

Some Objections to the Articles in The Workers' Call by a Follower Henry George.

We give place to the following from A. Freeland, secretary of the Single Tax League of Maco, Texas, in order that our readers may have an idea of the stuff that is being dished up as argument by the Single Taxers of America:

To the Editor of The Workers' Call: Mr. A. M. Simons in The Workers' Call, comparing socialism with Single Tax, says:

"The question arises at this point as to just what it is expected would happen if the land were 'freed.' What kind of industries would be established on it? Railroads? But competition has now given us too many and the problem is how to make the public pay for the operation of a lot of useless ones that would ruin competitors and then consolidate with those with which they were supposed to be competing. Steel mills? The trust is shutting down all save those at South Chicago and plenty of 'free land' could be secured in almost any city for a person who had money to throw away in trying to fight the great Rockefeller steel combine. Retail stores? You can get all the land you want for that purpose with the stores thrown in, at less than rental value from those whom the department store has ruined. What then? Farming? But from every side we hear the complaint of the farmer that he cannot live even when he owns his farm, that there is 'overproduction' of farm products, 'overproduction' as capital remained private property and its owners continued to rule, there would be only one thing that the Single Taxer could do with his 'free land,' he could take a sharpened stick and cultivate it, and even then he would have to watch out that some one did not get corner on the sticks and leave him to scratch with his fingernails."

Let Mr. Simons imagine, if he can, a great subterranean convulsion of nature, which would raise above the waters of the Pacific adjoining our western coast states, an addition to the continent equal to the average size of states, the land as fertile and well watered as the Mississippi Valley. In a few weeks the amorous beams of Old Sol would cause the new world to fructify. Green grass would appear in sufficient quantity to graze all the stock in America. Thousands would drive their flocks and herds onto the new grass. The western roads would be lined with "prairie schooners" containing pioneers seeking new homes in the boundless west, where they would not be obliged to pay one-fourth or one-half of their crop to a landlord for the privilege of living on the earth. Carpenters, blacksmiths, bridge builders, bricklayers and tanners would follow. New railroads would be projected; new towns built. There would be a great demand for all kinds of supplies from the states. Enough idle or poorly paid labor would go on the land to reduce the glut in the labor market in the states. Competition among laborers for employment would give place to competition among employers for laborers and wages would rise.

Instead of new world being cast up out of the sea, suppose that the land in use—one-sixth of the country—be confined to that section east of the Alleghany mountains, comprising the thirteen original colonies, and all the territory west of the Alleghany to be free to settlers. Instead of homeseekers having to cross the continent to find a resting place, they would only need to cross the Alleghany. They would save a great deal in the shorter carriage of their supplies. Being nearer at hand, a much larger number could take advantage of the free natural opportunities and wages on the Atlantic seaboard would immediately rise on account of the dearth of idle labor. Capital could no longer oppress labor for the latter would not work for less than it could make employing itself west of mountains.

Let Mr. Simons imagine, if he can, imagine all the idle land in America, equal in area to forty average states, including city and town lots (less than half the land in New York City is used), timber, quarry, farming and grazing land, water power, etc., thrown open to labor by the single tax. No one could afford to hold valuable land idle and pay a tax on it equal to the ground rent. Instead of the homeseekers having to cross the continent to the new-found world or over the Alleghany it would only be necessary to cross the street, or road, or at most a few miles, to find the land they required for their use. They would find the conveniences of civilization—roads, bridges, railroads, schools, churches, etc., at hand.

With the abolition of all taxes, licenses and imposts, direct and indirect, now paid to government and to private beneficiaries of iniquitous tax systems, billions of dollars annually would be saved to the producers. Instead of paying this prodigious sum in taxes they would invest it in more and better food, clothing, shelter and luxuries, thus giving employment to everybody.

With all free to employ themselves on the land and competition greatly stimulated, with no restriction to production or exchange, capital would be obliged to pay labor as much as it could make employing itself. This would leave to capital only the normal commercial rate of interest. Labor receiving all it produced, would soon accumulate all the capital required and be entirely independent of the "capitalist class." Soon many would be able to lend while few would care to borrow. The capitalist class would soon disappear.

Railroads, as well as all other roads, would be maintained by the public, for otherwise private owners would have a private taxing power, which is contrary to the law of equal freedom upon which the single tax is based. Railroads, like other roads, would be built when public necessity demanded them.

The Rockefeller steel combine, shorn of its monopoly powers, L. C. land monopoly, collusion with railroads, tariff and cheap labor (the result of these) would be as much subject to competition as any other business. With the country more prosperous, population increasing and the wants of the people multiplying, more railroads and steel mills would doubtless be in demand.

