

# The Worker.

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## MASSACHUSETTS POLITICIANS.

### Their Crafty Handling of the Overtime Bill—Fooling the Working Class.

By Franklin H. Wentworth.

Misfortune always follows the holidays in Massachusetts—the legislature assembles in January. This year's session is to bring the passage of the overtime bill. You cannot find hide nor hair of a politician who does not believe in his soul that this worthy measure should pass, and that poor women and children should not be allowed to work after hours. Also you cannot find a politician who thinks that the bill amounts to a two-penny d-n.

I have suspected for the past two years that the opposition to the overtime bill itself was not real—not like the opposition to the picketing bill; but I have not been able to catch any of the sly ones in an unguarded utterance until this week. This week the Boston "Evening Record" did it.

### The Bourgeois Record.

"The Record" is bourgeois with the hair on. Most Boston papers affect refinement. They are all a sickly straw-color but they prefer to gasp at anything yellow. "The Record" gasps at nothing. It is editorially so dense as to be entertaining. It puts at the top of its editorial column, "This Country, with its Institutions, belongs to the People who inhabit it,"—which proves that "The Record" has no sense of humor. The only institutions that are left for the people to inhabit are the almshouses and insane asylums. But a bourgeois newspaper that accepts itself in a reverential spirit is disqualified for seeing how funny it is. I always read "The Record" as if I would "Puck" or "Judge." It's funnier, and it doesn't know it, and you can't get anything funnier than that.

"The Record" has a column or two every night written by an amicable idiot called "the Looker On." It contains short paragraphs about automobiles and other things seen in the street; and occasionally an idea in relation to men's wardrobes and sometimes hints on more serious subjects—such as scientific nursing. The thing which I refer to got into this column; where one never looks for anything but imbecility. That is why it escaped the editorial eye and the blue pencil skipped it; for no capitalist paper is fool enough to print such stuff—now.

"The Looker On" was up at the State house fraternizing with the purchasers of legislative goods. Thru December these employees of special privilege make up their slates, checking off the patriots who were bought last year and estimating the cost of purchasing the new ones. "The Looker On" got enough from his visit on Beacon Hill to go back to his desk and pen the following interesting paragraph:—

### A Sop to Labor.

"The overtime bill will undoubtedly go thru both houses of the legislature without a ripple this year," said one of the best known lobbyists at the State house. "And everybody knows it doesn't amount to a snap, it affects so few interests and so few people.

"Why is it, then, that we've been opposing it so many years so strenuously, even though opposition cost the republican party a governor? The answer is very simple. Because we've been afraid of a short-hour bill.

"Give the labor unions something harmless, like this toy of an overtime bill, to howl over, and throw themselves into its over, and they'll get so near-sighted as to lose sight of bigger and more dangerous propositions."

It is not very often that even a professional lobbyist can be got to talk as plainly as that!

But the working class did not see this; the working class does not read "The Boston Evening Record." The working class reads the "Boston American" and looks at the pictures of the "Down and Out Club" and smiles and thinks its exploiters are being undone;—because capitalism is casting aside a few of its worn-out jacks. But capitalism was never better entrenched or more keenly alert, than it is to-day.

The overtime bill did not "cost the republican party a governor" at all. The Republicans wanted to get rid of Bates and they dropped him that way, after they had made satisfactory arrangements with Douglas. It flattered the working class to be allowed to think it had defeated Bates in electing Douglas; and it soothed Bates' incensed feelings to have it publicly stated that he was done by the workers when he was really kicked out by his own party, the workers, as usual, being used as the boot.

Governor Guild is almost as unpopular in his own party as Bates was, and had Moran been a little more "reasonable" this year, the working-class would have been allowed to "defeat" Guild.

### Something Real.

If it were possible for the words of the politician above quoted to be read by every working man in the country; and if, having read them, he could understand the futility of the Gompers

method of crawling along on his stomach, first supplicating and then blustering for petty reforms, he might possibly get upon his feet and go after something real; he might, instead of "howling" and "going into fits over" harmless "toys," actually go after the "bigger and more dangerous propositions" first. If one will study very carefully the utterances of the politicians and their capitalist masters in the public prints to-day he will discern that the flippant and haughty contempt visited upon the trades unions does not extend to a certain labor organization of class-conscious workers called the Socialist party.

If anywhere you can find a working-man who is not a member of the Socialist party you will find one who is not yet awake; or you will find one who is passing along with his children a fight he should have manhood enough to get into himself.

## GUILTY BUT DISCHARGED

### Philadelphia Jury Convicts and Judges Discharges Socialists in Fight for Free Speech—Letter Sent to Judge.

The case of Comrades Bloor, Cassile and Levitsky, arrested on the charge of obstructing the highway while addressing an open-air meeting, came up for trial Wednesday, Dec. 12. The prosecution attempted to prove that the street was completely obstructed and the speakers were guilty of maintaining a nuisance. As usual, a few petty business men testified in addition to the police. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty. The judge thereupon decided that the conviction was sufficient and discharged the defendants.

Other cases are on the docket to come up every few days. From the decision it seems that no speaker is in danger of going to jail, and the party will not be bothered in the future. The fight has been a costly one, but contributions by friends have enabled us to conduct a good fight, with indications that we will win in the end.

The following letter was sent to Judge Breyer, who handed down the decision:

To the Honorable F. Amédée Breyer, Esq., Judge of Common Pleas Court, No. 1 Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:

We are addressing this open letter to you, in view of your eminently fair and legally correct attitude in discharging the defendants in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Wesley R. Cassile, Ella Reeve Bloor and Israel Levitsky, the all of the defendants were found guilty, by a jury, of obstructing a city street during the course of a political open-air meeting.

Among other things you said we had a right to speak on the street so long as we did not obstruct the highway. You also said we ought to hold our meetings in halls. You said further that it was a grave reflection on the executive branch of the government that the Socialist Party had its street meetings broken up by the police, during a campaign, while other parties were allowed to hold as large if not larger street meetings.

Under your decision and the finding of the jury, we, as a legitimate political party, are seriously handicapped in the race with other political parties for votes and for spreading of ideas. We prefer to speak in halls, rather than in the streets, for obvious reasons. But the time does not happen to be propitious. More important than that, we cannot see that the exercising of a political right should be contingent upon the whim and caprice of a private individual, the hall owner.

It is admitted that the attitude of the police towards open-air meetings varies with the party holding the meeting. Now, what if our meetings are broken up by the police when we are not blocking the highway? Are we to be, under the obligation of spending money to defend ourselves every time we attempt to speak on the street? Furthermore, other things being equal, when it is a question of the right of free speech as against the blocking of the highway, is it not more vital to our republican form of government that our political liberties be maintained than that no citizen be put to inconvenience in his coming and going?

If we stop holding street meetings altogether, for fear an otherwise lawful meeting should suddenly become unlawful by reason of one additional citizen joining the audience, do we not as a matter of fact, lose an important branch of our right of free speech, whether it be due to the judicial or the executive branch of the government, and are we not without a remedy?

What would you advise us as law-abiding citizens to do?

Sincerely hoping you will answer this communication, we are, Sir,  
Respectfully yours,  
Campaign Committee Socialist Party,  
Simon Libros,  
Secretary.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS?

Now that prosperity prevails through the land and an easy job at big wages is awaiting every one who wants to work, isn't it rather presumptuous upon the part of the Salvation Army to continue bumming nickels and dimes in the name of charity for Christ's sake?—Western Clarion.

## SOCIALIST VOTE.

### Returns from a Number of States—Florida First in Percentage of Votes.

The Rand School furnishes the following tabulation of the vote (official and semi-official) of 1906, so far reported, with comparisons of the vote of 1904. Percentages are based on the figures for the head of the ticket in all cases where state officers were voted for.

The party's showing in the recent election necessarily suffers by the use of this basis, since Debs in every case ran ahead of his ticket, whereas this year the head of the ticket in most cases ran behind. The sixth column shows the highest vote cast for any Socialist candidate—in two instances, the total for Congressional candidates.

Florida, with a percentage of 11.02, now displaces California as the head of the Socialist column.

Further corrections and additions will be made as the official vote is reported.

States.	Head of ticket.	Vote.	Per cent.	Per cent of State vote.	Highest vote.	S. L. P.		
Colorado	4,804	16,192	276	1.76	8,118	16,192	325	
Florida	2,387	2,580	8	5.94	11.02	2,580	.....	
Indiana	12,013	7,824	-38	1.76	1.33	7,824	1,598	1,586
Louisiana	995	903	-39	0.88	1.62	903	.....	
Maine	2,106	1,184	-46	2.19	0.90	*1,230	.....	
Mass.	13,604	7,938	-42	3.05	1.85	*20,000	2,350	2,182
Missouri	13,009	11,827	-11	2.02	1.93	11,827	.....	
N. H.	1,000	1,011	-7	1.21	1.24	1,011	.....	
Ohio	36,200	18,432	-52	3.91	2.33	18,432	2,633	2,211
Oregon	7,651	4,468	-42	8.48	4.62	17,833	.....	
Vermont	844	512	-39	1.62	0.72	512	.....	
Virginia	218	.....	.....	0.17	.....	.....	56	.....
West Va.	1,572	2,611	96	0.65	1.43	2,611	.....	
Wisconsin	28,220	24,437	-13	6.37	7.05	24,916	223	.....
Wyoming	1,077	1,810	22	3.51	4.79	1,827	.....	
Territories:								
Arizona	1,804	1,995	53	6.08	8.86	1,995	86	.....
Totals to date	126,604	102,524	-19			128,042		

\* Congressional ticket.  
† Candidates in only three Congressional Districts.  
‡ No candidates in 1906.  
— Loss.

## NEW YORK STATE VOTE.

### In Face of Hearst Wave, Our Party Held 59 per Cent of its Straight Vote and S. L. P. Held 41 per Cent—Socialist Party Keeps Third Place.

The New York State Board of Canvassers has at last completed its record of the vote cast in November and given out the results.

John C. Chase, candidate of the Socialist Party for the office of Governor, polled 21,751 votes, as against 36,833 for Eugene V. Deba, our candidate for the presidency in 1904. The S. L. P. cast 4,624 votes for its gubernatorial candidate, as against 11,418 in the presidential election.

In the case of both parties the head of the ticket ran somewhat behind his colleagues. The remaining candidates on the ticket of the Socialist Party ran as follows: Gustav A. Strebel, for Lieutenant-Governor, 23,645; William W. Arland, for Secretary of State, 24,114; John O'Rourke, for Comptroller, 24,050; William W. Passage, for Treasurer, 24,083; Henry L. Slobodin, for Attorney-General, 24,122; Russell W. Hunt, for Engineer and Surveyor, 24,121. The S. L. P. vote for the minor offices on the state ticket ranged from 4,795 to 4,914.

Comparing the votes cast for the heads of the ticket in 1904 and in 1906, it appears that, in face of the Hearst wave the Socialist Party held 59 per cent and the S. L. P. 41 per cent of the votes they respectively polled under the more favorable circumstances of the presidential year.

According to present indications the Socialist Party holds its place in the third column of the ballot, the Independence League (in case that curious organization is called into play again) takes fourth place, the Prohibition party falls back to fifth place, and the S. L. P. to sixth.

## FREEDING THE LABORER.

The immediate producer, the laborer could only dispose of his own person after he had ceased to be attached to the soil and ceased to be the slave, serf or bondman of another. To become a free seller of labor power, who carries his commodity wherever he finds a market, he must further have escaped from the regime of the guilds, their rules for apprentices and journeymen, and the impediments of their labor regulations. Hence the historical movement which changes the producers into wage-workers, appears on the one hand, as their emancipation from serfdom and from the fetters of the guilds, and this side alone exists for our bourgeois historians. But, on the other hand, these new freedmen become sellers of themselves only after they had been robbed of all their own means of production, and of all the guarantees of existence afforded by the old feudal arrangements. And the history of this, their expropriation, is written in the annals of mankind in letters of blood and fire.—Marx

## STRIKE IN SCHENECTADY.

### Thousands of Workmen Go Out to Defend Persecuted Brothers.

SCHENECTADY, Dec. 17.—Nearly 5,000 employees in the big works of the General Electric Company—one of the most powerful and rapacious capitalist concerns in the world—are out on strike here. In spite of statements to the contrary published in the subsidized daily press, the men are standing firmly together, few or none yielding either to tempting promises or to threats of persecution. It is impossible to get the local press to give a fair statement of the strikers' side of the case, as the proprietors of these papers stand in great awe of the corporation. Only from the labor press, and especially the Socialist press, can any just treatment be expected.

