

# THE WORKERS' CALL.

"Workingmen of all countries unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

SECOND YEAR.—WHOLE NO. 57.

CHICAGO, ILL., APRIL 7, 1900.

PRICE TWO CENTS

## SOCIALISM AT WORK

Belgian Comrades Have Passed the Theoretic Stage.

## THE PRACTICAL PROPAGANDA.

Chicago Comrades Depict Socialist Activity in Every Phase of Industry in Belgium.

There is one point in the Belgian socialist movement that might well be imitated in America. The most of the special features to be found here would be unworkable in the more intricate and further developed capitalism of the United States, but in their methods of propaganda and education there is very much that could be easily and profitably copied. As was said in a previous letter, the Belgian comrades are little disturbed by questions of theory. When we asked for the works of their great theorists we were told that there were none—that they were not interested in fundamental questions of principle or tactics, but had long ago agreed upon those and were only interested in discovering the best method of teaching them.

This is a fundamental point. The discussion of theory is good for the education of party members, but for propaganda purposes some method must be found to teach the unconverted those theories. This problem is purely one of pedagogics. It is simply one of finding the best way of presenting the truths which it is desired to inculcate to the would-be convert. Now it is a well-established principle of pedagogics that we learn best associated facts. That is we can best understand a course of thought which "hitches on," so to speak, to something we already know.

The Belgian socialists have taken advantage of this principle to a very great extent. They have especial pamphlets appealing to almost every class of laborers and explaining the relation of socialism to their particular point of view. They have pamphlets written especially for the different trades, pamphlets for the Flemish, pamphlets for the Walloons, and so on indefinitely, until it is possible at any time to give to any given worker an argument that fits right into his daily life and shows the relation of socialism to him and his work. Yet through them all run the same philosophy and all lead to the same conclusion.

This is particularly true of the agricultural workers. Until within the last few years it was the fashionable thing with dilettant critics of socialism to point out that agriculture constituted an inseparable obstacle to socialism. Indeed many who were otherwise quite thorough observers of socialism, including no less personalities than Schaeffle and R. T. Ely were caught in this delusion. The line of argument was generally something like this: In the first place agriculture did not obey the law of the concentration of industry and hence socialization of the land would be impracticable even if it could be "adopted." In the second place the farm laborer was naturally isolated, ignorant and individualistic and socialist propaganda could never make any progress among them. Hence it was quite the wise thing to point out that socialism could only grow a little more than it had already done in several countries and then it must simply die from lack of further meat to feed upon.

The events of the last few years have shown how strikingly false this position is. Almost all socialists know something of the way in which the agrarian movement of Germany has become socialist and are familiar, at least indirectly and in a general way with the fact of the great amount of literature that the German comrades have developed along these lines. But many do not know that this same movement is found in every European country. In Italy and Spain especially there is a very rapid spread of socialism among the peasants and in both France and Belgium, the question of the agrarian propaganda is one of the most pressing problems discussed at each recurring congress of the party. In France Jaurès has especially identified himself with this side of the movement and has published considerable upon the subject. But it is in Belgium that this phase has reached its highest development. Vanderveide has just completed within the last few months, with the co-operation of a large number of socialist organizations, what is probably one of the most extensive investigations ever carried on by non-governmental agency, into the agricultural situation in Belgium. In this he has shown a number of very interesting features. He has demonstrated that the farmed peasant proprietorship of Belgium is largely a myth, as a large percentage of those who had been reckoned in the official statistics as independent farmers, really owned nothing more than a few feet of ground for a garden and were in every sense of the word industrial proletarians. He then showed that aside from those who were

owners only in name the tendency was toward concentration and rented farms in so far as the really essential portion of the soil is concerned.

Then there is one especial phase of Belgian peasant life that is peculiar in a large degree at least, to that country but which is exerting a wide influence. Owing to the extreme smallness of the country and dense population practically every portion is easily accessible to the great industrial centers. Then the railroads of Belgium being owned by the state the fares for workmen have been made ridiculously low in some cases but a small fraction of a cent a mile, and consequently the workers are enabled to live upon their little patch of ground and work in the city some miles away. Thus it has come about that a very large portion of the Belgian peasantry have become converted into city proletarians without changing their actual residence. Incidentally this shows how state-owned industry under capitalism is but another instrument to the exploitation of the worker, who gains nothing by the low fares but a more rapid proletarianization.