The crushing effect of the "retail store" by the department store is largely the result of depressing conditions which enable the large aggregations of capital to buy up bankrupt stocks at less than cost and hire women and children, who, under the single tax, would be at home and at school, for less wages than their cost of living. To a possibly greater degree it is due to the impoverishment of the customers of the small dealer, who might not be "frozen out" of business were his customers prosperous. The retail store is a convenience. The neighborhood store can extend credit to the poorest class, who could secure no accommodation at a department store. They are willing

to pay a little more for the accommodation, particularly as it saves them a long walk. The dealer is entitled to a higher profit for the risk he runs and for the convenience of situation.

If, during prosperous times and the absence of monopoly, the retail store failed to hold its own, that would indicate that the department store was an economic necessity—a labor-saving institution and consequently beneficial to the public.

There is "overproduction" of farm products because millions have little or nothing to eat or wear. Farming is an occupation that, if necessary, all men could follow. The farmer who owns his farm is at least better off than the tenant farmer who gives one-fourth or one-half as his crop as rent.

Even the tenant farmer, who pays one-third of his corn crop to the landlord, another third to the railroad for carrying it to market and most of the other third in taxes (direct and indirect) and interest on his advanced supplies, is not reduced to the extremity of cultivating the land with a "sharpened stick." Mr. Simons is so badly afflicted with "machineryphobia" that he is given up to woeful exaggeration.

Labor produces all wealth, including capital and that particular form of capital—machinery. The idea that labor, under free conditions, where it would retain all its product, would lack for the necessary machinery, the use of which it now enjoys although only retaining a part of its product, is childishly absurd. With the coal, iron and timber land free, instead of being monopolized by Pierpont Morgan, Rockefeller, Carnegie and Algers, with equal rates to all on the public rail-highways, with no monopoly on factory and mill sites, a monopoly of machinery would be utterly impossible. The same peculiar line of thought which sustains the protectionism—which regards a man the richer the more he is robbed and a nation the richer the more it is robbed of the country and the less it receives in return for it—is responsible for the machinery bogie of the socialists.

Mr. Simons need not be alarmed; under a condition of free production and exchange there could never be "overproduction," until all human wants were satisfied. Does Mr. Simons know a single individual whose every want is satisfied?

The fortunes of the Rockefeller are nearly all "water" which the single tax would ring out. They consist of tribute-paying powers attaching to and inseparable from land, highways and tariff monopoly—a train of evils which are incompatible with the single tax.

A. Freeland, Sec. Single Tax League, Waco, Tex., July 8, 1899.

Notice the imaginary picture only offers to labor the opportunity of deserting civilization and going "back to the land" to produce in a manner akin to savagery. Then note the ridiculous economic analysis of taxation, which implies that all taxes are paid by the working class, and then that the money expended in taxes is swallowed up in the sea or some other unknown place, instead of being used to produce utilities for the ruling class. And how would the Single Tax stop this? Who would get the "more and better food, etc.?"

But the next sentence is one that would bring a smile to a stone image. What everlasting gibberish is it that talks in the same breath of giving "capital the normal commercial rate of interest" and labor "all it produced," and then telling us a few paragraphs further on that "labor produces all wealth?" How would labor accumulate capital? Like Henry George says society does, by a natural secretion? Would each laborer own a mill and a department store of his own? If not he would still be "compelled to go to someone else when he wanted to produce and beg of them the privilege of life. He would be, as he is today, a wage-slave instead of being "entirely independent of the capitalist class." Just take note here that the Single Taxer justifies INTEREST.

Some more far-sighted economic analysis is seen in his explanation of the way the Rockefeller steel combine would "fold its tents like the Arab and silently steal away" on the approach of Single Tax. Honestly now does anyone with any excuse for brains really believe that if the Single Tax actually accomplished all it claims regarding land and "freed" it and nationalized the railroads, so that a million tons of steel could be made for less per ton than tons that anyone else would be allowed to manufacture steel. Is there anyone so terribly dull at present as not to see that the reason for the existence of the trust and the department store is because they are a more improved way of doing business, and that they are the absolutely inevitable outgrowth of competition, and that the "freer" you made that competition the more rapid they would grow. It is a most laughable thing to hear a man supposed to be sane argue that the reason for the existence of the department store is the "depressing conditions which enable the large aggregations of capital to buy up bankrupt stocks at less than cost." Who made those "depressing conditions" for the little store save the department store itself, which was able to do so only because it could produce the commodity of distribution of goods cheaper than the little fellow.