As an illustration of the attitude of the local capitalist papers may be mentioned their pathetic account of the destitute condition of a certain striker

named Gall, which, they pretend, is due to the strike. As a matter of fact, he was paid but \$9 a week when at work, for long hours of hard labor, and he is now receiving as much in strike benefits as he did in wages when at work. The exposure of his sufferings—and he is but one among many—is an indictment, not of the strikers' organization, but of the capitalists who, while living in luxury on their dividends, take advantage of workingmen's necessities to give them the alternative of working hard for wages that will just keep them on the verge of starvation or of having no chance to work and earn their living at all.

The strike is under the direction of the local organization of the Industrial Workers of the World. Its object is to compel the reinstatement of three workmen who have been victimized by the bosses because they exercised their right and performed their duty of helping to organize the workers in these shops for the improvement of their conditions.

The trouble began in November. Hans Schwartz, I. Weingreen, and Louis Basky were discovered to be active in promoting organization among the employees in the drafting department, who had formerly been unorganized and at the mercy of foremen and superintendents. On Nov. 22 Basky received a note from the head of the department informing him that "his services would not be required" after Nov. 24 and that the company would "arrange for his travelling expenses," and assigning as a reason for his discharge the alleged fact that work in his line had fallen off so that the company did not need a man in the place he then filled. The falsity of the pretext was shown by the fact that only four days later another man was put on his job. Another man, H. Schwartz, who had also been active in promoting organization, was at the same time transferred from his old place to another at lower wages. He made some complaint and was forthwith informed by letter that his "resignation" was "accepted." The third man, Basky, was summarily discharged.

The organization made every effort to effect a settlement of these difficulties without a strike, which, they well knew, would involve great hardships for many of the workers. But every effort was in vain. Altho the standing agreement provided for thirty days' notice of discharge, the company stood for its "sacred right" to discharge "agitators" on two days' notice or no notice at all, at its own arbitrary will. The company's representative, Mr. Upp, expressed himself as willing, however, to find places for the discharged men if they would promise to give up the union—an offer which they scornfully refused.

The strike was decided on by a meeting of 3,500 employees. The sentiment in favor of defending the attacked brothers was unanimous at this meeting and some 1,500 men who were not there show by their action that they endorse it.

## TO DEFEND OUR COMRADES.

### Moyer-Haywood Conference of New York Resumes Activity.

The Moyer-Haywood Conference of New York City was called together last Saturday, after a recess of some months, and was unexpectedly well attended. New delegates were seated as follows: W. Billingham and W. Blingham from the 5th-7th A. D.; Reinhard Meyer, from the 14th A. D., and John J. Coyle and N. Rothman, from the 24th A. D., Socialist Party; Hugo Hawlitschek and Peter Rothman, from the Brotherhood of Painters, No. 499; Wm. Rose from Typographia No. 7; T. Kotzaurek and P. Segedzer, from Bakers' Union No. 164; Paul Jacob and Wil. Reber, from the Independent Machinists' Union; P. Solomon and Zynda, from Carpenters' Union No. 309; Ernst Kappas and Wm. Dusch, from the Workingmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund, Br. 91, and Joseph Polivka, from Br. 160.

Financial Secretary Solomon reported for the Executive Committee, stating the causes which led to the calling of this special meeting—the adverse decision of the Supreme Court and the consequent prospect that the trial of the imprisoned officers of the Western Federation of Miners would soon begin. He made also a financial report showing that \$1,686.90 had been received for the Defense Fund, of which \$1,900 had been sent to the National Secretary of the Socialist Party to be forwarded; and that \$1,417.27 had been received for the Agitation Fund, of which \$1,368.95 had been expended under the direction of the Conference in providing for meetings and the distribution of literature, leaving a balance of \$48.32 on hand.

A general discussion took place on the steps to be taken by the Conference in order to arouse the workers of New York and vicinity and interest labor organizations in the work of the Conference. Several suggestions were made, including one aiming at the calling of a national conference of delegates from national and international labor organizations. The Conference thought it better not to take the initiative in attempting to call such a conference, in view of the shortness of the time and the large expense involved, and also as being outside of the functions of its local body, and decided to continue to confine its activity in New York, but gladly co-operate if such a national conference is brought about. The Executive Committee was instructed to issue a call and if necessary, send speakers to all labor organizations in the city, asking for funds to the Defense Fund and the Agitation Fund and for representation at the meetings of the Conference, each organization being entitled to two delegates. It was also instructed to make arrangements for a big mass meeting about the middle of January.

The membership of the Executive Committee was increased from 4 to 8 and Thomas Crimmins, Moses Oppenheimer, and Peter Solomon were elected as additional members. A press committee composed of Mrs. Oppenheimer, Ludwig Lore, L. B. Swartz, and M. Oppenheimer was elected for the purpose of supplying the papers with news and articles concerning the Moyer-Haywood affair.

It was decided that the next two meetings of the Conference shall take place Dec. 29 and Jan. 5, at the Labor Temple, 243 E. Eighty-fourth Street. The Executive Committee will at once issue the call for funds and delegates. Unions and other labor organizations which meet before this call is received, are requested to take the matter up and make liberal donations to the Defense Fund of the Conference, so that no opportunity may be lost to assure a fair trial for our imprisoned comrades.

The General Committee of Local New York, Socialist Party, it was reported, has donated \$25 to start a fund for the purpose of engaging a competent correspondent so that accurate reports of the trial may be sent daily to all the papers that will print them. This proposition was heartily endorsed by the Conference and steps will be taken to further the plan.

The Executive Committee of the Conference needs the services of a number of comrades to visit labor organizations and lay the facts before them and enlist them in the movement to secure justice for our imprisoned comrades. Volunteers will please address U. Solomon, Secretary, 66 E. Fourth Street. To him, also, all contributions to the Defense Fund and the Agitation Fund should be sent, with a statement for which fund they are intended—the one going to the W. F. of M. for the purpose of defraying the expense of the legal proceedings, the other to be used in carrying on the agitation to inform the public and especially the workingmen as to the facts in the case.

—Fillman has a lofty opinion of the white race, altho he himself belongs to it.—Chicago News.

## RUSSIAN SOCIALISTS' APPEAL.

### Socialists United—Duma Election Pending—Reaction Fighting for Its Life—Struggles Ahead—Assistance Needed.

The Central Committee of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party has sent an appeal to the proletariat throughout the world for funds to assist them in the coming struggle for control of the Duma. Capitalist governments have given assistance to the autocracy and the working class should be equally as generous in contributing funds to assist our Russian comrades. The following is the appeal they make to the proletarians in all countries:

"Workingmen! Comrades!

"The Russian government, to fight the revolution, has appealed to the bourgeoisie of the entire world, and up to this time the appeals have not been in vain. The means to carry on the fight have ever been forthcoming; and with the help of the bourgeoisie, with their money, the government has bought the implements of destruction, the deadly weapons, to be used against the rebellious nation.

"But we, the Russian Social Democracy, turn to the international proletariat to help us in our struggle against our Asiatic-barbaric government. We appeal to the feeling of solidarity in our European and American comrades. And it gives us the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to say that the latter were by no means backward in coming to our aid; and that they reached their hand across the waters to us, the Russian proletariat, and thru the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party have rendered assistance to our cause.

"Comrades! You know that the fight of the Russian people has not been fought to the end. The class-conscious Russian proletariat still has a long series of conflicts ahead, difficult, bloody conflicts, involving the greatest sacrifices. The Russian proletariat is well aware of this; and is ready to pay the price. And because it is aware of the struggles to come, it formed a closer union than ever. The Jewish Social Democratic Workingmen's Federation ("The Bund"), the

## GERSHUNI SPEAKS.

### Russian Revolutionist's Appeal—European Capitalists Aid Tsar—Working Class Aid the Revolution.

Gregory Gershuni, the Russian revolutionist who recently escaped from Siberia, delivered an address at Carnegie Hall Friday evening, Dec. 14, to an audience that packed the building. It is estimated that 3,500 people listened to the speaker, who spoke in Yiddish and Russian.

After speaking a few minutes the audience rose at the request of Comrade Gershuni and stood with bowed heads while the orchestra played a Russian funeral march in memory of those that have died for Russian freedom. At the conclusion of the address a collection was taken up which, with the door receipts, made a total of nearly \$4,000 for the Russian revolution. Following is a summary of Comrade Gershuni's address:

"Friends—I have come from a land where they labor much, but eat little; where liberty is but little enjoyed, but where many die for its sake.

"Bitter is the cup that has fallen to the lot of the Russians. Last year under the pressure of the indignation and opposition of the whole land, in fear of the terrible advance of the laboring masses and revolutionists, absolutism receded and surrendered. But the revolting laboring class would not be satisfied with the worthless crumbs which the Tsar's government and the upper bourgeoisie were ready to throw to the famished and exhausted people. The laboring class said: 'We shall not yield the country's interest in return for a farthing sop. All freedom to the whole nation; all the land to all who labor.' Such was the watchword.

"The Tsar's government rushed to their foreign confederates. Save for the sake of your own interests," it said. "The victory of the Russian working class over us will give wing and fire to the hearts of workingmen in Western Europe and America. The fragments of our throne will reach you in their flight and may shatter yours as well." The bourgeoisie of Western Europe understood the danger and the European crocodiles held out the hand of help to their Russian colleague.

"Liberty loving Europe" gave Russia the gold, and with it were bought rifles to shoot down the insurgent laboring class.

"Friends! The Russian people, torn by the beak and talons of the two-headed eagle, is struggling to solve the greatest social problems. This struggle is waged; to the whizzing of the Tsar's bullets, the thundering of cannons, the roaring of the flames that devour villages burned by Cossacks, the

Social Democracy of Lithuania and Poland, and the Lettish Social Democratic Party have all united with the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party, and now constitute one great and powerful party—the party of the proletariat. This consolidated and strengthened, the revolutionary proletariat is about to enter upon a new stage of the struggle—the impending election for the Duma—which it has determined to use as a vehicle for furthering the cause of political and industrial liberation of the Russian people.

"The election campaigns have already begun, the government initiating the contest by still further restricting, with the aid of its servile bureaucratic Senate, the scanty voting rights of a large part of the working class and the peasantry.

"The government thus hopes to insure at the polls a victory of the reaction, which might strengthen its hands and delay the overthrow of the autocracy. Such a victory must be prevented at all costs! The party of the proletariat is therefore energetically preparing for the elections and will strain every nerve to frustrate this perfidious scheme and to prevent the next parliament from becoming a pliant tool in the hands of the ruling clique.

"But it will be a hard and bitter fight, and we will need your moral and financial aid. We, therefore, turn to you with the plea to help us, your brothers in this critical hour of our need.

"Long live the proletariat!  
"Long live the International Social Democracy!"

"The Central Committee of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party, St. Petersburg, November, 1906."

All contributions should be sent and checks and drafts made payable to Dr. Maxim Roum, 306 E. Fifteenth Street, New York City, the official representative in America of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party and treasurer of its New York branch.

grooming of assaulted women, the screaming of tortured children. And however awful this hell, the struggle will be given up by the Russian people only when on the ruins of lawlessness and exploitation will be set up the banner of liberty and labor. Or else—the Tsar's government will turn the land into a barren desert.

