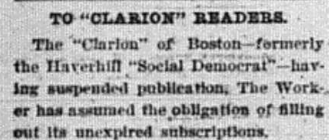




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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES. In 1888 (Presidential), 2,085. In 1890 (Presidential), 13,981. In 1892 (Presidential), 21,167. In 1894 (Presidential), 33,183. In 1896 (Presidential), 36,504. In 1898 (Presidential), 52,200. In 1900 (Presidential), 93,450.



TO 'CLARION' READERS. The 'Clarion' of Boston—formerly the Haverhill 'Social Democrat'—having suspended publication, The Worker has assumed the obligation of filling out its unexpired subscriptions.

Representative Jenkins, Republican, of Wisconsin, has reintroduced his bill for an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to give Congress power to control trusts. Incidentally, it is so drawn as to include trade unions under 'combinations in restraint of trade.'

would seem to be "up to" the harmonizers. A capitalist named Carpenter has given \$100,000 to endow a chair of Chinese in Columbia. He says that sum represents the amount he saved by not using whiskey and tobacco.

TWO "LABOR" MAYORS.

In another column we reprint two items which will be full of significance to those who are interested in the "labor parties" that have sprung up in several cities in the late election.

As we have previously explained, Mr. Schmitz was in no true sense a labor candidate nor was the organization which elected him a clear labor party. Mr. Schmitz himself is a capitalist—a "good" one, it is said, so far as capitalists can be good.

The mayor elected on a labor ticket in Ansonia, Conn., stands on quite a different footing. Mr. Charters is a workman and an active trade unionist. He is more than that; he is at least so much of a revolutionist that he has dared, in last summer's strike, to defy court injunctions and risk his comfort and even his liberty in defense of the interests of his class.

While under indictment for his activity in the strike, he was nominated as a workman by the workmen of his city and elected to the highest office in their gift. And thus far, at least, he has done nothing to indicate that they made a mistake. He evidently intends to be what his fellow workmen intended him to be—a workman's mayor, administering the city affairs in the interest of the working class and by the advice and direction of the working class organizations.

It is therefore not at all surprising that we find the capitalist press already bitterly denouncing Mayor Charters. In the 'Evening Post' editorial which we quote, Mayor Charters gets his diploma as a true workman in politics. This gilt-edged capitalist organ says: "The labor officials (of Ansonia) seem to regard themselves as agents of the trade unions, RATHER THAN OF THE TAXPAYERS, and guide themselves by the decisions of labor unions."

Very early in the course of their term of office they will probably find the powers of state and national law placed as obstacles in their way. The questions with which they have to deal are more than local questions, they involve national political action on a national scale. When the conflict comes, the labor officials of Ansonia will have a chance to learn where the Socialists stand and why a Socialist Party is necessary to the emancipation of labor.

forgets his caution and lets the cat out of the bag. Gen. MacArthur is one of the latest instances. The authorized explanation of "our" war against the Filipinos—now being carried on with such extreme barbarity, as noted elsewhere in this paper—is that "we" (the people) are prompted solely by respect for "plain duty" and "manifest destiny" and by a wholly disinterested desire to extend the blessings of civilization and true religion to the benighted heathen. But here comes MacArthur and, at a Commercial Club banquet—maybe the wine loosened his tongue—gives this explanation: "The power that holds the Philippine archipelago will have a potential effect on Asia. It is a stepping-stone to a commanding position and a base from which American interests can be protected. Their position is necessary to natural expansion." So, after all, the Socialists were right when they said that "we, the people," and "plain duty" had nothing to do with this case, but that it was a question of plain profits for our bosses, the capitalists, for which the war was being carried on.

WILL THEY ENFORCE THE LAW?

Perce M. Stewart, who, as Superintendent of Buildings, will have the duty of executing the building laws in Manhattan, declares he will enforce the laws vigorously and impartially and that he "will use his utmost endeavors to wipe out the petty corruption which has existed in the Building Department for many years." It goes without saying that we have our serious doubts of his being able to fulfill this promise, however sincerely it may be intended. It is a hard thing for a capitalist administration to resist the corrupt and lawless practices of the class on which it depends for support.

Yet, much as we doubt the ability of the "reform" administration to enforce laws favorable to the workers, we wish them all success if the attempt is honestly made. We do not base our hopes for the progress of Socialism, as some of our enemies charge, upon the increasing misery of the working people as upon the increasing lawlessness of the capitalist class.