The talk about cheap labor has been shown to be nonsense, over and over again, as each party buys his labor as cheap as he can, and it is notorious that the opportunities of the small store in this line are much greater than those of the large, and the presence of competition compels it to go to lengths not yet attained by its greater rival. Please note that in this discussion the justice of PROFITS is conceded.

Finally when driven into a corner he declares that "farming is an occupation that, if necessary, all men could follow." Exactly so, and if society would consent to go back to the nomadic age the Single Tax would be a possible remedy. Then he tries to gain some satisfaction from the fact that even the tenant farmer is not reduced to a "sharpened stick." To be sure not, any more than the laborer in the Stock Yards uses an old-fashioned butcher's kit. It is not to the interest of his master that he should produce with imperfect tools. How could he pay RENT.

Are YOU still hustling for subscribers?

INTEREST AND PROFIT if he did?

The jargon of the next paragraph may be made somewhat clearer if approached from this same point of view. The fact that the laborer now uses an improved tool is an example of the wisdom of his master and is of no benefit to him. Then just how labor "would retain all of its product" when interest and profit had been taken by individuals and rent by the state is something we do not see.

Probably the next paragraph rests upon some kind of a misunderstanding as it is meaningless in relation to anything in the articles that appeared in the Call. The socialist does not believe in "overproduction" and he is very sure that the Single Tax would leave many wants unsatisfied.

The last paragraph is a typical bourgeois or middle class statement. "Water" in stocks is a purely minor matter used to deceive and has no economic interest and would be affected by the Single Tax about as much as by the legislation of Mars.

No, the socialist does not propose to move away from civilization or to give up the improved tools of present society that have been stolen from him by years of exploitation. He proposes to stay right here and "fight it out on this line" no matter how many summers it takes. He proposes to overthrow the present ruling class and supplant it with the producers. He does not propose that each one shall own the tools individually or shall be compelled to turn farmer, but vesting the ownership of the land and the tools in all of society he will guarantee access to them whenever the producers desire to use them.

A Very "Democratic" Party.

The Debitists have abolished the "Farmer's Plank." Maybe you did not hear about it. When the referendum was taken it was agreed that—hold on, there was no referendum taken come to think of it. It will be instantly objected to this statement that it can not be for the Social Democracy was organized to get rid of the "bossism" of the Socialist Labor party, and that they are dead against all forms of "party tyranny." They would not let any "New York gang" fix things up for them. They believe in "democracy pure and undefiled." They have given as their main reason for existence that there was no DeLeons in their party who could determine party tactics at will. They would never belong to a party whose National Executive Committee was all from one city and was so "utterly irresponsible." Nevertheless a few evenings ago two or three men got together in this city and whetting up their axes proceeded to chop a few planks off the tail end of the S. D. P. platform. We are not saying anything about the wisdom of this piece of surgery. In fact it has rather improved the general appearance of the structure, but we cannot exactly understand what claim a party has to the title of either Socialist or Democratic that permits such actions.

Incidentally it will be rather interesting to watch the result of this action on the party membership. In so far as the party was not made up of expelled S. L. P. members its membership was largely (in so far as anything so very small is entitled to the use of the word large) made up of the middle-heads who were attracted by its contortionist attitude regarding farmers. Now that this class is cut off the S. D. P. will be more than ever simply the "ash barrel of the S. L. P. We would look for another "split" in the near future, but for the fact that the party is now so small that it would require microscopic surgery to perform the operation.

THE COWARD.

Who fails to strike when man's as he said, For fear of selfish pain or loss; Who weakly cowers when Right is nailed Upon the proud world's heavy cross; Who fails to speak the splendid word Of bold defiance to a lie; Who voice for truth is faintly heard When party passions mount on high— That man's a coward; and no deeds Of valor done on fields of strife Can prove his courage. Battle needs Are naught beside a tested life.

Who dallies with temptation's lure, Nor hurls his tempter to the ground; Who champions not the weak, the poor Whom Power and Strength with cords have bound; Who crouches 'neath Opinion's lash, Nor dares his own true thought proclaim; Who never with an impulse rash, Ran before his time to TAME high IS COWARD and no work uprears; Which lasts. Truth's edict from on high Says courage shall outlast the years, BUT EVERY COWARD SOUL SHALL DIE.

—Hattie Tyng Griswold.

Maywood.