"The struggle is carried on by means which often disconcert staid Europeans and Americans. But were those Europeans and especially you Americans to live under the unbearable press of Russian despotism, were they to keep up the struggle against the Russian imperial régime, they would say: 'Alas, this Russian people! How patient, how criminally patient and criminally soft hearted with this monstrous band of murderers calling themselves a government! The inventive American would get means a hundred times more powerful, with which to sweep off the earth this shame upon mankind—the Russian Imperial régime!

"Friends! The cause of the Russian revolution is the cause of democracy in all lands. I ask of you in the name of my brethren fighting in Russia: 'Is it possible that we stand alone in our revolutionary struggle? Is it possible that the American people will not lend us a helping hand?

"To-day you will answer me: 'Friends! No, you are not single handed; here is our brotherly hand!' And with your gold we shall buy guns and bullets and shall storm the stronghold of Russian despotism. Else your great ancestors, the Jeffersons, the Washingtons, the Franklins and the Lincolns, will say to you: 'You have betrayed liberty—you are not the children of free America!'

Eight or ten other speakers representing various labor organizations and revolutionary societies, also spoke. Another meeting was held Sunday night at the Academy of Music. Hundreds were turned away and about \$2,000 realized for the Russian cause.

## CANADIAN "LABOR FAMINE."

The labor famine in British Columbia is to be broken. The prayer for cheap servants that has ascended to high heaven from the throats of the small fry labor skinning fraternity has not been in vain. Commissioner Coombs, head of the Salvation Army in Canada, is now upon the ground for the purpose of looking the situation over preliminary to the shipping in of the much needed supplies. As the Salvation Army is one of the heaviest importers of, and dealers in, "domestic servants, farm hands, and classes of labor most urgently needed", it is confidently expected to cope with the situation handsomely. During the past three years the company has supplied 20,000 head of this sort of stock to the famine-stricken districts of the Maritime Provinces, Ontario and the Northwest territories.—Western Clarion.

The Worker.

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THE SOCIALIST VOTE. The Socialist Party has passed through its third general election. Its growing power is indicated by the increase of its vote.

1903 (Presidential) 96,961 1904 (Senate and Congressional) 229,762 1904 (Presidential) 408,230

THE SENATE AND CONSTITUTION.

An instance of the cheap kind of statesmanship that graces the United States Senate was exhibited on the floor of that body last week.

The day following, Senator Dubois of Idaho rose to attack the President for sending Taft into the state during the campaign.

These two men have hours to consume in defense of the constitution in matters of this kind, but among all those present there is not one to raise his voice against the most infamous decision yet handed down by a court.

We are well aware that the courts and other departments of government are agencies thru which class rule is maintained and for that reason are not surprised when laws are enacted and decisions made against the working class.

When an elementary right of this kind involving the personal freedom of individuals has crystallized into a popular belief and is held as an ideal of personal liberty, it is dangerous to tamper with it, and especially, by any small group like the Supreme Court.

The increase in the population of these fifty-one blocks during the five years, from 132,881 to 177,988, was no less than 34 per cent. The total population of the borough of Manhattan during the same time increased only 14 per cent.

In this we confess we were mistaken. That is, we thought there was still a survival of this respect for liberty of the person among members of the Supreme Court. But forcible seizure of citizens has been legalized and part of the constitution has been repealed, or rather, has become a dead letter—for the working class.

The half-hearted sort of reform that has so far been so gingerly experimented with offers no solution of the problem. Even if the law promoted by Messrs. De Forest, Veller, and others had not been so shamefully mutilated before it was enacted, and even if it were rigidly enforced, it would not solve the problem; even then, it would but make a feeble beginning toward solving a part of the problem.

OVERCROWDING, TENEMENT REFORM AND TAXATION.

Harold M. Finley, writing in the "Federation", the organ of the Federation of Churches and Christian Organizations of New York City, gives some striking and appalling results of his study of the question of overcrowding.

There were last year no less than fifty-one city blocks each of which had a population of 3,000 or more; thirty-seven of these are on the East Side below Fourteenth street. In 1900 these fifty-one blocks had a total population of 132,881—an average of 2,605; in 1905 the total was 177,988 and the average 3,493.

To represent the facts a little more vividly and perhaps more accurately, too (since city blocks are not all of just the same size), it may be said that the total area of these fifty-one blocks is a trifle less than 209 acres. That means a city as large as Providence or Indianapolis set on a fair-sized Western farm. In 1900 the population of these blocks averaged 642 to the acre; in 1905 it averaged 680.

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Indeed, so far from the working people as tenants having reason to fear the effect of increased taxation, the only measure by which they can hope for any improvement that will not be balanced by corresponding evils—measures that will give immediate partial relief and at the same time strengthen the defensive and aggressive power of the working class—are measures that would necessitate the levying of taxes such as have never been levied before.

But even if the law were enforced to the letter, the character of the houses would be a little improved, the evil of overcrowding would not be touched. Hand in hand with the slight improvement in the houses, hand in hand too with the tearing down of old blocks to make way for small parks, has gone an increase of crowding. The Twelfth Assembly District illustrated this. Altho several blocks of tenements, containing thousands of persons, were demolished to make way for the new bridge approach, thus considerably reducing the occupied area, and altho many old houses had given place to new ones, the population of the district was larger by 1,542 in 1905 than it had been in 1900—which meant, of course, a double increase of crowding in the remaining houses.

While the tenements built in the last five years are perceptibly better than the old ones and while a few blocks of old rookeries have been demolished and sorely needed breathing-places left in their place, the fact remains that overcrowding, in old tenements and new, is growing worse. Families are living in three rooms that formerly had four, families in four that formerly had five; and poor families, living in small apartments, are taking in lodgers to a greater extent than ever before.

It is a mistake to suppose that the continued increase of rents is due to increased taxes; and the argument founded on that assumption, that the making of parks and other public improvements involving heavier taxes causes an increase of rents, is utterly fallacious. As a matter of fact, during Mayor Low's administration taxes were materially reduced; yet rents went steadily and rapidly upward during those two years—rents of old houses and of new ones alike. When we see that the reduction of taxes does not check the rise of rents, it is obvious that rise of rents is not caused by the increase of taxes.

Perhaps political life in this country has sunk to deeper depths of infamy than in any other country. The reports from Chicago and other large cities of public officials forming alliances with gambling houses and rich and poor criminals together with the graft that comes from it, only confirms the degradation to which the capitalist class has reduced political administration in this country. Crimes are committed by respectable thieves that in many other countries would land them behind the bars. Here it provides them with credentials for entrance into "select" parlors and clubs, where their infamy forms the substance of vulgar jests and jokes.

NOTE, COMMENT, AND ANSWER.

F. J. S.—Charles B. Spahr's "The Present Distribution of Wealth in the United States" costs \$1.50. It can be had of the Socialist Literature Company. The written ten years ago, it is still valuable to the student of economic conditions and tendencies.

Revenues. Regardless of taxes, between the upper and the nether millstones of their own poverty and the landlord's power, the working people's standard of living in the matter of housing is being gradually lowered; large and ever larger numbers of them are being forced to think themselves comfortable in quarters that only a few of them would have thought endurable some years ago.

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REFORM AND GRAFT.

Interesting developments have marked the crusade of District Attorney Jerome against the poolrooms and gambling houses. It has been known for years that an intimate connection exists between the grafters in and out of the police department and the keepers of gambling houses.

But the crusade of Jerome has its chief interest in the fact that several anti-vice societies organized for the enforcement of criminal laws have themselves been levying blackmail on gambling houses. Correspondence seized at "The" Allen's home was responsible for this disclosure.

The resolution adopted indicates that the General Committee considered, on general principles and especially in view of this incident, that it is dangerous to give any sanction to campaign clubs which are not entirely committed to Socialism and under party authority. We cannot, of course, prevent such organizations from being formed. But it was held that by forbidding party members to belong to them we could show that the party is not responsible for their actions, and that we should do so.

NOTE, COMMENT, AND ANSWER.

The S. L. P. had over 6,000 signatures to get the names of its candidates on the ballot. It polled 4,624 votes. How about the class conscious-

ness of those signers, about whom the "People" published such pathetic editorials a few months ago? Also, if the S. L. P. "stood like a rock this year," what did the Socialist Party stand like?

JOHN CONWAY.—We do not know what one person has done most for Socialism in this city, this country, or any other country. We know that some thousands of men and women are doing what they can. We are quite sure that all of them make mistakes and most of them can profit by criticism. We think we have done something for Socialism ourselves; yet we know we have made mistakes; and we are sure that we should have made more mistakes if we had not been subject to free and open censure for those we did make.

F. L. S.—The important point in the question recently considered in the General Committee of Local New York about the campaign in the Ninth Congressional District was the issuance by the Professional Men's League, the week before election, of a card showing how those who wished to "split" for Hillquit could do so. This league was a campaign organization, some of whose members were also party members while others were not, formed for the avowed purpose of acting as an auxiliary in the congressional campaign in that district. It issued several cards and leaflets and distributed them in large numbers. The one card in question was objected to on the ground that it was an appeal for split votes and that its tendency was to sacrifice Socialist principles and the straight ticket in the hope of electing one candidate.

The discussion and the resolution adopted showed, we believe, that the General Committee, while not questioning the innocence of intention, disapproved of the action and considered it as a dangerous precedent. We may add that we hold the same view. Certainly, if any voter asked us to show him how to mark his ballot to vote a split ticket we would show him; indeed, we would do that even if asked how to vote a straight Republican or Democratic ticket; we would not wish any other to lose his vote by putting his cross in the wrong place, whether our party lost or gained by it. Just as we would not wish the vote to be unfairly counted, whether to the advantage or the detriment of our party. Granting that, as citizens, we would answer the question "How can I vote the Democratic ticket and split for one Socialist candidate?" or "How can I vote the Socialist ticket and split for one Democratic candidate?" we still think that the issuance and general distribution of a card giving instructions of the sort is a mistake. To issue such a card is, in the eyes of the public, to volunteer advice, not simply to answer a question; it is likely to be interpreted as indicating that our primary desire is to elect a certain candidate, regardless of the fate of the rest of our ticket; if so interpreted, the injurious effect is much the same as if it had been so intended.

The resolution adopted indicates that the General Committee considered, on general principles and especially in view of this incident, that it is dangerous to give any sanction to campaign clubs which are not entirely committed to Socialism and under party authority. We cannot, of course, prevent such organizations from being formed. But it was held that by forbidding party members to belong to them we could show that the party is not responsible for their actions, and that we should do so.

The charge that "The Campaign Committee of the Ninth District, without consulting the organization at large, arbitrarily selected the Ninth as the principal battle-ground of the campaign" is, of course, very ridiculous. The Campaign Committee of the Ninth could not very well "select" the district in which it was to work. If it made its district the principal battle-ground of the campaign that could only be by carrying on the battle more vigorously than other districts did. This is just what every district ought to try to do.

In the article in the "Social Democratic Herald", signed by Comrade Berger, on the subject discussed in the foregoing paragraphs we do not find more than a round dozen of positive misstatements of fact—surely a moderate allowance. We may enumerate

and deny them;—Comrade Hillquit did not "allow himself to be persuaded into making a certain William Mally his 'special' campaign manager", but persuaded Comrade Mally to accept the task of Campaign Secretary in the Ninth; Mally did not say that "the election of Hillquit would have a 'deciding influence upon the outcome of the Russian revolution'; the Professional Men's League and other campaign organizations of the sort were not "controlled by William Mally"; these leagues did not "do most of the work in the district"; the business men were not "told that Hillquit was the man to represent them, because he was worth \$100,000; the Republican candidate did not receive about the usual vote; Hillquit's vote was not "smaller than the vote of Baroness", but larger; Tammany speakers did not "urge their audiences to vote for Hearst and Hillquit"; it is false that "no one but William Mally knew what the leagues were doing"; finally, it is false that "Mally religiously kept away from the City Committee". These are the false direct statements. There are three or four false insinuations besides—as, that the campaign in the Ninth was a purely personal campaign and not a Socialist campaign; that the influence of Hearst was thrown for Hillquit; that the methods used in the Ninth were kept secret or any attempts made to keep them secret; that information on the subject was refused to the local organization—the fact on this last point being that the District Campaign Committee, of which Mally was Campaign Secretary, insisted on bringing the matter up before the General Committee, composed of delegates from all branches, instead of having it settled by the smaller Executive Committee which had brought the charges. Berger also quotes Comrade Oppenheimer as saying that "every kind of meeting except Socialist meetings" were held in the district, that "at no time had the Socialist Party appeared with its banner and state candidates"—which is totally and outrageously false, whoever originated the statement. Finally, we may remark that Berger devotes thirty lines to reporting Oppenheimer's charges (in addition to three times that space occupied with his own statements and misstatements), and gives just one line and a quarter to Mally's reply. So much for our Milwaukee friend and his ideas of fairness.

