

This is Number 320.

Fifty Cents a Year.

Appeal to Reason.

Girard, Kansas, U. S. A., January 18, 1902.

Published Every Saturday

For Public Ownership of MONOPOLIES

Subscription rates and circulation information.

Circulation Last Week:

Number Subscribers - 148,553
Edition Printed - 162,000

No 321 is on your label your subscription expires with the next number.

AND THE APPEAL WON.

I am just in receipt of information from the postoffice department at Washington that the case of the Appeal has been dismissed, and that there is no occasion to question the legitimacy of the Appeal's subscription list.

This I feel sure will be gratifying news to the comrades and their friends who have stood by the Appeal from the start to the finish in this attempt to curtail the usefulness of the paper.

To the prompt and energetic response by the Appeal comrades to every request, has been due this result, and without this backing the Appeal would no doubt have suffered the fate of other publications which during the past few months have been either compelled to leave the country, suspend or seriously curtail their output.

Every position assumed by the department in the present controversy has been reversed, and every rule promulgated by the department to AMEND THE LAWS ENACTED BY CONGRESS, has been canceled.

This gratifying result was largely brought about by the energetic and prompt work of the Appeal Army and their friends.

Now that the sky is clear, and the Appeal through the assistance and backing of the Appeal Army and their thousands of friends whom they have enlisted in the fight for fair play, has been sustained, the work of education must proceed with increased vigor, and be pushed forward with an alchemistic determination that transforms failure into success as the sun transforms darkness into daylight.

I know that the comrades who have backed the Appeal in this matter are bound to feel the inspiration that emanates from a righteous victory, and will redouble their efforts in their own localities, and thus spread the gospel of Socialism into every home in the land.

Socialism, after all, is but a correct understanding of economic principles—the science of society—and when you have succeeded in making this clear to your neighbor, SOCIALISM WILL BE HERE.

In every ward, in every voting precinct, in every village, in every hamlet, in every county, is a band of Socialist workers. Let this be their thought for the year of 1902: "The conversion of their neighbors." Try to understand that the field in which you should work is YOUR OWN locality. Do not try to "pluck the stars and lose the jewels at your feet."

Working on this principle, I am confident that five comrades in each voting precinct in the United States will cause a political revolution. Whether this revolution comes at the next national election DEPENDS UPON YOU. If you keep up your end of the fight, you may depend upon it that the rest of the comrades will do the same.

Until your neighbor is interested sufficiently to take the Appeal and other literature that you may send him, from the postoffice, IT IS MUCH BETTER TO ORDER THE APPEAL IN BUNDLES and distribute the paper personally. Place it on the door step for a few weeks, and in nine cases out of ten, the person thus getting the paper will hand you his subscription when you ask him for it.

The Appeal during the past six months has passed through several critical periods—twice has the very existence of the paper been threatened—twice has it weathered the storm. In spite of the fact that the entire political machinery of the postal department has worked strenuously during the past six months to curtail the circulation of the Appeal to Reason (and I have evidence on file that at many points throughout the country partisan postmasters used their influence to induce persons whose subscriptions to the paper had been paid for by others, to refuse the paper—some even going so far as to violate the plain instructions of their office in notifying the Appeal that the paper had been refused, when they had not been authorized to do so by the person addressed.)

Put up a board bill in a prominent place and paste an Appeal on it every week, or as often as it gets mutilated. It will attract great attention and interest many in the subject that causes such action.

Comrades who know of any public document which contains matter of interest to economic students, should make the fact known, and it will be added to the Appeal's list of free public documents. Send number of document and number of congress which issued it.

The steel trust has bought 50,000 acres of Tennessee coal land. This will be sold to the people for whatever the trust pleases, and the people will have to pay it or go without. Nature made coal for the special benefit and use of the men who have formed the trust.

It is said that President Roosevelt has informed J. Pierpont Morgan that if he goes on consolidating railroads that "He will precipitate the greatest political question of the age, and bring the federal government face to face with the necessity of government control." Let'er precipitate.

Write a letter to your congressman and one each to your United States senators, and demand the establishment of a parcels post. Don't get up a petition, but WRITE LETTERS, and do it TODAY. Get your neighbors to do the same.

I received 1,500 pounds of books from Ruskin, Ga., the other day, and the freight was 2 1/2 cents a pound! Confession? It is nothing less. The railroads compel the public to stand and deliver, and a highwayman who takes the chances of a foot-pad is a gentleman to the highwaymen who manipulate the railroads and extort from the public. They are not even as moral as the common sneak thief.