We notice that the strike in North Brothers can factory at Maywood has completely failed and the men are going back to work. It will be remembered that it was the employees of this firm that after they had been organized independently by some of the socialists of this city and been given active support in their struggle, passed an order, under the lash of Pat Doyle and others of his kind, that no socialist speeches should be made or socialist literature distributed at their meetings. Just now we would call their attention to the fact that Pat Doyle is holding a fat city job and they are looking for almost any old kind of a job. We wonder if it will ever get through their heads that "no politics in trades unions" applies only to the rank and file. It is also pretty near time for them to begin to think about voting as they strike.

Are YOU still hustling for subscribers?

HONEST POLITICS.

"Political Corruption" But Another Evidence of the Class Nature of Present Morality.

In the present structure of economic production, in which the robbery of the producing class is the cornerstone where "business" is merely the art of cheating under the stamp of "legality," and where each individual uses unscrupulously all sorts of "legal" weapons in his unending struggle with his fellows, it is not strange that politics should assume an analogous form, and that the professional politician should employ in his struggle for office methods similar to those used in the economic field. Many workmen who vaguely perceive the injustice that underlies our present system of society also recognize that the political "saviors of society" are of the same individualistic stripe as the business man and capitalist class generally. Consequently a distrust of all political movements is generated in their minds, and, although they may not have severed connection with the old capitalist parties, yet assert that the politician is not in politics "for his health," that he can be bribed, bought and sold, and that the whole tribe of professional politicians are hopelessly corrupt. And when socialism enters the political field they at once declare that if socialists are elected to office, they will certainly be as corrupt as the others.

Now it must be apparent that from the point of view of these men that our present politicians and their methods are precisely as they say, but, not being conscious of their class interests as workmen, they are not able to comprehend the cause of this, which, as we said before, is a direct outcome of the system of capitalist production.

In many European countries the "disreputable" politician by no means occupies such a field of operation as in the United States. Straight capitalist methods of business obtain, and the "hoodler" is sternly repressed. What we know as corruption is reduced to a minimum, and the ideals of our "good government" clubs and Civic Federations are more clearly realized than here. But the robbery of the workers obtains just as with us, and their conditions of life and the expression of their discontent are to a great extent similar.

What really is secured by the elimination of the "hoodler" is an apparent harmony among the exploiters of the working classes a tacit agreement between the fleecers to permit no flagrant breach of the laws which they themselves have made, and which enables them to secure their plunder under cover of legality. Under the highest ideal of capitalist morality the situation of the working classes would not in the least be altered for the better. While the system of the exploitation of labor continues, all the moral schemes of the ruling classes are worse than useless.

As the working classes comprise the voting strength of most nations at present, the promises made to them pending election periods are merely part of the stock in trade of the professional politician and his masters, the capitalist class. It would be hardly fair to call the breach of such promises "corruption," for, as the ruling classes and their political lackeys are under no obligation to observe them, they partake more of the nature of "business methods." They are, as the proverb says, made to be broken, as the workers have no power to enforce their observance while they remain unconscious of their interests as a class.

But it is decidedly different with the capitalists. They are thoroughly class-conscious and therefore able to enforce their will upon their political servants. These latter are neither false nor corrupt where capitalist interests are concerned for the very good reason that they dare not be. We have yet to hear of the political tool whether in congress or senate, who is sent there to represent the interests of a great corporation, proving a traitor to those interests.

The capitalist classes, conscious of their power, use these men as their servants, and the working classes, on the contrary, and for the opposite reason, regard them as masters. The question, therefore, of honesty or dishonesty amongst individual representatives is of no importance whatever. It is wholly a question of the power and intelligence of the constituents. The workers, through their numerical strength, if class-conscious, could use almost indifferently any set of men to carry out their requirements, although it is also certain that they in that case would select the most suitable. It is not necessary to extol the honesty or virtue of any Socialist candidate for office. It is not worth while to claim for him any moral superiority over other politicians, or to drag his individuality into public notice in any manner whatever. It is not the individual, but the power behind him, that is represented. He is only strong in that strength, and weak in that weakness. Just as the capitalist representative obeys the dictum of his capitalist masters, so the socialist representative will do the will of the working class—and both primarily for the same reason, because they must.

While the movement is constantly engaged in purifying itself, while class-consciousness amongst the workers is in process of growth, every possible safeguard against the betrayal of the interests of the workers is exacted from the prospective socialist candidates, who are selected by their comrades for their energy and knowledge of the movement. Amongst the numerous socialist representatives sitting in the national assemblies of Europe we

have yet to hear of any who have proven false to the mandate imposed upon them by their constituents.

The violation of pledges made to the workers by capitalist politicians is a venal offence, even in the eyes of the deluded voters. The corruptionist is returned to office again and again, and yet again. The unclass-conscious workers forgive and forget. The socialist is concerned, workingmen never. As far as socialism is concerned, political death is the penalty for the socialist representative who wilfully neglects, ignores or opposes the interests of those who selected him as their spokesman.