Current Literature.

All books noticed in this department can be obtained, at the published price, from the Socialist Literature Company, 15 Spruce Street, New York. The word "net" is the statement of price, indicates that postage or expressage will be charged extra.

THE REBEL AT LARGE. By May Beals. Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago. Cloth, pp. 184. Price, 50 cents.

In a preparatory note Miss Beals quotes the criticism of a young woman who, having read some of her stories, declared them "perfectly horrid". The themes of these seventeen little tales and sketches are various, but all concerned with social institutions or beliefs. There is the loving soul driven to desperation by belief in an omnipotent creator and ruler who hates most of the beings he has created and rules; there is the honest man corrupted by being trained to usefulness for anything but preaching and so confronted with the alternative of giving up his livelihood or preaching what he has ceased to believe; there is the young couple forced by poverty to choose between stifling their love or perverting it by suppressing its natural fruits; there is the writer who finds that his talent is just a commodity in a competitive market, subject to all the market's practical rules, and who prostitutes it to the writing of stuff he despises—and whom we cannot blame, because he does not do it for his own sake alone; there is the stenographer whose eyes fail and who quietly goes out of a world that has no place for self-respecting poor people who cannot, according to Hetty Green's maxim, "do more work than they are paid for doing"; there are the men—and, what is even a little worse, the women—who believe that it is as right for a woman to sell herself for life as it is wrong to sell herself for a few hours, that the balancing of sexual relations against house rent and grocery bills is highly moral provided it is done under a license from the civil and ecclesiastical authorities; there is the woman whom incessant toil and fear of want has so hardened that she has no longer any tenderness even for the children for whom she labors early and late. All these things are, as the author freely admits, quite "horrid". Her defense is that they exist, that they are not rare exceptions due to accident or individual wickedness, but very frequent and normal phenomena of the capitalist system; that they ought to be removed; and that to affect to ignore their existence is the surest way to perpetuate them. Wherein she is altogether right.

Dark as are the subjects, the impression left by the stories is not, in general, a gloomy one. Somehow, Socialists can't be gloomy. That is what thoughtful people who are not Socialists don't understand. We do. The various theological, philosophical, or sentimental platitudes by means of which others succeed in partially numbing their sense of the Weltachmerz are poor things compared with the tonic of Socialist faith—"the substance of things hoped for, the assurance of things not [yet] seen"—founded as it is, not on the acceptance of authority, but on study of facts and action in the real world. Socialists smile while they

fight; the others sigh and endure. Now Miss Beals is a Socialist; therefore she is cheerful with her eyes open.

As for the style and manner of her writing, it is sometimes a little crude; but it has the merit of not straining to be clever, smart, or even "intense" in the magazine sense of the word. We find in "The Rebel at Large" some very good work and the promise of better.

Under the title of "A Great Iniquity", The Public Publishing Co. of Chicago has issued as a 10-cent pamphlet a translation of the letter to the London "Times", written in July, 1905, in which Tolstoy discussed the right of property in land and declared his adherence to the Single Tax program as, in his view, the best plan available "under the existing state organization and compulsory taxation". To our way of thinking, Tolstoy is at his weakest in such writings as this and we find the argument far inferior to that of Henry George himself. [We do not count George a sound economist, to be sure; but he was at least a man of, as well as in, the modern civilized world; while Tolstoy, great as he is in destructive criticism, is always reactionary in his positive tendencies. The extent to which his idealism distorts his view of objective reality is illustrated by the fact that, while he condemns the Social Democrats and Revolutionary Socialists who are carrying on the war against autocracy and bureaucracy, landlordism and capitalism in Russia to-day, both for their use of violent methods and for their adoption of "foreign" ideas, he praises the Decembrists of 1825 as "men who were ready to suffer and did themselves suffer (without making anyone else suffer) in the name of loyalty to that which they recognized as the truth". In fact, the Decembrists were much more exclusively dominated by the influence of the French Revolution than are the modern revolutionists by German Marxism; and so far from depending on moral suasion to induce the ruling classes to "free themselves from the sin" of oppressing the people, they planned a mutiny in the army, hoping by its success to compel Nicholas to accede to the demand for a constitution. We have a great deal of respect for the memory of the Decembrists, and we object to the falsification of history involved in picturing them as saintly non-resistants. Presumably the falsification is not wilful. Men of Tolstoy's type are perhaps as incapable of saying what they know to be false as they are of seeing the facts of the real world as they exist. None the less, if a Tolstoy is worthy of consideration as a moralist, he is untrustworthy as a historian or an economist.]

We have just received from Brussels the "Almanach de Co-opérateurs Belges" for 1907, the sixteenth annual issue of that publication. It is a pamphlet of 64 pages containing, besides the calendar and similar matter, a number of articles devoted to co-operation and kindred subjects. Louis Bertrand reviews the progress of co-operation during the year now expiring and finds it marked by great success. Eugene Fournière writes of "Les Co-opératives du Travail" and Dr. Totomiantz of "Le Mouvement Co-opérative en Russie". Among the other articles are "Le Premier Distillateur", by Leo Tolstoy; "L'Art de Lire", by X.; "L'Enseignement de la Nouveauté", by Agathon DePotter; and "Réveillon Populaire", by Lucien Descamp.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

The following shows the circulation of The Worker for the last two weeks:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Circulation. Subscriptions: 11,008. Dealers: 1,775. Bundles, etc.: 2,790. Totals: 15,500. Corresponding totals last year, 14,000 and 13,500.

Not a single copy of Dec. 8 containing Wentworth's oration on Wendell Phillips is left. We will have it out in book form at 10 cents a copy within a few weeks. We are gaining subscribers every week. Santa Claus called upon us recently and asked us what we wanted. We told him that we wish every one of our readers A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR, and that THE WORKER WOULD BE BOTH MERRY AND HAPPY IF IT GETS 15,000 SUBSCRIBERS BEFORE THE YEAR CLOSURE.

ART AND HUMANITY.

It is after all humanity that interests man. Not that I place meaning above execution and form. No; both are entitled to the same degree of concern and care. I assume that the artist who lacks technique is a mere tyro, an aspirant, one who can lay no claim to the name artist; but it is equally true that the artist who lacks pregnant ideas is like a bouquet without fragrance, like fruit without taste. It seems self-evident that the more educated and broad-minded the artist is, the more valuable and profitable are the creations emanating from his enlightened mind. Take those who teach the doctrine of art for art's sake, the decadents, and examine their works. Truly, tools without fruit. They suggest the work of literary decadents—phrases, blank forms, without content.—Vasil Verestchagin.

The victims of industrial accidents in Canada during the month of October last numbered 93 killed and 202 injured. These figures are taken from the "Labor Gazette" for November. The list of capitalists killed and injured has been omitted, probably thru an oversight.—Western Clarion.

RUSSIA OF TO-DAY.

By A Russian of To-Day.

[From a series of articles appearing in "The Clarion" of London, Eng.]

It is in the language of the figures that I am going to speak to you this time. Plain figures, figures pure and simple, are very dry and tedious stuff, I admit, but there are a kind of figures that speak volumes for all their ghastly nakedness; figures that make the very paper shiver, the hair stand on end, and the heart bleed. It is to the English worker, to the honest wage-earner, that I implore you to heed these figures, and if these cold, impassive figures won't make him clench his fists and mutter something or other under his breath—well, then I am laboring under a strong delusion. They are necessary, as a key to the clear and unbiased understanding of the "Jacquerie," which is sure to burst out throughout Russia next spring; and, by the way, as a prelude to a wonderful tale of "metamorphosis," which I, in a position not altogether unlike Ovid's, am going to tell you.

Now, then. There are a hundred million peasants in Russia. Hold hard! Turn this over in your mind, digest it slowly. A solid body of one hundred million toilers, with an odd something to pack a London or two with, tied together by the bonds of one common pursuit, one common nationality, and one common, all-absorbing interest in life—mother land; 1,591,000,000 dessatins (dessatin equals 2.70 acres. Don Province excluded) of that land constitute the Russian Empire, of which they are the backbone and nourishes—a bee-hive to match that tremendous swarm and plenty of room to spare. But, of course, you do not expect the peasant to own all that boundless area. A trifle goes down in government property, in cabinet lands, in crown appanages, in church patrimonies and landlords' estates. Let us at once dispense with these, so that we may concentrate our attention on the lot of our peasants.

Sharing out the Spoil.

Out of the above-mentioned area 1,300,400,000 dessatins are the property of the government. I deem it superfluous to explain that this is not to be confounded with national ownership of land—oh, dear, no! It is owned by various departments of the government simply on the lines of saleable, rent-producing, private property; it is an item of the assets of the budget schedule, going a little way to meet the expenditure on the colossal army, the keep of over one million of red-tape parasites, big and small, of legions of police and gendarmes, of prisons and other instruments for maintaining order. This property contains practically all the forests in the land, which are not in the hands of the crown or private landowners.

The cabinet lands cover an area of 42,500,000 dessatins. Now, don't be bamboozled by fig-leaf labels. There are millions of innocents, at home and abroad, who are under the impression that the cabinet lands are cabinet fiddlers' gentlemen! These 114,750,000 acres of land are the private property of the person or the Tsar, with a great many mines and works, factories and beautiful estates. Among those the most notable are the Altai gold and silver mines, the Imperial china and glass works, the Ekaterinburg lapidary works, the Imperial Orel studs, the Crimean estates, Livadia, Orlanda, etc., etc. The actual amount of the income of the Czar is "an unknown quantity."

The crown appanages rake out 7,400,000 dessatins. They were instituted by the Emperor Paul I. in 1797 (law of 18 Apr.). These appanages, that law intimates, have nothing to do with the so-called "private" estates and other revenues of the members of the Imperial family; the distinction being confined to the labels, for these appanages are nothing but private property, inasmuch as they can be disposed of, increased, or exchanged, at the absolute will of their owners. They comprise an elaborately-picked collection of all the beauties of the Russian country. They also contain (1896) as many as a hundred mines, over one hundred works and factories, fifteen hundred mills, and the greatest in the world vineyards. (The net revenue for 1897 was estimated at twenty million roubles.)

"The Holy Church."

The humble servants of the church have helped themselves to 8,500,000 dessatins. You do not expect the ecclesiastical dignitaries to live on the Holy Ghost and fresh air, do you? Here is a gem which I fished out from a Russian newspaper—"Oko"—last week. It is an extract from an epistle of the Archbishop of the Volinsk diocese to all the parochial fathers:

By all means, my brothers in Christ, stick to the land which the devout forefathers have endowed the church with for the sake of their salvation. If the first Duma failed, the second will attempt to deprive you of your emoluments, but they dare not oust you from the land without your consent. Read, ye what they are doing in that God-forsaken France and bear it in mind that the rebels yearn to carry on the same in Holy Russia. So do not be deceived by tempting promises and stick to the land.

This I call a honest, straightforward way of putting it. Not the wishy-washy preaching of the English priests: nor the cunning hypocrisy and perfumery of the French prelates, but a plain, frank, business talk!