All this contributes to make the agrarian propaganda particularly essential and particularly fruitful. There is a weekly paper devoted exclusively to the agrarian movement that is of especial interest. It is most ably edited and contains articles of great value to the farmers on matters of agricultural economy and farm management. It also contains all news particularly of interest to the agricultural population. Then, and this of course is the meat in the cocoon, it contains one or two articles in each number advocating, explaining and illustrating the principles of socialism. Then the location of the farmers' houses in Belgium is of such a nature as to make propaganda among them much more easy than in America. They generally live in little groups that are really diminutive villages and thus it is possible for a speaker to reach quite a number of them by outdoor meetings. But here another obstacle arises however. The peasant population of Belgium are almost abjectly under the heel of the established church. In each such little group there is a poor half-starved parish priest who is a part of the great clerical machine that makes up so large a part of all European politics. These priests acting under orders from Brussels are the constant and continuous enemies of socialism. As they generally are able to control the local authorities they are often able to secure from them orders preventing the socialist agitators from speaking. But as there is a large number of formalities to be gone through with before such an order can be enforced, and the socialist agitators have become adepts in the art of springing surprises on the village population and then getting away before they can be legally ordered to stop. The usual order of proceeding is something like this: The place of meeting having been previously determined upon the speaker takes a train on some Sunday morning to the designated village. Arriving there he keeps himself in the background until church is dismissed. Then as the people are coming from church they are surprised to see in the little open space which is before each church a socialist speaker mounted on a stone, or a box talking to them. At the instigation of the priest the officials order him to desist. He points out that the terms of the law have not yet been compiled with and by the time that the proper amount of official red tape has been unwound the speech has been finished and the good seed sown. But the next time that the speaker comes the clericals are prepared for him. All the formalities have been gone through with and he is at once forbidden to speak in the streets. But in the meantime some socialist converts have been made in the village and one of these offers the use of his house to the speaker. Whereupon the socialist orator stands at the open window or door and talks to the assembled crowd, often standing almost exactly upon the same ground from which he has just been forbidden to address them. And so the work goes on and the whole agrarian population is becoming impregnated with socialism.

In very many little towns the socialists have now been able to capture the local administration and are able to speak when and where they please. Finally under the influence of the Abbe Daens very many of the priests are themselves in sympathy with the socialists although to announce themselves as such is for them to lose the little pittance that they are now receiving and in many cases to suffer all the horrors of excommunication. So at every point the influence of socialism is in the ascendancy and is pushing on to victory.

Another special class among whom a strong propaganda is carried on are the soldiers, and it is one of the ironies of capitalism that here also it is providing its "own grave diggers." The garrisons, those great hot-beds of immorality, which have been established primarily to intimidate the working class are rapidly becoming great schools of socialism. Here too the Belgian comrades have wonderfully suited themselves to the conditions. They have their special organ for the

## IN LONDON

Chicago Socialist Tells of the American Movement.

## CARRIES GREETINGS FROM U.S.

British Socialists Listen to Comrade A. M. Simons, At the Celebration of the Commune Anniversary.