The miserable whining objection too often heard from workmen about the perfidy and corruption of municipal, state or national representatives is a confession of apathy, weakness and stupidity. It has no place in the socialist philosophy, as the knowledge of their class interests brings for the socialist workingmen a knowledge of their power and a recognition of the true relation of elector and elected. We are willing to take upon our shoulders the whole responsibility for any default on the part of those who are sent to represent our interests in any assembly. If they fail in their duty, the fault is ours. This position completely differentiates the socialist movement from all the "reform" schemes which depend upon the individuality of certain alleged "leaders" whose gigantic talents are heralded all over the country and on whom their constituents depend to "do something for them." The socialist movement is not to be classed amongst the invertebrates, as the reactionaries of Europe have discovered to their sorrow. Regardless of the few individual traitors who may drop by the wayside the class-conscious proletariat steadily press onward to their goal, understanding ever more clearly that "the emancipation of the working class must be the act of the working class itself."

Jos. Wanhepe.

CAPITALIST CHARITY.

Expressions of Class Love Shown A New Richmond, Wisconsin.

The following from the St. Paul Dispatch gives an idea of how the "charity" of capitalism is distributed in the time of a great public calamity. In speaking of the relief work done in New Richmond, which was recently destroyed by a cyclone, the above paper says:

"It is reported that the work done on the ruins has been chiefly on the property of the business men, and people who had only their homes and no business houses have been left practically alone."

"I was told," said a member of the Stillwater committee, "that the business men should be put on their feet and made comfortable before poorer people had their wants looked after. I was very much put out to hear New Richmond people use such argument. Some of the men over there think all of their losses should be made good. They contend that their business houses and dwellings should be rebuilt. But that is not all. The most aggravating thing about it is that they insist that their homes be rebuilt and that they be given a stock of merchandise free of debt, besides furnishing their dwellings. This they claim in a brazen way, should be done before poorer people are given anything more than food to satisfy present hunger."

"When the crew learned last Friday night that they were to remain ten days longer every man of them volunteered to give Saturday's work free of charge, and to work among the poor in the territory outside of the business part of the city. They went to work at 6 o'clock in the morning and kept at it until late in the evening. The poor people were delighted, but the business men were out of humor and were not slow in expressing their views. A delegation of business men went to the superintendent of the crew and actually demanded that the free labor be put in on the business portion of the ruins, where the work had been going on. Superintendent William Per Lee replied that the men had selected the place they desired to give their free work, and he was not in a position to dictate to them as far as that one day was concerned. The delegation of business men were determined in their course and carried the matter to the general committee, claiming that the Stillwater fund ought to be turned over to the general committee to be expended. It was also asserted that the Stillwater crew was being paid too much wages, even if they did do more work than men employed by the general committee."

The anti-trust committee has been selected and now, all ye "good" people, let your hopes arise. We will mention a few of the noble champions of the cause of the "common people." The second name on the list is our noted city father, Johnny Powers, and a little further on his colleague Ed. Cullerton. Next comes the "philosophical" anarchist, (very philosophical when a political job is in sight), George A. Schilling, and then that hero of "personal liberty," Charles Barry. The "settle peesness man" may surely expect that this galaxy of talent will perform doughty deeds in his behalf, but let him also remember that amongst that gang there are many itching palms which will have to be satisfied.

We notice that there are charges made that the Count de Castellane is not a genuine dyed-in-the-wool count after all, but that he stole his title from another family by the same name. We wonder if Anna will bring an action to recover money secured under false pretenses. If she bought and paid for a count she certainly has grounds for action.

Now the rumor comes that Dewey is against annexation. What a ludicrous boomerang that Dewey celebration would turn out to be if he should happen to be mau enough to tell the truth. Why he would be guilty of treason and that house in Washington and the several hundred banquets that are awaiting him would disappear into thin air.

Pittsburg Fakirs

(Continued from page 1.)

In this affair. The rank and file did not respond to the call of the alleged leaders of western Pennsylvania and were not at all interested in the conflicting speeches that were dished out to those who did attend, as you will see by the following data.