The landowners' possessions aggregate 1,211,137 dessatins, of which area 654,025,545 dessatins in European Russia and the rest in Siberia, according

much corn as they require, because wealthy Europe always easily outbids the poor home purchaser." (B. vander Bruggen.) For the same reason the peasant's children know no such luxury as milk. All the milk, what there is of it, goes to the cheese and churn factories.

What the World Sees and

What He Does Not.

Export flourishes, spurred and whipped by the government. Trade is booming; and the most devoted report of the Minister of Finance is brimming over with buoyant optimism. Remember the impression these annual reports invariably created in the world's exchanges, the awe and admiration they used to inspire. Money was to be had for the asking. Not lately though. Several bad scalds have considerably damped the greedy optimism of Messrs. Money-bags. A la bonne heure!

Behind the tinsel-and-spangled scenes, the dirty peasant dragged on wearily, round and round and round, under his yoke; blindfolded, bent to the ground, in a state of constant semistarvation. Let us first agree, what this state implies, for such terms as wealth, want, etc., have a very extendible range. What would be considered a disastrous famine for a German peasant is bliss and happiness for a Russian "moujik." The minimum of bread required to keep a peasant out of starvation is supposed to be 10 poods. (A soldier receives 20 poods.) Well, according to Simkhovitch 70.7 per cent of the entire peasant population live on less than that minimum. The Russian "moujik" got used to this chronic semi-starvation. He lives virtually from hand to mouth. If there is bread for to-day he does not grumble at his lot. It is true that the death rate among our peasantry exceeds 40 in the 1,000, whereas it is laid down at 16.8 in England; true that infants and children succumb, like grass, to the scythe of death. In spite of all this, this modern Antaeus, who draws his invincible power of resistance through the communion with mother earth, is growing from day to day. The same memorial of the presidents which informs us of the decrease of the average share of land during the period 1805-1900 from 4.8 to 2.6 dessatins per male head, tells us that for the same period of time the peasant population of fifty provinces of European Russia increased from 50 to 80 millions!

CAPITALIST FALLACY.

Some people say that because labor needs railroads, mills, mines and machines, therefore the laborer and the capitalist are equally necessary. There are several big slips in this reasoning. The laborer owns labor power and the capitalist owns capital. The laborer is attached to his labor power, and when he sells he must go along with it and endure whatever discomforts are attached to its use; but the capitalists may live in Newport or in Europe, while his capital is being used to produce wealth in the coal mines of Pennsylvania or the slaughter-houses of Chicago. The laborer does need capital—or rather he needs the things which are now called capital—but he does not need the capitalist.

If he has no use for the capitalist in the production of wealth he has still less use for him in the distribution.

When the laborer has used mills, mines, machinery and manufacturing plants for the production of wealth, the capitalist—who has no share in the wealth production—turns up and demands the lion's share in the distribution of the product.

Here the trouble begins. The laborer wants higher wages, the capitalist wants bigger profits, altho these must come out of the same product. What one gets, the other cannot have. Hence strikes, boycotts, blacklists, riots, closed shops, open shops, injunctions, and all the other phases of industrial warfare.

This warfare can only end in one or two ways. Either the capitalist can own the laborer, or the laborer own capital.

The first is chattel slavery, the second is Socialism.—Brauer Zeitung.

GERSHUNI IN JAPAN.

"The Hikari," (The Light) of Tokyo, Japan, in its issue of Nov. 25 has the following regarding Comrade Gershuni: "Mr. Gershuni is one of the Russian Revolutionaries. He was one sentenced to death, when war broke out between Japan and Russia, and the Russian people began to be agitated. The Russian Government saw that to put those who favor the revolution to death would turn to no account at such a time; consequently he was sentenced to penal service for life, and transported to Siberia. Escape was planned while in Siberia, and at length he succeeded. He came to Japan and sojourned in Tokyo for some days. On the 17th inst. he left here by the 11 a. m. train for Yokohama where he took a steamship bound for America on the same day. Some members of the Japanese Socialist Party and the Revolution Party saw him off to Shimabashi Station. Just as the train was about to start, Mr. Gershuni put his head out of the window, and said, 'Coming to Japan by chance, I was received by you very kindly. I should very much like to welcome you sometime. Among the revolutionaries no difference of race and nation exists. They are all brothers.'"

"Mr. Gershuni will return to his country by way of America. He escaped the lion's den narrowly, but it is understood that he is determined to plunge into it again."

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Workers Robbed Every-where—"Peace and Good Will" Yet to Come.

Twenty centuries have passed away since the coming of the prophet of "peace on earth and good will to all men" and the a large portion of the human race profess faith in his views, the world is still cursed with the same bitter class antagonism as of old. Everywhere, society is divided into classes and there is little difference between those countries that have accepted this call to peace and those that have not.

One class does the work of the world. Whether it be the Egyptian Fellow, Chinese Coolie, Indian Pariah, Mexican Peon or American Wage Slave, the working class toils and suffers and ends life where they began; producing wealth that goes to the class that owns the sources of wealth production. The different religions or lack of religion makes no change in the economic position of the workers in any country. Whether promised "surcease of sorrow" in the next world or damped in this one, it has been the same with the working class. The high caste Brahmin curses and robs the Indian Pariah; the Catholic capitalist and Catholic laborer of Italy cannot agree; the atheistic employer and wage-worker of France are at war and the Protestant industrial kings and wage slaves of America are farther apart than all the rest. Yet all of them, theistic and atheistic alike, profess that "peace" is the ideal of all.

And everywhere and in all countries the ruling Brahmins, Egyptian Princes, or Catholic, Protestant and Atheistic capitalists, the apparently divided on their view of the future, unite on the claim that wealth and the means to produce it, belongs to them. They agree that the workers shall remain workers, with no power to acquire the fruits of their labor. This is the status of the world twenty centuries after the birth of one who urged peace among all men.

This economic class division must separate mankind into groups formed for industrial war. The working class means of life are possessed by the capitalist class and the "Merry Christmas" may bring truce for a day, it is an armed truce and for a day only. The remainder of the year will be devoted to the class war that must ever rage so long as the food supply, or opportunities to produce it, is the property of a class. "Peace and good will" must be absent where a ruling class can withhold from the workers the opportunities for employment or the means of life.

The world has been conquered by the capitalist class who came into it, as Marx has well said, "dripping with blood and dirt at every pore." This class having reached almost the zenith of its power, has polluted art, culture, life and ideals and made all institutions minister to its god of gain. If in its infancy it "dripped with blood and dirt," what figure of speech will it adequately describe its rule? Can peace be realized with one class at war with all the rest or profits be translated into terms of "good will"? Were this possible bayonets and cannon would long ago have ceased to be.

"Peace and good will" will come but it will be the fruitage of the conquest of the working class that has no class beneath them to enslave and only one above to overthrow.

GERMANY.

The German Socialist parliamentary group have just celebrated their 25th anniversary. Comrades Dietz, Singer, Frohme and Stolle are the only members who have sat all that time. Bebel and Liebknecht were out of the Reichstag for three years, while in prison.

The German Party has opened a school for the education of propagandists and officials of the party in the principles of Socialism. Among others, Heinemann will give a course of lectures on criminal law; Hilferding on political economy; Katzenstein on trade unions, co-operation, and municipal policy; Mehring, the history of political parties; Pannekoek on historic materialism; Rosenfeld on civil law; Schutz on Journalism; Stadthagen on labor law.—London Justice.

A GAME OF FREEZE OUT.

What is described by the newspapers as "a call" has come to the Rev. C. F. Aker, minister of Pembroke Chapel, Liverpool. He has been invited to accept the pastorate of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, New York. The salary offered is £5,000 a year. Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, the world's richest exploiter, belongs to the church, or perhaps we might rather say the church belongs to him. Dr. Aker fought a brave fight as a pro-Bre. Many of his addresses have been seemingly unequivocal Socialist utterances. We shall await his decision with interest, and should be disappointed, though not perhaps surprised, if he does not preach Mr. Rockefeller out of the church or Mr. Rockefeller does not "freeze" him out of his pulpit and £5,000 stipend.—London Labor Leader.

SPANISH TRADE UNIONS.

The Spanish trade unions have shown a much greater steadiness in their membership this year than in previous years, according to "Le Socialiste." The membership now amounts to 34,537. There were last year 141 strikes, with 19,526 taking part; 47 were lost; 37 closed by an agreement. The builders alone had 28 strikes.—London Justice.

SOME SOCIALIST FANCIES.

By Peter E. Burrows.

Until we have learned to match our social with our physical resources, the vitality and the fancy of every man is a surplus, which to administer becomes the embarrassment and problem of our lives. Nature has given us superabundance, our fellow men have given us famine, yet as we know the time of social justice and sufficiency to be at hand let us administer the surplus of our lives and fancies preparing the highways of Socialism.

It is out of the surplus of life that man's enemies have built his tomb. With that surplus millions daily accomplish their own death. Heaven and hell have been created by it and most of our bonds. How seldom it has been called into the service of man's true life. Poets, arise!

The saving wisdom of man is that which teaches the thought and nurses the habit of looking at life in its broadest togetherness as a mass of movements struggling, not for over-coming nor for rest, but for harmony. For life knows no rest, the fortress tower and the property wall are but its sepulchre.

That which keeps the human world moving, the push which seems to be within us, is man's thought—life of many ages; it never wanes, it never wearies, it is never broken, it never dies, and it is an interduent action only. If it could be individually retained, that is, individualized, it would be like water in stagnation, offensive and deadly, but it never really is retained, it lives only as it moves and is outside of each, whereby it is the vigorous inside social soul of all. Pastless and futureless it is always our NOW. It is immortality. Tho the thought-force of the human world is so necessarily evanescent from man to man, and so necessarily outside of and superior to each one, it is nevertheless far from superhuman; it has originated with man only from billions of single hearts; it is the product and the prison of all human smiles and tears together; it is the light-drops fallen out of all human darkness modified into beauty and color by the dark-drops fallen out of all human light. This mind-force is the weakness and the power of mankind wrestling, mutually causing and effecting each other as they go.

There may be a mind stuff in the trans human universe; it may be that it passes thru human social experiences as thru a new media and becomes our mind; it may be that the mind motions and mind life of the human race are but the finer harmonies of the mighty movements of the universe. But the mind as we can think or speak of it, is peculiarly human; conceived of human experience and brought to birth only by human words. Dismiss the fallacy from thy will that thou canst say to any moving thought, Thus far shalt thou go, or that any articulated thought was ever born of thee, or any other one person on this earth. Dismiss the delusion that thou canst be the father or the father of any articulate thought, or that any articulate thought known to thee is completed. You make its accomplishment for a moment. It is the pollen of man's social soul fallen on our lips to be fertilized by further articulation—pass it on.

Man's current broken thought, as it urges itself upon each one of us makes an appeal. "Brother," it whispers, "do not take me by myself, but relate and harmonize me with the others that have touched thee within thy range of memory or thy sense of relation. I am only one, but thy reason is the collective energy which may give me my place in the grand cavalcade of life—socialize me." Come hither, good thought. Whence hast thou come to me; whether, when you leave me, wilt thou go? Mayest thou, good thought, whatever thy whence or whither, be the freer, the sweeter, the brighter, the broader for the kiss of the lips that give thee this day's expression. Come hither, cruel thought, whence comest thou? Is it out of the laborer's sorrows in black Assyria or Egypt, or out of the red hypocries of Russia's priests and noblemen? What ought I to do with thee. Should I try to strangle thee?

Thou sayest well, oh cruelty. I must utter thee fearlessly and pass thee on for men to hate thee more and thereby mold thee into mercy. Sin of the world's conflicting classes, I will thus baptize thee with a curse and send thee forward to be a blessing. If I be true to thy hideousness and seek to harness thee to social purposes, either for the warning or the force of thee, I shall turn thee to a benediction. Go, Assyrian, Egyptian tartar! Tomorrow we may meet in Socialism. Above all things let us freely say what we think within the proper limits of our self-defense. The will that seeks to suppress thought or to hide it away from the ignorant, because of the harm it may do, is but the will of imperial darkness against the light of democracy reappearing in our times out of dominican dens or other dark caverns of the past. Under no circumstances shrink from your own thought nor dare to hide, distort or forbid, the thoughts of others.