On Sunday evening last, the 29th anniversary of the proclamation of the Commune of Paris, the London branches of the S. D. F. held a meeting in commemoration of the event at Holborn Town hall. G. Lansbury was in the chair and other speakers were J. Jones (Canning Town), A. S. Headingley, M. Judge, A. M. Simons (editor of Chicago Call), W. J. Barwick, F. G. Jones (Parliamentary candidate for Northampton), and H. M. Hyndman. The weather was unfavorable to a successful gathering, snow having begun to fall an hour or two before the time for which the meeting was called. Nevertheless the discomforts to be endured in getting to the hall neither prevented the attendance of a very large audience nor yet had any influence to dampen their enthusiasm. The speeches were preceded by a musical performance which gave great pleasure to all present. The chairman, G. Lansbury, after a few preliminary remarks called upon Com. J. Jones for an address, who was followed by A. S. Headingley who gave an account of his own experiences during the Paris Commune in which he was personally engaged. He was followed by Martin Judge, and then the chairman introduced to the meeting Comrade Simons, editor of the Chicago Call, who said he came from a country which as yet was only beginning to make its roll of socialist martyrs. But it was beginning, and at Homestead and elsewhere they could trace the thin red line which ran through the history of the working class movement of other countries. He brought to the meeting the greetings of American socialists, the fraternal sentiment which united the workers of the world. He could appreciate that sentiment the better since his recent travels on the continent of Europe had shown him how capitalism had welded the world's workers into one compact mass of misery in which language, nationality and religion were of little account. The problem of Chicago was also the problem of Birmingham in England and Essen in Germany. The development of capitalism in the United States had been more rapid than elsewhere. Cuba's cry for help had fallen on deafened ears for half a century, but the need of foreign markets unstopped those ears and then an American fleet was placed in Hongkong harbor so that "the white man's burden" (in the Philippines) should fall upon American shoulders directly they kicked the blocks from under it. There was not a strong socialist movement in America as yet, but the idea of socialism was born of the iron conditions which capitalism imposed. He both hoped and believed that the American trust was the beginning of the end, and perhaps it might be after all from his country that there would come the movement which should lead the rest of the world. Messrs. W. J. Barwick and F. G. Jones were the next speakers, and the closing address was made by Henry H. Hyndman. Cheers for the Social Revolution closed the meeting, and the audience dispersed singing the "Marseillaise."—Condensed from London "Justice."

Here is a puzzle. Read it first and then try to discover the author. It was written fifty years ago. No it wasn't Abraham Lincoln or Wendell Phillips—but there—you'll never be able to guess the author of this production: "It is true that England has been for many years the unrivaled nation of the earth, but the United States has been like a soaring eagle, gradually but rapidly mounting on their upward flight to fame, and now she has reached an exalted position in the eyes of the world she gazes with indifference upon her mighty rival. In England, the land is held by wealthy lords and nobles, who spend their time and money to satisfy their selfish desires, while hundreds of the poorer classes are struggling hard to gain a living and enduring all the privations that poverty can inflict. Not so in a land of liberty. Here every man is free and all enjoy equal rights and privileges, and every honest and industrious man can gain a comfortable livelihood. Why is it that so many of the subjects of England are flocking to America shores? It is because they are forced to seek shelter from the grasp of despotism and continual life of bondage and suffering, and knowing that America is an asylum for the oppressed they hasten to place themselves under its protecting care."

Who was the patriot that penned the above immortal lines? Who was the author of this magnificent apostrophe to liberty? Did the writer of these soul-stirring words die for his beloved country on any of the mighty battlefields of our civil war? Not at all. He is very much alive yet as the working class have good reason to know. These "brave words" were written at the age of 18 by Mark Hanna, union wrecker, labor skinner, plutocrat and owner of "Mac."

(Continued on page 4.)

## IRON LAW OF WAGES

The Buying and Selling of Labor Power As a Commodity.

## DOWNWARD TREND OF WAGES.

Abolition of the Wage System the Only Hope for a Higher and Nobler Civilization.

Last night under the auspices of the "Workers' Educational Club" Prof. J. H. W. Struckenbergh said that the Social Democrats of Germany have "given up" the theory of the iron law of wages, and in proof of the justification of what he declared to be their position he gave something like the following illustration: Suppose there are 100 men available for a given industry. There is one manufacturer whose plant gives him the capacity of employing 50 men if the employer treats with the men singly; the ten extra men are a menace to the men maintaining their wonted standard of living, because of competition. But if the men are fully organized then the minimum sum of \$1.25 per day may be demanded with success.