Each night of the week was to be devoted to some particular trade industry, and it was expected, in order to show the strength of organized labor in western Pennsylvania, that each trade union would turn out en masse on the particular evening assigned to them. Monday eve, June 26th, was coal miners' night. Pat Dolan, president of the U. M. W. U., was the chief marshal. It was 8 o'clock before the marshal and his aids managed to get together a sufficient number to make at least a respectable parade. They were to form in line and march to the Duquesne Hotel, where they were to receive Wm. A. Stone, the chief executive of the state, who was the orator of the evening. After considerable hustling the aid finally succeeded in lining up 121 men by actual count, the Pittsburg Post to the contrary notwithstanding its misstatement of 500 in line (by the way, this figure 121 is a singular coincidence, as Thomas Grundy, the old war horse of the "pure and simple" movement, who ran for congress last fall on the union labor ticket, which was gotten up by the same crowd that conceived this organized labor benefit scheme, received just 121 votes). This being coal miners' night, the only representatives of the miners present were three officials of the U. M. W. U., Pat Dolan, chief marshal, Wm. Dodds, on the escort committee, occupied a carriage with the governor, Mayor Diehl and Geo. L. Cake, window glass worker, and Uriah Bellingham of Bankville, coal miner, who was distributing badges and was general hustler. The bona fide coal miner was not in evidence.

It was a promiscuous crowd—no particular trade in line. No banners, as is customary with demonstrations of this nature. It was purely a cosmopolitan affair, as one of the daily papers had it. Headed by the Second Brigade band, the men were simply arranged in fours and led by M. M. Garland, surveyor of the Post of Pittsburg, ex-president of the A. A. of I. & S. W. Pat Dolan, Wm. J. Clair and Simon Burns marched down Fifth avenue to the hotel, where the carriages were in waiting for the governor's party. As the band played "Hail to the Chief" the governor emerged from the hotel and the parade marched on to the opera house.

A very noticeable feature of this affair was when they reached the opera house. All of the leaders would immediately enter the theater, but the rank and file would disperse and pass by on the other side—no 50 cents to get in. Tuesday evening was Gompers' night. It had been rumored as Gompers, a labor leader of national fame was to be the orator of the day, there certainly would be a large demonstration, but the parade again proved a frost, and as they marched along the streets, headed by two carriages occupied by M. M. Garland and Gompers and a few lesser lights, we counted 76 men in line.

Wednesday eve was Powderly night. He occupied a carriage with Stephen Madden, headed by a parade of 30 men. Thursday night's parade, with Thos. Grundy as chief marshal, had 35 men in line. This night they were without a speaker, as the rest of the above named "friends" of labor who had been invited evidently did not think this affair of sufficient importance to respond to the call.

The demonstration Friday night in honor of General Miles was purely of a military nature and was in the hands of the military organization of this city entirely. So far as the parade is concerned, organized labor cut no figure at all. At the opera house the general read his little twenty-minute speech and then retired.

The demonstration Saturday night in honor of Mayor Jones of Toledo was the greatest of all, but nevertheless the 80,000 workers represented by united labor failed again to turn out, as 225 men in line was the extent of the parade, which was followed by a carriage containing Mayor Jones, Pat Dolan, Simon Burns and Frank Hogenmiller. This ended the effort of United Labor League of Pennsylvania to show their strength to the politicians.

VOL REMMEL.

Situation in Manila

(Continued from page 1.)

Fritz is a discredit to Chicago. It is fortunate that its influence is so small.

Which page are we to believe—the editorial or the news? Probably neither unless an exception has been made to the usual rule, but there are many reasons for believing that the editorial is closest to the capitalist master and is therefore more largely false.

A new automatic weaving loom is being introduced in German textile centers, of which the Neue Freie Presse says: This machine enables the production of 100 yards of cloth in the same time in which the looms at present in general use produce 75 yards. It saves the waste of many pieces of cloth which are now rendered useless and thrown away. In addition to several other technical advantages the new loom is a labor-saving contrivance whereby manufacturers can employ one workman to supervise from 15 to 20 machines at the same time, instead of three or four, as at present.



THE PICNIC.

A Great Big Enthusiastic Success No Matter From What Point Viewed.

Was the picnic a success? Ask anyone of the crowd who thronged Gardner's Park last Sunday. From the time the gates opened in the morning until the last tired member of the committee went through them at night it was one great long drawn out success.

Wherever you went there was the place where the most enthusiasm and the best time was to be found. Even the most confirmed croakers were silenced. The strongest opponents of picnics were convinced.

There is no space in which to go into details of the events of the day. The singing of the Socialist Singsong, the racing, the hustling for subscribers, the general enjoyment, all deserve elaborate mention. But the best part of all was when the committee began to figure up results and found that The Workers' Call would receive nearly \$400 as the result of the day's amusement. Since the paper has been upon a paying basis so far as actual running expenses are concerned, for the past few weeks and had no debts to swallow up its funds, some of this can be used in supplying some much needed things in the mechanical department, and the remainder can be retained against the proverbial "rainy day," or used to widen the influence and improve the quality of the paper.