The laws of a healthy body is the free currency of its blood; so is the law of a people the free currency of its thought, not as some would say the free currency of healthy thought and the congestion or suppression of the unhealthy. For in this case free currency is health and unfreedom is alone

sickness. This law of the body is also the law of social life; humanity is healthy when the mind is free and when men are having full and open intercourse with each other, when they are without fear or slaves or masters. The contending forces of which we are conscious in our own lives and those about us, and which has led to the delusions of dualism in our teachings, is not a double mind, but a contention between the wills of many and the mind of all. The wills of many are the product of their various and obscure self-interests as determined by their economic environments; whereas the mind of all is but one mind, always reasoning one way and coming evermore to one conclusion, viz. the true refuge of each one is the life of all. This is the eternal conclusion of reason. It is automatic and uniform and works no other way.

No economic determinism in one place can alter the mind function, because the mind represents the experience of the mass. It is the life of the collective man. It does not change anywhere, but enlarges everywhere. It takes in and unifies the irreconcilables of yesterday. It is larger than the circle of any or of all wills; larger than poverty; larger than riches; larger than all class interests; larger than capitalism. The final hiding place of the individualist contendor is in the will, because the individualist is an economic conqueror, or his shadow. Whether they were Spartans, stoics, ascetics or modern soldiers, this was their lesson—endure to acquire a will, acquire a will to conquer and conquer to buy strength, beauty, glory, salvation or slaves for yourselves.

From infancy to manhood is a story of private reclamation from childhood to adulthood. The child grows intelligent as its will weakens, and that which is the order of the child's progress to manhood is also the order of human progress from individualism to reason and from anarchy to Socialism. Let those who are content to live for a day on the conquest of others cultivate the will. Let those who desire to live forever in the Socialism of the world cultivate the mind. It accords with the humor of the individualist, the aristocrat, to imagine himself standing aloof on the hill of self-conceit contemplating the universe; but it accords with the psychology of a Socialist to deny the possibility and the instructional value of such a point of observation. Come down, my friend, and close those cold eyes of yours until we learn that our scientific classifications are but so many devices of the mind for its own convenience of expression. I wonder if the stars have not some way of laughing at our astronomy.

Three hours closed for one hour open would seem a productive point of balance between contemplation and observation. Is the grain going backward or forward? Am I moving or the landscape? I ask with anxious fear about the validity of the world, of the train or of myself. Just get back into that three hours, my little mind. The world knows nothing of your backwards and forwards, nor does the train; the world nor the train knows nothing of your time tables. The mind of man is in a world of its own creation. You will have learned much when you learn to hold your own. Things so startlingly separate and different from all other things as to be new creations have appeared often in the history of this hoary universe. A new life appears out of protoplasm. But to what, to whom is it new? The pebble it touches, the rock it flips with its new fin are not surprised, they ask it no questions; for to them there is nothing new under the sun. But to life everything under the sun is and ought to be new; therefore, my dear scientist, do not find out everything at once, do not reduce all creation to your mind's laws and cram them into me in the college term; for the days are at hand when I shall have too much of you to unlearn when a monosyllabic philosophy will be expounded, and even the schemes of modern science will fall down like card houses.

When the creature man by alertness and poverty began to combine and babble a new thing called mind arose out of dumb creation, double-sexed, the daughter and son at once of motion. How much like, how much unlike, at what point they blend are questions which the mature men of other times may answer. But this appears now that motion, life and mind are cousins always reproducing one another, and wherever one is there are the three in some proportion. When mankind by the use of his reason has overcome the interatomic warfare of his own many class wills, when by mind he has overcome his evils; and reason and experience shall have given birth to that one soul of the race mature, world-encompassed and monumentally wise, the God of the future man; then the sway of the mind shall be extended to other realms of motion and life, new matter shall be raised out of all things move and life and think in one cosmic unit, moving out of and to itself, breathing out of and to itself, being out of and to itself, aware of its instinct with affinity and eternally moving without moving away, one universal organism, one grand motograph of the whole.

But these are only Socialist fancies, let us see their sacred fancies; for they are the fancies of the harmonist, they are the fancies of Democratic equality.

\$114 A MINUTE.

This Is Rockefeller's Income This Year—Meanwhile Children Starve.

From authority that should be absolute, John D. Rockefeller's annual income was told yesterday, for the first time, authentically. It will be \$60,000,000 when the year 1906 closes.

Henry H. Rogers and John D. Archbold were talking with a prominent financier when the subject came up of how fast the oil king's millions were piling on one another. Said Mr. Rogers:

"I know for a fact that Mr. Rockefeller's income this year will be sixty millions." Mr. Archbold assented. These two men are closer to John D. Rockefeller's finances than any other two in the world.

Mr. Rockefeller's income every day of the year is therefore \$164,383.52. Every hour of twenty-four, waking or sleeping, playing golf or skating, sitting in church or superintending the new house at Pocantico, John D. Rockefeller is sure that \$6,840.98 is accumulating for him. This is \$114 a minute. His fortune accumulates at the rate of \$1.90 every time the clock ticks.—New York World, Dec. 11.

NOW READ THIS.

With a bundle of old clothes for a bed, and nothing to eat for twenty-four hours, thinly clad and miserable, four pretty girls, the daughters of Philip Cobb, an engineer for the Laramie Railway Company, were taken in charge last evening by Edgar C. Farrington of the Children's Society.

An anonymous letter sent by one of the neighbors to the Children's Society brought out the story of the starving little family. A week ago, the father moved his family with the sorry looking bits of furniture to the top floor of the tenement house at No. 3810 Third avenue. According to the children, their mother died nine months ago, and since that time they have cared for themselves as best they could.

The neighbors, many of whom are almost as poor as themselves, have given them food from time to time. The youngest child is two years old; the eldest twelve; the others are eight and six.

"When father comes home sometimes, if he has any money, then we get something to eat; if he has no money we go hungry," the oldest explained to Agent Farrington.

When given warm food last night, the children ate ravenously, and told Agent Farrington that that was the first bit of food that had passed their lips for twenty-four hours. They will be taken before the Children's Court to-day.—New York World, Dec. 11.

THE RUSSIAN FAMINE.

Princes G. E. Lvoff and Orbellana, representatives of the Moscow Zemstvo famine relief organization, after returning from the stricken districts report the crops in seven provinces to be total failures. In twenty-one provinces the crops are very poor and that twenty million people will need assistance for from four to ten months if they are to be saved from famine. Contrasted with other years the present famine is the largest since 1891, that of 1905, the affecting 18,000,000 people, being far less intense. In some regions the inhabitants have been suffering from starvation for nearly ten years. It is estimated that nothing short of \$75,000,000 will afford efficient relief, but "Holy Russia" is more concerned with appropriations for massacre than for its starving peasants.

To aggravate the situation petty officials, for political reasons, are interfering with the establishment of soup kitchens to alleviate the distress. The Princes confirm the report of the sale of girls in Kazan province to Mohamedan harems. In the Turgai Steppes nomad tribes are perishing with hunger. Horses and cattle are also dying of starvation and are being killed by their owners for food.

Meantime "Christian Governments" and "statesmen," including our own, are carefully nursing the interests of their respective industrial barons while the Russian government continues unmolested with its criminal work.

CIVILIZING SOUTH AFRICA.

The Herero were a peaceful people, raising cattle and renowned for their simplicity and probity. German occupation brought commercial schemers of unparalleled rascality into the country with some good settlers sprinkled in. Government protected the expropriating, cheating rascals against the black Christians as well as heathens. The final result was an uprising which cost the lives of 50 settlers. German soldiers with machine guns arrived on the scene to accomplish the task of expropriation against the 60,000 Hereros, driving them from the Waterberg into the Onaluke desert where in iron seclusion from all water the nation of the Herero has died from thirst. At least 40,000 human beings, men, women, children and all the cattle have perished upon the altar of capitalism. Thus "Civilization" is marching on with its three capital B's: "Bible, Brandy, Bullets"—Vorboote, Chicago.

of mutualism, of extending helpfulness and interdependence of an infinite commission in labor life and love. For our fancies are in their kind as logical as any of our other movements. The world's life has long been frozen and eclipsed by selfish fancies, but the constructive of Socialist fancy already opens a new literature and a new ideal.

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SOME CLERICAL TWADDLE.

Nowhere in modern life is self-service, and devotion to be seen as it is in the labor movement; for the labor movement is the only great movement of our time. And this devotion is not only, nor chiefly, among the leaders, among the fellows whose names and pictures are printed. As a general thing, however, the average labor leader is no fool. At least, he is not such a fool as to be taken in by the unctuous and transparent flattery in the last letter sent out by Mr. Charles Stelzle, labor lieutenant of the Presbyterian Church. This Mr. Stelzle sends a communication every week to every labor paper in the country, and frequently this communication is printed. The aim is, of course, to try to tack the fortunes of a modern church-lantern, on to the labor movement—in other words, to get you to go to church. This is the way Mr. Stelzle slobbers over the delegates to the A. F. of L. convention:

"They look like our campaigners—these representatives of organized labor at the Minneapolis convention of the American Federation of Labor. Quick and alert to the true inwardness of every matter presented to the convention in speech and resolution; the man who can fool them has not yet appeared. And what a safety-valve is that Executive Council! And what tremendous responsibilities are imposed upon it! When it seems impossible to settle a question on the floor of the convention it is respectfully referred to the Executive Council, with power to act." That the Council manages to keep from incurring the enmity of pretty nearly everybody, is a testimony to their statesmanship and their wisdom. It is more than that; it is an indication of the profound respect and loyalty to the rank and file of that group of eleven men who are entrusted with such momentous interests. Fortunately, indeed, is it that they are not infallible; for in this they give hope to the rest of us who sometimes make mistakes."—The Laborer, Dallas, Tex.

THE KAISER IS SCARED.

The Kaiser has again shown how charmed he feels at the electoral successes already won by the Socialists. In the course of a rescript published on the working of the Labor laws of the empire, the War Lord takes the opportunity to unbend his soul. "The pursuit of Labor Legislation", says he, "is unfortunately thwarted and hindered by a constant opposition coming from the very people who allege that they specially represent the interests of the working classes." However, the Socialists are not likely to be frightened by the Imperial baldersdash. Speaking in the Reichstag, after the recent speech of Prince Von Bulow, Von Vollenin asserted that Germany never stood in a worse position in home than in foreign affairs. One thing, however, is now certain, and that is that the Kaiser won't venture to intervene in Russian affairs. He has already had sufficient sense to see that this would only set the Socialists aflame!

The Worker, 50c. a year. Subscribe.

GILLETTE'S OVATION.

Why Murderer of Working Girl is Regarded as a Hero.

The removal of Chester Gillette, the convicted slayer of Grace Brown, to Auburn prison last week, was characterized by scenes that throw light on the class bias that prevails regarding criminals. The crime for which Gillette was convicted was peculiarly atrocious because of the heartless indifference he displayed towards the appeals of his sweetheart made in letters to him. These were so pathetic and exhibited such a depth of feeling, and devotion that they were telegraphed to and appeared in many of the great journals of Europe and few read them without tears. But they made no impression on Gillette, unless to make him more determined to kill the girl.

His trip en route to Auburn was a continuous ovation. While at Syracuse thousands of people crowded the depot and vicinity. In the car a group of women jested and joked with the prisoner and thousands attempted to shake his hand.

Why should this man, who showed himself devoid of a single human attribute, be lionized and accorded a reception that is usually given only those who have won distinction in public life? Gillette's circle of acquaintances were confined in the main to what is called the "better classes"—the profit mongers and "respectable" people in general. Grace Brown was a factory girl, the daughter of a proletarian. Gillette was "sowing his wild oats" and that is considered "clever" when interpreted in terms of the delicate capitalist morality that rules to-day. Grace Brown was his prey, a proletarian daughter who trusted him to her own undoing and her death. There were no thousands at Grace Brown's grave, this girl whose letters of lofty sentiment and endearment moved to tears and pity. The demonstrations were reserved for her slayer.