Current Literature

All books and pamphlets mentioned in this column may be obtained through the Social Literature Company, 154 William Street, New York.

HOW TO SAVE NEW YORK. A Program of Progress. By John Martin. New York: The Social Literature Company, 52 pages. Price, 10c.

Notwithstanding its title, 'How to Save New York,' is not a Salvation Army tract. Its proposed solution of the problems arising from capitalist rule, however, is just such a one as the Salvation Army would propose—that is, the election of good men. The "good man" theory is as far behind the times in political philosophy as the competition theory is in economics; for men, good or bad, are simply the instruments of the political party and social class to which they owe their power.

CLASS-CONSCIOUS ORATORY.

BY PETER E. BURROWS.

The thought which stands above all others among the speakers may be multiplied to thousands who have no other qualification than a workman's experience and a revolutionary will which enables us to cry aloud and fear not.

The art of composing, in a loud voice, sentences which depict the subjugation and degradation of the world's producers considered as one class against the other.

The art of projecting out to a public canvas pictures which the audience can, as with an aerial vision, see and appreciate.

The art of overcoming the intellectual and moral cowardice of one's personal life before the tribunal of an audience by the acquisition of a social will to speak.

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A NEW YEAR REMINISCENCE.

Containing Some Reflections on the Great Middle Class, the Dignity of Labor and Other Things.

A year ago, on the last night of the old century, I had the good or ill fortune to attend a "dinner of four hundred"—not of "the" Four Hundred, but just of "a" common for hundreds.

No two of the speakers agreed on anything except the Dignity of Labor and the necessity of "getting together" to "do something." Labor appeared as a very dignified abstraction, but just what its friends and exponents were going to do for it by "getting together" no one tried to explain.

The Friends of Labor were in high feather. They of labor were the dignified workmen on the back in the most grandly patronizing manner and assured them that if they would be good and not ask too much it was highly probable that some day they might get something—just what or how was not specified, but presumably manna from the heavens.

Each of the Reformers was pulling in a different direction. But numerous as they were, none of them happened to pull in the direction of working-class interests, which was natural, for the Reformer doesn't think there is such a thing as a class interest.

The general tendency of the speeches, so far as there was any common tendency to them, was to praise the Great Middle Class and point to it as the only safeguard of the Dignity of Labor. Just as, by painful listening, I had got so much meaning out of the get-together speeches, I heard a conversation near me which served as a practical commentary and illustration of the greatness of the middle class.

At my right sat a lady—at least she thought she was one; let us say a well-dressed specimen of the female sex. She was typical of the great middle class—and would have liked to represent "the" Four Hundred. Her husband sat just beyond her, and he was another. They quite approved the sentiments of the Friends of Labor and graciously condescended the lagging at the knees of the Labor Leader's dignity. They were Benevolent Snobs.

The female representative of the Great Middle Class stopped in her tirade against hired girls in general and in particular against the speaker's announcement, in a positive manner, "I don't believe there's much real destitution in the city."

"You would think differently," said our neighbor across the table, "if you had seen what I saw on Christmas Day at several places on the East Side—hundreds of people standing in line for hours, waiting to get a free Christmas dinner."

Our Esteemed Contemporaries

The Public.

W. S. Gilbert died too soon. Had he lived, his wit might have outdone Pinocchio with a subject made ready to hand by Ralph M. Easley. For of all the subjects which Gilbert's pen developed into comic opera, none was so richly stored with comic opera possibilities as Mr. Easley's Supreme Court of Capital and Labor. Nothing is lacking, not even the roaring climax of Marcus A. Hanna, as chief justice.

The Bruner Zeitung.

The great spectacle is over—the convention of the largest organization of labor in this country. It is a thing of the past. Fortunately, we might say, because the work accomplished is not worth while speaking of. Not one of the burning questions propounding themselves to every thinking workman has been solved, not even touched. The bureaucracy of the American labor movement was assembled there, and only a few ardent workers of the sacred cause of labor sounded the right keynote, only a few had the courage to give vent to the working class's wishes and wants. The most important work, so much as it was at the beginning, was railroad over and through after the old staff of officers were re-elected. No new ideas were advanced, not any remarkable progress made. Not one decided step forward, no action taken to assure the workers better lacking in their fearful struggles against capital, struggles that will develop and become still fiercer in the years to come.

