

The Young Giant, SOCIALISM, has donned his "seven league" boots. Watch him sprint!

During the Year 1901. 8,170,388 copies of the Appeal were less exclusive of sample copies... average per week of 157,122.

This is Number 323. Fifty Cents a Year. Appeal to Reason. Girard, Kansas, U. S. A., February 8, 1902.

Published Every Saturday For Public Ownership of MONOPOLIES. Single Subscription, one year - 50 cents. Clubs of Five, one year - 25 cents.

Every reader of this paper will feel a touch of pride when he notes the number in the box at the head of the Appeal, this week—that number tells the result of a year's work such as the world has never before witnessed.

EIGHT MILLION APPEALS—each carrying with it an inspiration and hope for better things—is creating a thought current against which the dogmas of political superstition cannot stand!

EIGHT MILLION VOICES proclaimed last year in clarion tones that humanity must be free—that the work of emancipation commenced with the first dawn of intelligence must be carried to its full fruition.

Get this thought firmly fixed in your mind: That you are one of the workers BUILDING THE STEPS that leads to the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The local papers over in Jasper county, Mo., are showing up how the banks of that county refuse to pay the taxes levied against them.

"Discontent," Home, Wash., is the latest paper to come under the ban of the postal department. It is passing strange that the papers selected for censorship should in all instances be of opposing political views from the administration.

Kansas City officials let a contract for straightening the curbing at the gutters at eleven cents a foot. He hired two men who worked a day and a half and they fixed 1,711 feet.

The public lighting commission find that the service of lighting Detroit, which is done at the city's plant, will cost this year \$50,000 less than last year.

The platform on which the Kansas City comrades will make a strong fight this spring contains a plank against child labor, favors compulsory education, the proper care of the sick and the relief of the poor by other means than the pitiful charity doled out under the present system.

The near approach of the municipal elections throughout the country has created a demand for facts and figures on municipal ownership. In order to meet this demand, the Appeal has just issued a sixteen page pamphlet giving a condensed statement of the arguments supporting municipal ownership of water and lighting plants, backed by the latest and most available statistics of their practical operation.

Speaking of railroad consolidations, a writer in the February World's Work says: "The very history of American railroads has been one of consolidation. Cheap roads were built in the thirties, from town to town, much as our trolley lines are now built.

The daily papers just now have a great deal to say regarding the report of the Inter-state Commerce Commission, which made public the fact that the railroads have repeatedly and brazenly violated the laws of the United States.

A cablegram from Berlin announces that the kaiser is proud of the fact that the young men of his empire are rushing to the naval recruiting stations by the hundreds.

Instead of a pension of \$25,000 a year to ex-presidents, I would vote for a pension to every workingman in the nation who had not been convicted of crime and had passed the age of sixty.

The town of Winnetka, Ill., is the only city in the nation that enjoys the benefit of Direct Legislation, so far as I have read.

Isn't it a little singular that all over the nation the Catholic priests and bishops should begin within a few weeks a crusade against Socialism?

In 1893 one-fifth of the railroad mileage in the United States at that time was in the hands of United States officials—run by the government, if you please.

"Water to be Cheaper! Free Meters Likely!" That's the heading over an article in the Chicago Daily News. You see the water supply of that city is furnished to the city from the publicly owned Lake Michigan, through publicly owned water mains, laid in publicly owned streets, and the income from this publicly owned institution was such last year that notwithstanding the corrupt political methods prevalent in that city, the rates can be cut in two and the plant maintained.

One man in every fifteen of the wage earners in the United States is dependent either directly or indirectly upon the railroads of the country for his employment.

"THE INCENTIVE AGAIN."

Mr. Haavrig, a recent subscriber to the Appeal, is an inventor. He asks what incentive he would have under Socialism. He believes that necessity is the mother of invention, and inventions are the cause of human progress along the line of labor-saving—such as steam, electricity, etc.

I might ask of what benefit are mechanical appliances if they do not benefit the race? Why should the majority uphold any system under which a few only are benefited? It must be admitted that only a small per cent of people ever invent, or ever will invent, under any system.

Again, if necessity is the mother of invention, and invention is the most important thing, why not make conditions of poverty for all so that the world will get the benefit (?) of the inventions of the rich, who are always assumed as having the best minds?

I deny that the hope of pecuniary gain is the motive behind invention, which is nothing more than the discovery of some truth. Doctors discover new things about their profession, as much as any other, and they give such discoveries free to the profession and the world.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

The fourteenth annual labor report of the United States is devoted to an exhaustive investigation of the cost of production, rates, wages paid, etc., of municipal and private owned water, light and gas plants.

Table with 3 columns: Private, Munic., Page. Rows include Cost of production, Wages, Salaries, Average price per million gallons sold.

The points in this official statement that should interest you as a citizen are these. That the cost to the users under city ownership is only \$59, while under private ownership it is \$160; that while the cost to produce is \$2.10 more under public than private ownership, \$5.39 more is paid out in wages, while the salaries of the kid-glove brigade is \$3.73 less.

The Washington, Iowa, Press, says: "The Socialists howl about unfriendly conditions. The complaints should be lodged not against circumstances, but against themselves. In an early day in this county the men who had foresight enough to get hold of \$1.25 per acre land, deal in it, hang on to it, got rich.

All right. But these are not "early days." Can a man go into your county today and do it? Is it the fault of the man who was not born soon enough? And why should there be any "chance" about a place to live on and produce? Every man might develop the muscle of a blacksmith, but all men will not do so, and is that any reason that a blacksmith should use his superior muscle to pound those undeveloped into submission?

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Our republican and democratic friends are making many Socialists at Northport, Wash., these days. The Socialists elected all the city officials from mayor down on Dec. 3.

Foreign syndicates and alien landlords own over 23,690,000 acres of land in the United States, from which they collect annually millions of dollars in rent.

The chamber of commerce, Detroit, Mich., invited Hubbard, of Phillistine fame, to address that august body of financiers. A number of the influential members objected on the ground that recent utterances of that gentleman led to the belief that he was a Socialist.

Although the balance of trade in favor of the United States last year was over \$600,000,000, we as a nation are shipping millions of dollars in gold to European countries.

PUT YOURSELF IN HIS PLACE.

"Human nature remains always in its fundamental bases, unchanged." It has been said that human nature is much the same the world over, and it is quite true. It is well to understand these things, and more especially should the Socialist worker understand them.

EVERY MEMBER OF THE APPEAL ARMY should receive a bundle during the coming year! That would mean nearly 100,000 copies in addition to the regular subscription list, and the results from a judicious distribution of them would create a sentiment against which the blind partisanship of the prevailing system would be in vain.

Three members of the St. Louis city council have been arrested for corruption in office in connection with the Suburban street railway case.

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Prof. Walter Thomas Mills is now on his tour through the west and will arrive in San Francisco about the first of March.

The national committee of the Socialist party completed its labors at St. Louis the latter part of January. Thirteen delegates representing seventeen states were present.

In nearly every letter the Appeal Army tells me that the people are willing to listen to the gospel of the New Social Order.

While the United States is preparing to honor the German prince, the old country is doing itself proud in lavishing honors on the American steel prince now "doing" the European capitals and Monte Carlo.