Had Gillette been one of those who had, by economic conditions, become an outcast and a tramp, and become brutalized by his nomad life, instead of seeking his hand these thousands would, no doubt, be bent on a lynching bee. Yet no outcast could have betrayed less human feeling or had less claims to leniency than the slayer of "Billy" Brown. Gillette had one claim and that alone was sufficient to atone in some degree for his crime and win for him an ovation. That was the bourgeois halo that hedges every libertine who sees in proletarian girls their legitimate prey.

Gillette will pay the penalty for his crime, but there is less resentment for him than if the act had been committed by one economically inferior. Seidman has the class character of the ruling code of morality been more glaringly exhibited than in the partiality shown the slayer of this Cortlandt factory girl.

"The only possible way to make people good is to create the requisite materialistic conditions." — Thomas Paine.

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BOARD AND ROOMS WANTED.

The Secretary of the Rand School receives frequent requests from out of town for information regarding board and rooms. Comrades wanting lodgers or boarders would do well to send to the Secretary a statement of accommodations offered, with terms. Address W. J. GHENT, 112 East 11th St., New York City.

ART AND DEMOCRACY. There can never be diffused beauty—great art—in the world, until the people share it. You must have working people who can make beautiful things. Many people cannot be made to believe that during the so-called "dark ages", nearly everything that the people touched was made beautiful, even the kitchen things, which we now collect and hang in our houses as decorative objects. We cannot have the most beautiful things, unless the people have a share in it. Mr. Sargent has put into the Boston public library what he can never put on the wall of any private house, in The Apotheosis of Religion, for the benefit of the common people. When we content ourselves with the crumbs that we gather in the galleries, we are giving ourselves a stone in place of bread.—Prof. Charles Zeublin.

THE RISE OF CAPITAL The bourgeoisie, during its rule of scarce one hundred years, has created more massive and more colossal productive forces than have all preceding generations together. Subjection of nature's forces to man, machinery, application of chemistry to industry and agriculture, steam navigation, railways, electric telegraphs, clearing of whole continents for cultivation, canalization of rivers, whole populations conjured out of the ground—what earlier century had even a presentiment that such productive forces slumbered in the lap of social labor?—Communist Manifesto.

A MODERN MIRACLE.

Get something for Nothing—Capitalist Firm Discovers How—"Think of It."

The Worker is in receipt of a circular sent out by the Toledo Computing Scale Co., of Toledo, O., which contains an expose of a fraudulent scale that is sold by a Dayton, O., firm. The circular is the fourth of its kind and announces that "the newspapers throughout the country are now awakening to the alarming extent to which the buying public is being defrauded by the use of dishonest scales. With their support and with the assistance of the honest retail merchants of this country, the sale and use of dishonest scales will be suppressed."

Following this are facsimile reproductions of news items and editorials from various journals throughout the country, in which the Dayton scales are exposed as dishonest and the following circular of the Dayton company to the trade is, aside from testing the scales, quoted as evidence:

"Can you do this on your scale? Buy two pounds of pork loins at nine cents per pound, retail them to your trade at the same price, and get your money back? We can on our scale and make you a per cent profit besides. If your business amounts to \$10 a day in sales, you can earn you 30 cents in fractions you don't get now. Thirty cents a day means to buy this scale every 180 days. How long have you been in business? How many have you bought in that time? Think of it—only scale lost every six months. Let our man prove this. It gives the butcher the cut fractions to which he is justly entitled. This feature alone, in the average meat and produce market, will not only save the cost of scale in a short time, but in a large market will save eleven times, while saving on the old pound-and-ounce scales, is entirely lost."

"Pork loins bought at nine cents and sold at nine cents and make money! Yet there are some who doubt that God made everything out of nothing when "Christian gentlemen," as evidence of their faith, perform the miracle of making these divine scales. As the circular advises, "Think of it!"

This form of swindle is practiced on a large scale (no pun here) throughout the country as the Dayton product has a large sale everywhere and it is the small merchants and capitalists, the "backbone of society," that are the greatest customers. The scale referred to is the Money Weight scale. The money value figures are wrongly

placed on the chart of the scale, the figures being too near zero, so that they are brought into indicating position before there is enough weight on the scale, thereby resulting in the systematic short-weighting of the buying public. The struggle for profits not only result in adulteration of goods but in the systematic reduction of their quantity. This is petty burglary minus the jimmy and dark lantern. But why should the Toledo firm send out bulletins and wax indignant over this new form of capitalist theft? Is its conscience smitten at the mean outrage or has it rejected faith in miracles? Neither. IT HAS SCALES FOR SALE. "Think of it!" The Dayton company by its large sale of scales diverts to its own pockets a large volume of profits the Toledo company would like to have for itself. It wants profits. So does the Dayton firm. The motive is identical with both. The Toledo firm does not reject miracles. On the contrary it proposes to perform one that will surpass the feat of the other. It proposes to get "the assistance of the honest retail merchants" to drive out the dishonest scales and buy their own. They propose to perform the miracle of inducing the patrons and beneficiaries of short weight scales to forego them and purchase others that will reduce their income. However much faith the profit-taker may have in miracles he will subscribe to none that will reduce the amount of his fleecings. If the Toledo firm can show them how honest scales will "pay" they will see that it is better "morals" to use them. "Think of it!" Then, perhaps, in purchasing the "honest scales" they may find that they have been made of metal adulterated with base alloy and thus learn how profit is always translated into terms of morality in business swindlers. This contemptible pilfering is merely a part of that systematic dishonesty that the rule of the capitalist class has brought into the world. It will disappear when the class who brought it and who profit by it is displaced by the working class and wealth produced for the common good instead of for private profit. Think of it!

MR. DOOLEY ON JAY GOULD. Some years before this there lived in this country a great capitalist who had succeeded by his own industries and his carelessness in others in accumulating a modest fortune which his tax collector came around. It was almost, ye might say, blinding at this time. He was a popular man. His picture was printed often in the papers and he was sometimes chased from his office by his home by his fellow citizens. He was a great railroad man. Not that he knew anything about a railroad train from firm an engine to sellin' peanuts, but, Hinnely, he was as me friend Jim Hill wud say, th' contrrollin' spirit in 75



# CHRISTMAS BELLS AND PRISON CELLS.

By Hebe.

Those who have read Upton Sinclair's dramatic novel, "The Jungle," will recall that particularly dramatic chapter which shows us the hero, Juris Rudkus, confined in a Chicago prison for having beaten the man who abused his wife. It is Christmas eve, but the prisoner is not aware of it. He is lying on the floor of his cell thinking of his loved ones with whom he cannot communicate, thinking of their wretched poverty and of their great misfortune. Suddenly he is roused from his sad meditations by the pealing of bells that ring out loud and clear upon the cold winter's night. At first he cannot grasp the meaning of those bells; but then all at once it dawns upon him that it is Christmas eve, and with the recognition the flood-gates of memory are opened and he breaks down in passionate grief. He recalls the Christmas eyes of his happy, distant childhood. He recalls more recent Christmas eyes spent in the midst of his family, when in spite of the bitter struggle for their daily bread, they still were contented and happy in each other's love; and then he compares it all to the awful tragedy of this Christmas and is overwhelmed by the weight of his sorrow. But at the same time a feeling of hatred awakens with him against a brutally unjust society, against the capitalist society which has driven him, the earnest, honest worker, deeper and deeper into misfortune, which holds him a prisoner now while his loved ones may starve and grope, or, as if to mock his grief, penal its Christmas bells above him.

Perhaps similar thoughts will come this Christmas eve to our three brave comrades, Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. They too will be confined in prison cells while above them Christmas bells are pealing. They too are victims of capitalist society that has driven them deeper and deeper into misfortune. Their lot is even more tragic than the lot of Juris Rudkus, for they are absolutely innocent and free from guilt. They have not even made use of the force of a powerful fist to avenge themselves upon an enemy and persecutor. Their only crime consists of having been loyal to the cause of labor, in having dared to act as leaders of their exploited class in the unequal struggle of right against might. But in the state of Idaho where a most embittered war was being waged between capital and labor, some one committed a horrible, senseless murder. The murdered man was one from the capitalists' camp. Who the murderer was no one knew and no one knows to this day. In the camp of the laboring class everyone knew then as well as they know it now that the three men who have been accused of complicity in the crime were innocent beyond the shadow of doubt. The leaders of organized labor are no murderers. Men trained in the lofty and ennobling principles of Socialism, detest and condemn anarchy and brutal force in all its forms. Organized labor possesses other, better, more effective weapons than bombs. It does not attempt to destroy individuals, but to alter conditions. So how could Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone have any share in a mad, unreasoning crime? They were battling against the capitalists of the whole country. What difference could the life or death of one man make to them? But a victim had to be found, and the Anarchists of capitalism, they who have no conscience, no regard for justice, no respect for truth, could find no more suitable victims than those three men who have been leaders of their class.

The blow struck against them, was a blow aimed at the heart of the organized working class. Therefore they were seized by those in power, contrary to legal customs and traditions, and forcibly dragged at night from their own state into the state in which the crime has been committed. Therefore they have been confined in prison for almost a year. Therefore they have appealed in vain for justice to the highest judiciary power of the land, for the United States Supreme Court also personalities and represents the autocracy of capitalism. Now they are awaiting their trial. They know that their lives are at stake. They know that the same capitalist society that has imprisoned them without proof is going to hang them without proof, unless the organized workers of the whole country rise as one man in an irresistible storm of protest, and fight, fight, fight till the last breath, for the lives of their comrades.

Dreary thoughts, gloomy thoughts will occupy the minds of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone in their lonely prison cells on Christmas eve, while Christmas bells throb through the country will ring in the holiday of Christian love, while in all the churches of the land the ministers of God will speak: "Peace on earth; good will to men." There can be no "good will to men" while power tramples upon justice. There can be no "good will to men" as long as there is a class of oppressed and a class of oppressors. It was the blind, mad hatred of the ruling classes that crucified Jesus. It is the same blind, mad hatred of the ruling classes that would make martyrs of Moyer, Haywood, and Pettibone to-day.

There will be no merry Christmas either among those who are near and dear to the imprisoned men. How

# YOU WILL FEEL BAD BUT YOU WON'T GIVE UP.

By Horace Traubel.