Comrade Saunders who won the box of cigars, "ten centers," for having secured the largest number of subscribers at the picnic has again offered it to the person who shall send in the largest number of yearly and six month's subscriptions before the first of August. Out-of-town comrades may compete and the box will be forwarded prepaid to the winner. Go after it boys.

All persons having money in their possession for tickets should turn it in together with all unsold tickets immediately.

Kansas City.

To the Editor of The Workers' Call: In the special election for alderman in the Fifth ward here to day we polled 54 votes for our candidate, Charles Engel, as against 31 votes cast there last fall for the county ticket. The total vote cast was light, being 1,011, or less than half the registered number.

While we did not do as well as we had hoped, yet we are not discouraged, as we had but a little time for the campaign; it is not to be expected that we can turn men in ten days from the prejudices of years.

This Fifth ward is almost entirely a working class district, and yet it sends the democratic candidate, a young lawyer, to the council as a result of yesterday's voting. The fact that the ward has a large Swedish population and that this young lawyer's name is Orson Hansford Swearingen, explains much. This begins Swearingen's political career; we ought to be able to cut it short by showing the Swedish workmen that there is nothing in a name—for them.

One other thing that worked to our disadvantage is that our candidate, Comrade Engel, was unable to make a personal campaign, having suffered a broken leg about a month ago. Swearingen, the democrat, accompanied by a German republican, visited him in the hospital and tried to persuade him to leave the race; Swearingen has the usual democratic catch—he is "coming our way." But he struck the wrong man in Engel.

Report of State Committee.

The regular session of the Illinois State Committee was held at 65 North Clark street, Friday, June 23. All present. Com. Klentke was elected chairman. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Communications received from Pekin, Glen Carbon, New York, Quincy, Moline, Jacksonville and Belleville.

Receipts: From Sec. Chicago (160 stamps)...\$16.99 From Sec. Peoria (20 stamps)... 2.00 From Sec. Springfield (20 stamps)... 2.00 From Polish C. C. (50 stamps)... 5.00 From Com. Cugan (Moline) for literature... 5.00 From Com. Renner (Jacksonville) buttons... .25 From Com. Baustian (Chicago) tickets... 1.00 For literature and buttons... 1.80 Total...\$33.95

Expenses: Labor News...\$11.25 Nat. Ex. Com... 8.50 Treasurer (post. stamps, May)... 1.69 Organizer (post. stamps)... .28 Appropriation to Organizer for stamps... 1.00 Total...\$22.70 J. R. Pepin, Sec.

"Golden Rule" Jones' paper is out this week with the leading editorial entitled, "Wanted: a Leader." The article goes on to say that the only way to get socialism is for just the right kind of a man to appear as a leader. That would be a queer kind of preparation for self-government—to teach the people to follow leaders. But at the present time there seems little prospect that Jones will be that leader.

Public Meetings.

Below is given a list of the out-door meetings to be held in Chicago this week. Every socialist should make it a point to attend, as many of these as possible to assist in making the meeting a success:

The 5th Ward Branch holds out-door agitation meetings at 31st St. and Fifth Ave., every Sunday at 7:30 p. m.

Tenth Ward Branch holds meetings every Wednesday evening at 24th St. and Oakley Ave., and every Saturday evening at 14th and Blue Island Ave.

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Wards at California and North Ave., every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

Sixteenth Ward holds meetings every Saturday at 8 p. m. at the corner of Milwaukee and Center Aves.

Eighteenth Ward, Peoria and Madison Sts., every Sunday at 8 p. m.

Thirteenth Ward—Corner of Western and Grand Aves., every Thursday evening.

Twenty-fourth Ward—Washington Square, Clark street and Walton place, every Thursday at 8 p. m.

31st Ward, 63rd and Sangamon every Wednesday at 8 p. m., and Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

Thirty-third Ward branch will hold an agitation meeting at the corner of 92d street and commercial avenue every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock.

Thirty-fourth Ward will hold a meeting Saturday eve., June 17th, at the corner of 120th and Wallace Sts.

Twenty-third Ward—outdoor meetings Wednesday evening, 8 p. m., Oak and Sedwick streets.

Blue Island avenue and Taylor street every Friday night.

Milwaukee and Center avenues every Saturday night.

Paulina street and Milwaukee avenue every Saturday night.

Rockwell street and North avenue every Saturday night.

Polygamy and the Y. P. S. C. E.