Advance, San Francisco. Mayor-elect Schmitz was tendered a banquet the other night where Sautere, Zinfandel, Champagne and other luxuries to which the working class is accustomed played a prominent part. Between the Oysters and the Consommé an tasse the Mayor made a speech in which the following occurred: "There is no inherent and irreconcilable difference between employer and employee, capital and labor, rich and poor. Their interests should be identical and differences between them can and should be adjusted."

"I believe that capital should have steady and safe investment in order that labor may have permanent and remunerative employment." Comment here is unnecessary. Mr. Schmitz is anxious to do a considerable amount of work for a "steady and safe investment for capital" as he is somewhat of a capitalist himself. The speaker that was sandwiched in between the Sweet Bread Patties, a La Pointe and the Tame Duck, voiced officially the stand of the labor party. He said: "The platform of the new party is as broad as the universe, it admits of all shades of thought and opinion; neither shuts the door to the radical, nor makes the conservative, unwelcome, but recognizes that the one is the counterpoise to the other, to attain as one complete whole the highest possible degree of success. It aims to establish a living wage for the workers."

Comment here is also unnecessary. The Democratic party aims at establishing a "living wage" for the worker, so does the Republican party. The Democratic party also has a platform as "broad as the universe," so has the Republican party—and why go on? New York Evening Post.

Interesting experiments in government are being tried in various cities where the regular elections resulted in throwing important offices into the hands of men who stood specifically as labor candidates. Such was the case with the Mayorship of New York, while in Ansonia, Conn., the trade unionists elected their candidates to every office except that of City Clerk. It is obvious, however, that labor men in office are in danger of discrediting their cause through ignorance, or the display of zeal not according to knowledge. How a complex administrative machine may be got out of gear is now being shown at Ansonia. Where, not only are all the offices in the hands of untrained men, but the administration has a new charter to interpret and apply for the first time. The mayor has already made several humiliating mistakes, and has exposed several of his official acts to the charge of illegality. Worst of all, the new treasurer is ignorant of finance, and will soon be out of office which will meet city expenses. Moreover, the labor officials seem to regard themselves as agents of the trade unions rather than of the taxpayers, and guide themselves by the decisions of labor unions.

Missouri Socialist. It is said that the slave trade is flourishing in the Sudan in spite of the efforts of the British government to stamp it out and that a fourteen-year-old slave can be purchased for eighty dollars. This is a remarkably high price when it is remembered that the purchaser must feed, clothe and shelter the slave. In this country a fourteen-year-old wage slave can be had for less than the cost of his keep. All that is necessary is an announcement in the want columns that a fourteen-year-old boy is needed, and a whole lot of applicants will appear and beg to be taken. No purchase money is required. The fortunate little slave who secures the position will work a week and at the end of that time he will be given not more than two dollars. Will that feed him? No, but his parents will make up the deficit. Unable to bear the burden of feeding a whole lot of children, the father has brought into the world, he sells his labor power for a couple of dollars to help pay the expense of his living. It is well that slavery be stamped out in the Sudan, but it would also be well to stamp it out in America.

Respectability. It is to say, realizing such an amount of what is termed character by a hypocritical deference to the prejudices of the community as may enable them, at suitable times, and under convenient circumstances, and disguised to please the public—Benjamin Disraeli's "Goshawks." Decent is the distinction from respectable. Respectable means rich and decent means poor.—Thomas Love Peacock's "Crochet Castle." False glory can never subsist long. Flattery or dissimulation may for a while vanish over such a rotten structure, but it must tumble down at last.—Xenophon's Banquet.



A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This is the Christmas season—a time that is supposed to be given up to rejoicing and good fellowship. 'Tis a time when everyone is supposed to be well fed and warmly clothed and comfortably housed. It is a time when men and women are supposed to lay aside the cares and the animosities of everyday life and to enjoy social pleasures in a spirit of universal brotherhood.

CONNECTICUT CONVENTION.

Meets in Hartford and Takes Action for Continuous Propaganda and Prepare for Next Campaign. The state convention of the Socialist Party of Connecticut met in Turner Hall, Hartford, on Sunday, Dec. 15. Eleven delegates were present, representing eight locals, some locals in distant parts of the state not being represented.

IN NEW ZEALAND.

A Strike That Illustrates the Worthlessness of Government Ownership Established by a Capitalist Party. The following item from the Rangitikei, New Zealand, "Advocate," of Nov. 22, is somewhat suggestive: "A strike has occurred on the Tokoroa Straits line, and about seventy men have thrown down their tools. They have been getting \$8 a day, but now demand an increase to \$9. They marched in a body through the town to the office of Mr. Furkert, the engineer in charge, and made a final demand which the department will not accept. Fresh men will be engaged."