You will feel bad but you won't give up. That's what I say to you to prepare you for delays and disasters. Love has its ups and downs. But the total of love is an ascent. When the elections go to the other man you will not envy him his victory. You will see that defect may be one form of success. I don't have any sorrows to waste on the great cause. I have only joy in the great cause. Joy in its advances. In its retreats. Joy even in its collapses and treacheries. I know what our work is coming to. I am not fooled by adversity. The world is not going to stay where it is. It is going to move on. It is moving on. It is moving the way of the commune. Whether it goes a little slower or a little faster does not in the long run matter. Only one thing matters. Your loyalty matters. My loyalty matters. Our progress is bound to be slow. We will not compromise our case. We will not shift our ground. If we wanted office more than we wanted truth we could get immediate returns. If we cut off a little here and put on a little there we could sneak our way into power. We don't want to fool the people. Nor do we want the people to fool us. We don't want the people to vote with us until they are convinced. We don't want them to vote for us simply to hit somebody else. We don't want the vote of a club but the vote of an idea. An idea is club enough for us. I am not as anxious to go fast as to go right. We have ammunition and food for a long march. I am willing to let the hurrys get ahead. They generally go wrong or get tired. I take my time and keep on. When I arrive somewhere I arrive there for good. I don't want to move about and around. I want to move on. I know we get into the shadows. And the shadows may be chill. But the shadows, too, are part of the process. So are your tears. So are disease and sacrifice and starvation. I recognize their rights and their potent good and ill. But I do not let them stand in my way. Opposition never hurts the man who knows what to do with it. Never hurts the man who can make it a help towards his own end. I enjoy my falls. They give me a firmer foot for the journey. I know just where to place Rockefeller. I don't feel sore about him. He can be made use of. Are

you inclined to throw him down or away? Don't do so. Make him affirmative. He is not dead vice. We can make him live virtue. I am so impressed with our own inevitability that I want to recognize him. I say to Rockefeller and his like wherever and whoever they are. You don't know it but you are the evangel of the commune. I go about crying the loudest cry of hospitality. There are to be no outcasts in my world. Wrong will be outcast. Injustice will be outcast. Starvation and too much will be outcast. But all the souls of all the men and women and children and animals of the earth will remain. I am getting indifferent concerning the system we are about to shed. I am so absorbed in the new that is just to come that I am almost oblivious to the old that is just about to pass. The world is to change its skin. I see forces that try to hold it back. But I see other forces. I see forces that are bound to take it forward. The reaction will not pull too far. The advance will not come too soon. The elements of the revolution are gathering themselves together. They come slow but they come strong. They are elements of passion sobered by elements of philosophy. They are not blind protest. They are illuminated rebellion. They are not going, they don't know where. They have their eyes wide open. They see way ahead. They are as clear about the end as about the beginning. It is natural that such a crusade should allow many ephemeral pilgrimages to pass it. But long after the momentary uprisings have been dissolved this perpetuated gospel will fly its immortal standards. I never feel either envious or sore when I see the mob. For I can see the mob become the people. And the people are invincible. Many grieves must be suffered meanwhile. But the people will emerge. Be patient with the postponements. The ideal may be put off. It will never be destroyed. We must go far down in humiliation before we can go far up, in pride. The child will grow into the adult. The mob will grow into the people. I am sure of you, you my brothers, who are already matured. I am sure you can wait in your strength for those who are struggling towards you in their weakness. You will feel bad but you won't give up.

# "WHO WILL DO THE DIRTY WORK?"

By James Oneal.

"Who will do the dirty work under Socialism?" is the question asked by those who have managed to shift their share of labor on to others who cannot avoid the double task. The question, impudent of itself coming from those who do no useful work at all, might be rightly answered by suggesting that they would find it congenial and necessary for their health to do their own dirty work when there is no slave class to force doing it for them. We think the height of impudence for any of these to urge the workers to maintain capitalism on the ground that it will relieve parasites of the task of looking after their own dirt. And impudence becomes an insult when they insist that others do it for them.

But even here the industrial and mechanical progress made in other fields, the slower, has demonstrated that the distasteful work can be mostly done by electricity and machinery once an incentive is given the inventor to solve the problem. The only incentive under capitalism for improved methods in doing the world's work is whether the change will be cheaper to the capitalists than the employment of workers at a given task.

If it is cheaper to exploit human beings, an invention, however good, will fail. It is not necessary that a given invention shall lighten toil or make it more pleasant for the worker. The chief consideration is, will it render more service at a cheaper cost than hired labor? The workers are not considered at all. In fact many machines have come into use that fill this capitalist requirement and yet have multiplied the dangers to life for those who must tend them.

That cheapness is the sole consideration is well illustrated by the absence of mechanical development in the sweating trades and the domestic work of women. The sweating trades are pointed to as a case of "arrested development." The development here has been checked, or "arrested," because no cheaper mechanical substitute has been found for the exploitation of women. If human welfare was the controlling motive in society, these callings would not be "arrested" at a stage of development where human beings are mercilessly exploited.

There is on exhibition at one of the large department stores in this city an electrical display which is suggestive of what can be done in the way of substituting mechanical appliances to do the "dirty work" when human welfare is the chief motive in industry.

Here a model kitchen has been fitted up with electrical appliances to perform most of the drudgery that makes women's work in the "home" a life of toil. There is the electric fan that dispels the stifling heat and odors of the kitchen; the electric oven abolishing the dirt and care of the stove; self-heating and adjustable irons and tubs for laundry work with the water heated to any temperature desired by an electric coil; the automatic ice box and refrigerating machine with the capacity adjusted to the requirements of a given household; automatic electric sweeper reducing dust and work

to a minimum; portable electric candles that dispense with the dangerous and smutty oil lamps of the home and many other devices that transform the kitchen from a place of drudgery into a studio of art and all set in motion by merely pressing the necessary buttons.

From the kitchen one passes to another room to find the bed heated with electric bags to any temperature desired; heat radiators for the room; electric massage and shaving devices, foot warmers and other useful appliances that abolish dirt and save human effort. Here is the answer to the snobs and shirkers that want others to be their scavengers and who support capitalism that makes employment dirty and repulsive.

But even this model kitchen cannot be realized in the homes of the workers or even those of moderate means, because of its expense. Nor can it come in general use in the homes of the capitalist class, for it is cheaper to exploit hired help than to incur the expense of an electric kitchen. Some few of this class may, and no doubt will, take advantage of it. Not for the purpose of making the task of working girls more pleasant, but for the same reason that they store their rooms with works of art—for ostentatious display.

Here is a boon for working women that with further improvements would make the tasks in the home a work of joy, but which will be withheld from them so long as the capitalist system lasts. It, like the sweating trades, must remain a case of "arrested development," arrested because human welfare must be subordinated to the profit motive of a ruling class. Invention genius would, no doubt, long ago have solved the problems implied in the doing of "dirty work" (as it has in most all other industrial vocations), were it not that capitalist interests intervened.

If in spite of a hostile economic incentive such progress can be made in practically abolishing "dirty work" in the home, what may not mankind do in similar callings when society is released from the economic blight of capitalist rule? There is no reason whatever why invention should not transform every repulsive vocation into one in which human beings will take pleasure in their work, when wealth is produced with the view of promoting the health and happiness of all. There is no beauty, no art, no life for the workers at the joyless tasks in mine, mill and factory to-day.

A society that will give control of industry to those that perform the useful work of the world will provide the strongest spur for them to reduce unpleasant tasks to a minimum and make the factory, workshop and home "a thing of beauty and joy forever." What the capitalist class cannot do the working class will do when it makes industry common property and thru popular control administers it for the welfare of all. This consummation, this hope, is only possible with the triumph of the Socialist movement.

# THE "MUCK RAKER"

Invasades the President's Office—Roosevelt's Honesty vs. Roosevelt's Acts— "Safe and Sane" Cabinet Change.

The "muck rakers" that have been uncovering some of the graft and rottenness that is inseparable from capitalist politics, have, with a single exception, restrained themselves from implying that these conditions could in any way implicate President Roosevelt. In prosecuting their work they have traced some of these practices dangerously close to the executive office and then gave up the scent. One writer in a series of articles devoted to the Senate and "denouncing" some senators for their position on certain bills, found that they were in accord with the president. Respect for the august person of that functionary made necessary some apologetic explanation of this anomaly. The president's one time endorsement of Adick's is a case in point. The promotion of Cortelyou to the treasury in face of the fact that the latter received stolen funds from the insurance swindlers, is another. However much Roosevelt might fracture his professions with his acts, his high position has left him immune to the attack of the "muck rakers".

But his action in discharging the negro troops in Texas, his request for absolute power of discharge in the navy, his intriguing with an ecclesiastical power, all this has produced a reaction against him, and the "muck rakers" may now take courage and tell the truth. The truth, the timid, hesitating, partial, and still apologetic as when they invented explanations of shady transactions and peculiar deals in the past. This is a poor substitute for the frank and open truth of the Socialist press, but it is at least more honest and sincere.

That recent events have inspired some of these writers with more courage is evident from an article in "Ridgway's" of last week by Charles E. Russell on "The Retirement of Mr. Hitchcock." We quote from it as follows:

Continually Theodore Roosevelt says the good word; continually he does the thing that makes his word seem a feeble and foolish thing.

No man could speak with more eloquence of the need to restrain predatory wealth; again and again he does the thing that delights and comforts predatory wealth. To have Elihu Root in the Cabinet, to have Mr. Morgan's partner for Assistant Secretary of State, to have a reactionary for Attorney General and George B. Cortelyou for Secretary of the Treasury—what more could be asked of the best friend of the Rockefeller and Ryans?

Nothing except to be rid of Ethan Allen Hitchcock, Secretary of the Interior and tireless proscriber of the land thieves. So now that is to be done. On March 4 Mr. Hitchcock will retire from the Cabinet.

Mr. Hitchcock seemed to be a survival of a type occasionally found years ago who believed that the honesty Roosevelt talks of should be an actuality. Accordingly he secured the indictment of nearly 500 persons for land frauds and so far has secured the conviction of eighty-nine. Some of the respectable thieves belonged to the Standard Oil crowd and Governor Higgins wrote Roosevelt in their behalf. He in turn sent the letter to Hitchcock and to the surprise of the strenuous one, the Secretary made the Higgins' appeal public. Hitchcock seemed to take his job too seriously and now he is to retire and, fitting enough, James H. Garfield, who whitewashed the beef trust, is to take his place. "An' there ye a-are," as Mr. Dooley said.

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# A WOMAN'S "PROSPERITY".

By Frances M. Gill.

She was not far from forty and plain, too refined and evidently capable. Her clothing was good, with the merest concession to fashion, just enough to avoid singularity. But the blue eyes were a trifle faded and expressed habitual anxiety. Hesitatingly she made known the object of her call. Did I know of a position for a competent stenographer? Not at present, I regretted to say, but wouldn't she sit down for a minute? I might be able to suggest something.

**A Woman's Experience.**

A few minutes conversation brought out her story—the experience of a woman forced into the ranks of the bread-winners from the clerical strata of the middle-class. It came out piece-meal. Her father had formerly held a good position in a bank, but ill health came, and when he could no longer perform his duties he was reduced in position and salary. A sister was obliged to give up teaching in a private school because of nervous breakdown. This forced my caller into the army of wage workers in the genteel capacity of stenographer and typewriter. She herself was obliged to leave a position where she had been required to work for long hours entirely by electric light, because her sight and health had been affected, since which time she has been a floater on the industrial stream—she had been "substituting"—which is very much the same as being a bit of human driftwood, thrown here and there for a brief period, to be presently caught by an eddy and tossed out again on the bread-getting waters.

The immediate eddy which was the cause of her present search was the being superseded by another stenographer in what she had supposed to be a permanent position. Yes, she had given entire satisfaction, and there was no reason for her dismissal except to give the place to another. Reading between the lines of the tale it was easy to understand that this little, prim, washed-out creature, though undoubtedly competent, had been the victim of a condition which often confronts a woman who earns her living in this way—the going down before a younger and more agreeable personality, particularly when backed up by a sturdy pompadour.

**The Awakening.**

She had thought herself safely anchored in this comfortable harbor, but the manager was probably human, and other things being reasonably equal, the advantage was on the side of the younger and pompadoured one. Happily, since the situation was painful enough, this point of view had evidently not presented itself, for she only harped on the bitter injustice of being dismissed at an hour's notice.

Prior to the time of the loss position she had worked as a "substitute" for some large legal corporations, averaging about seven weeks out of seventeen. But the work was very hard—you were expected to work continuously, never to look around, but to keep your eyes constantly on the machine. Not but what she was willing to work, but just to show how they treated you.

The suggested classification of "wage slave" was new, and evidently not agreeable, tho her experience abundantly illustrated its aptness. Her middle class perceptions were too obtuse to take any viewpoint except that, for some inscrutable reason, she was a victim, and it was as a victim that she made her moan. Of the underlying injustice of it all her mind was a blank; it was as the rising of the sun and the going down of the same, an unexplainable phenomena which might bring inconveniences but which could not be changed. Nevertheless it was impossible to withhold sympathy when she said: "Isn't it hard to be out of work at this season of the year, especially when one is boarding?"

**"One Must Eat."**

The bit of moisture that added dimness to the worn blue eyes bore eloquent testimony to what a few weeks of enforced idleness would mean, and the conclusive statement that one "must eat", the clothing expenses

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