At the present writing nearly 30,000 young people are gathered together at Detroit, ostensibly to find better ways to follow the teachings of Christ. Up to the present time the only topic that seems to have aroused any interest has been the alleged polygamy of Congressman-elect Roberts of Utah. On this point speakers urged with fiery eloquence that the 2,000,000 members of the 40,000 societies there represented go to work on this stupendous problem.

Now we are not for one moment standing as a defender of Congressman Roberts and his polygamy, but the utter ridiculousness of urging 2,000,000 people to all begin to "throw the first stone" at this one man while not a word is said of the hundreds of other congressmen who are living in notorious debauchery at Washington. Not a whisper of the thousands on thousands of poor miserable women in our great cities who are driven to prostitution by a system which these same two million young people are helping to sustain.

There has seldom been a better illustration of the power of class rule to determine "ethics and morals" through the force of "public opinion" than was shown by this farce comedy action of the Christian Endeavor convention. Without the slightest exhibition of individual thought they permitted a man who has repeatedly shown himself to be an intellectual prostitute of the worst sort, and who lately declared the Declaration of Independence a back number, to come before them and excite them into paroxysms of "moral horror" over the short-comings of this one religious fanatic in Utah while crimes immeasurably worse go unheeded.

Attention, Buffalo.

The attention of Buffalo comrades and friends is called to the open-air meetings which are being held now by the American branch S. L. P. in different parts of the city, especially to those held every Sunday at 8 p. m. near "Liberty Pole," corner Main street and Terrace. Come and bring friends and shopmates along.

The American Branch proper meets now every 1st and 3rd Monday at 8 p. m., at 676 Genesee. Admission free for all.

All branches of Section Buffalo, S. L. P. are arranging jointly for a grand picnic to be held for the benefit of the Socialist Labor party campaign fund, Sunday, July 23rd (beginning at 10 a. m.) in New Seneca (formerly Columbia) Park. Seneca street right near city line. To give the family of every workman, no matter how poor he may be, a chance to participate in this outing and rally of all socialists of Buffalo the admission to the picnic is free. The program consists of dancing, singing, bowling, bicycle races, prize shooting, games for young and all, etc.

Come and get acquainted with your fellow socialists, and try to bring as many friends along as you possibly can. You will certainly enjoy it. The Committee.

Socialist Labor Party

OF THE

United States.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-asserts the inalienable rights of all men to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of Democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming when, in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

Class Discipline.

"Cheers for Aguinaldo greeted the picture of the insurgent leader at a stereopticon entertainment given last evening in All-Souls church by Fritz Andree and William H. Reeves, Jr., late of the volunteer signal corps, which is in service in Manila. The audience was largely composed of 'anti-imperialists' and its enthusiasm was so worked up by the lecturer's stories of the intelligence of the Filipinos and their devotion to their leader that when at last the portrait of the rebel chief was cast upon the screen it received prolonged applause.

"Andree and Reeves left the volunteer service for the reason, he said, that they did not intend to fight against the natives. They represented that a majority of the volunteer soldiers now in the Philippines were anxious to come home for the same reason. The two men were imbued with 'anti-imperialist' ideas, and every reference which could be construed in favor of the Filipino cause was promptly applauded by their listeners.

"Gen. Thomas M. Anderson, commanding the department of the lakes, today severely criticized the lecturers. 'Their statements were largely fabrications,' he said. 'The volunteer soldiers do not want to desert their duty and return home. They are not reluctant to fight the Filipinos. I don't know what can be done with these two men now, but if our soldiers had them in the Philippines they would not find the climate so comfortable as in an anti-expansion mass meeting.'"

The significant thing about this is not that the poor devils in the Philippines are sick of being held there to fight a people who are struggling for freedom, but in the implied desire to punish them for their exercise of free speech. It is only a short step to extend the censorship from written communications in Manila to spoken ones at home.

When the American workman realizes that the disfranchisement of the working class in the South is but the prelude to similar attempts against the exercise of a vote, he will be in the Socialist Labor party to give voice to the protest against that outrage, which should long ago have been made.

The Social Democratic party of Bulgaria has achieved a great success, electing six of its candidates.

Are you going to send in a club to The Workers' Call this week?

IMMEDIATE DEMANDS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States shall obtain possession of the railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under the control of the Federal government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities shall obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under the control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employees shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands declared inalienable. Revocation of all and grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor system.

12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation).

13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

15. The people to have the right to propose laws and vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.

16. Abolition of the veto power of the executive (national, state and municipal) wherever it exists.

17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.

18. Municipal self-government.

19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.

20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

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