Griffith Davis, of Seattle, Wash., has issued a circular showing how the government can build the Nicaragua canal without paying any interest and at the same time stimulate the country by an increased volume of currency. But Mr. Davis, every body who has any sense knows that those people who have no sense cannot understand, and it is useless to appeal to them.

In his criticism of Socialism Bishop Corrigan says: "According to Socialism the entire state is a bee hive. In this bee hive there are to be no drones. That the present evils of things can be set right by dividing property. Rich, isn't it? According to Corrigan, then, there ought to be drones who do nothing, yet share the results of the industry of the others! Such, for instance, as His Worshipful. He does not like the destroying of the drones—such action might require him to do something useful.

The success of the Appeal has aroused in some quarters a feeling of suspicion that the "One Hoss" has ambitions. The editor of the Appeal is one of the commonest clock-hoppers ever made of clay. His only ambition is to do all he can to awaken the people to a realization of the trend toward despotism which industries are pointing as the inevitable outcome of present private ownership of the earth and the fullness thereof.

Private interests corrupt public service. Agents of corporations are the only persons who ever offered bribes to public servants, and hired men to betray their constituents. This was because private interests could be served by the treason. If the public would grant no franchises and let no contracts, no one would be benefited by such bribery and no one would offer bribery.

The Appeal comes in for much criticism from some Socialists because it gives prominence to the demand for the public ownership of monopolies. The Appeal is not printed for Socialists. If the people were Socialists, there would be no need for the Appeal.

Public ownership of railroads in every country is more satisfactory to the people than private railroads, even when they are directed and controlled by the class of people whose business is robbing the people.

Kansas City owns its water works, taking them out of private control a few years ago after a bitter fight. Ever since then capitalists have been using every means at their command to make the service unsatisfactory.

Capitalism, as illustrated by the trust, is the beginning of the final stage of capitalism before the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth. Succeeding the Socialism of the trust, will come the Socialism of government ownership—to be followed by the Socialism of democratic ownership and management.

The corporation that monopolizes the streets and skims the people of San Francisco by means of street cars, are printing colored lithographs showing that if the city should own and operate the street cars the buildings would be vacant, the cars filled with men with passes to the exclusion of the public.

What is labor's share of products? Labor produces everything and its presence in a nation makes the value of everything. What you call capital is a machine, but that machine was made by labor. Capital is entitled to nothing. Men are entitled to all things.

The "Furniture Worker," quoted in the St. Louis "Furniture News," copies of the U. S. census figures to show that 4,000,000 families of this country have incomes of \$100 a year and less, and that they cannot therefore buy furniture, and thus the market is glutted while the people are in want.

Archbishop Corrigan says that modern democratic Socialism may be reduced to practical usefulness under certain conditions. If all men became angels, says the good man, Socialism would be all right.

The bonus item of the bread winners of this country, figured in increased wages in these prosperous days, would show an American New Year's gift of hundreds of millions of dollars. The press overlooked the fact that the increase in price of the things which these same bread winners must use, makes this increase in wages look like "thirty cents."

A MATTER OF WAGES.

"I am a foreman and machinist in a large planing mill and receive \$125 per month for my services. Now under Socialism what would I receive to manage the same plant? Would it be gold, or the necessities of life only?"

You would receive that portion of the national wealth production that you had produced. Let me put it another way, and perhaps it will be plainer: If fifteen millions of workers produced wealth, and you had worked an average time, you would get one-fifteenth millionth of the wealth produced.

Do you believe that kings and emperors tell their subjects the real purpose of their actions, and give them good advice? If you are an American I can hear your reply in a big, bold "No!" Well, then how can you believe that the men who rule the industries of this country, with as much power, will tell you the truth about them?

The Euclid Avenue Savings Bank, of Cleveland, Ohio, failed on the 10th, carrying down over \$1,400,000 of depositors' money. The assignee gives out the usual lie that it will pay in full.

There are a good many postmasters in the country needing the undivided attention of the bulldog, and now that the Appeal's list has been sustained by the department the time seems most opportune for taking up a few such cases as postmasters throwing Appeals in the waste basket, making derogatory remarks about the paper to their patrons, coaxing subscribers to refuse it, sending in notice that the paper has been refused when such is not the case, etc.

The Canadian Socialists are certainly making good progress. In January, 1901, only seventeen Leagues were in existence, but thirty-five new Leagues were organized during the year, a gain of over 200%.