NO USE FOR THE OLD.

Mr. E. Seymour Bell, British Commercial Agent in the United States, recently addressed a meeting of manufacturers held at the offices of the London Chamber of Commerce. He was asked what became of the old hands in America, it being remarked that one of the great difficulties of British manufacturers was to know what to do with their old employees. In reply, Mr. Bell said that the employment of old men was a more serious question in the United States than in England. He did not know what became of the old employees, but it was a fact that a man of forty-five who was without employment found it most difficult to get anything to do. He believed that this question was going to be a serious one in the United States.

A WRONG SYSTEM.

So Says the National Organ of the W. C. T. U. The practice of devoting individual wealth to institutions designed for public benefit is a striking proof of the growing conviction among all people that the wealth of the world belongs to all humanity and cannot rightly be appropriated to the exclusive use of a few individuals. "The prisoner of poverty" and the multi-millionaire alike perceive the terrible injustice of one man being able to spread a feast with strawberries at "three dollars a dozen," while his brother man, hungry and ragged, walks the streets in a vain quest for "bread or work."

National Platform of the Socialist Party.

The Socialist Party of America in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and the sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

BUY UNION LABEL GOODS.

THE "APPEAL" AND THE POSTOFFICE.

J. A. Wayland, publisher of the "Appeal to Reason," the Socialist paper of Girard, Kas., which Edwin C. Madden, Third Assistant Postmaster General, is trying to suppress, sent the Post Office Department the signed statements of over 60,000 subscribers.

WHAT IS SOCIALISM?

Socialism is not Anarchism, but its opposite. It is co-operation, not competition. It is a joining of human hands, hearts, and brains for the development of the earth's resources. It is science and certainly in the world's industries, not crudeness and haphazard.

THE OATH.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a Justice of the Peace, in and for the county of Wise and state of Virginia, do hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_ has this day personally appeared before me, and made statement on oath, that he would not in any way aid or abet the labor organization known as the United Mine Workers of America, or any other labor organization, and that he would not be troubled by any of the members of the same.

HOW TO ORGANIZE.

Instructions for Forming Locals of the Socialist Party. 1. Five or more persons may organize a local branch, provided they subscribe to the platform and constitution of the Socialist Party, and sever their relations with other political parties.

LECTURES IN YORKVILLE.

The Yorkville Agitation Committee has arranged a series of Sunday afternoon lectures to be held in the large hall of the W. E. A. Clubhouse, 206 E. Eighty-sixth street, beginning on Dec. 29. A concert will precede each lecture, beginning at 2:30 p. m. The lecture will begin promptly at 3 o'clock.

STATE LABOR CONDITIONS.

State Labor Commissioner John Mackin says in his quarterly bulletin that during the third quarter of the year 1900 only 23 per cent. of the trades unionists were continuously idle, last year 5.4 per cent., and this year 3.1 per cent. The proportion of unemployed idle at the end of September was 4.7 per cent. in 1899, 12.3 per cent. in 1900, and 6.9 per cent. in 1901.

MARK TWAIN ON CHRISTENDOM.

"I bring you the stately matron named Christendom, returning begrudged, bemurdered and disenchanted from pirate raids in Klachow, Manchuria, South Africa and the Philippines, with her soul full of meanness, her pocket full of boodle and her mouth full of pious hypocricies. Give her soap and towel, but hide the looking glass."

BUY UNION LABEL GOODS.

Those people who believe that the function of the capitalist is to "give employment" never seem to realize that he is quite as ready to take it away when more profits can be made by so doing—Workers' Call.

FACTORY TO POCKET.

P. B. BARTLETT, WALTHAM, MA. WATCHES, 20-25 per cent. discount. 1000's of them. \$1.00. W. E. DOLL, 1770 Broadway, New York.

THE BEAUTIES OF CIVILIZATION.

A little girl was given a scripture text, with the request that she hang it on the wall at home. "Please, teacher, we haven't got any wall; we live in the middle."

BUY UNION LABEL GOODS.

A man was afraid of thunder and crawled into a hollow log as a place of safety, says a truthful exchange. The thunder roared and the rain poured down in torrents. The log began to swell and the poor fellow was wedged in. Past signs began passing before him. Suddenly he remembered that he had not paid his newspaper subscription, and then he felt so small that he was able to back right out.

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