This argument seemed to Prof. Struckenbergh to be sufficient ground upon which to declare that the Social Democrats of Germany had discarded the iron law of wages, and yet most marvelous to relate they still remain staunch advocates of the Marxian school, which is supported only upon the basic operation of the wages system—I must assume that the Professor is unacquainted with Marx's exposition of the laws that govern the economic relations of men under the present capitalist system as of course his evident fairness and good spirit precludes the possibility of assuming hypocrisy to be the motive spring of his action.

If the iron law of wages can be broken down the science of wealth production remains yet unknown.

There are but two questions that are at bottom involved in the professor's assertion. Do the Social Democrats of Germany accept "Capital" by Marx as an unanswerable expose of capitalist production and the laws governing it? Second, what are the conditions requisite for maintaining the wages system? To the first question we may unhesitatingly answer, Yes! The recent controversy with Bernstein, successfully sustained by the Marxists, admits of no further questions on that point. The second question, which is practically, "What is the iron law of wages? we will go into slightly in detail.

We should note first of all that whether one defends or protests against the servile relationships of the wage earners, the wages system prevails throughout the civilized world; not local, therefore, but worldwide, must be the examination on this subject.

No wealth can be prodigious without the second of the primal factors, labor. How is labor obtained? Why to be sure by buying it of those who have labor-power to sell—and they are—the wage workers! Are wage workers free men? Yes, as the producers of wealth they are no longer attached to the soil as serfs nor to their masters as slaves or bondsmen. They are no longer peasant proprietors of the land nor are they possessed of the hand tools as under the arrangement of the guilds.

As the workers gained their freedom to sell their own labor-power they were stripped of all the means of production and of the guarantee of existence afforded them by chattel slavery and by the feudal society. The history of this freedom is written in the iron, the fire and the blood of the civil war, our own Revolution, and especially in that of the French Revolution.

THE BUYERS OF LABOR-POWER HAVE ALL THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION—lands, machines and money.

The iron law of wages is a popular phrase, which means simply that wages will tend to the level of subsistence. What are wages? We will put it briefly as follows: a wage is a specific amount of value returned to the worker who has imbedded value in commodities by laboring for the capitalist.

What determines the ratio of wages as compared to the profits of the capitalist? This QUESTION IS NOT CONSIDERED IN POLITICAL ECONOMY. What is the cost of the reproduction of labor-power?—that and that only determines wages. Labor-power, like every other commodity, is being cheapened, and with the pressure on the wage worker for employment, can one escape the knowledge that the higher standards of living are broken down? But organization will maintain the \$1.25 per day, we are told. As the subsistence level is not a fixed point, I shall rather than argue the matter, conclude with putting one question to the public mind. Is not \$1.25 per day a wage sufficiently LOW to be rated the level of subsistence?

With war raging around the globe, which is but the dread capitalist call for markets, do you think enough soldiers will be killed off (as in the black

plague) to raise the demand of labor-power where it will absorb the army of the unemployed and so raise the standard of living? Will anyone dare wish for such a consummation?

No, no, dear friends, the trend of wages is down, down, down, to fit the servile relationships of master and man. The more than 2,000,000 socialist voters of Germany, as do all other socialists, know this, and for this reason we declare for the uprooting of the wages system to make place for the reign of hope and love and plenty. Martha Moore Avery.

## FROM DAVENPORT, IOWA.

Socialist Ticket and Platform—Clear Call to Action.

Workingmen, consider the value of your vote; election is at hand; think before you vote. The Socialist Labor party of Davenport declares its unfaltering allegiance to the principles set forth in the national platform. Its nominees for the several offices to be filled at the municipal election on April 7, are pledged to support the following principles:

I. The abolition of all contract labor; that all city work be given directly to the laborers without the intervention of contractors or middlemen; that all material used by the city be purchased from parties who employ union labor, wherever possible; that eight hours constitute a day's work, and union wages to be paid.

II. That the city take possession of the street railway system, the lighting plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises. No new franchises to be granted, and immediate revocation of all franchises the condition of which have not been complied with. The employees to operate the same cooperatively under the control of the municipal administration, the employees to elect their own superior officers; no employees to be discharged for political reasons. The utilization of the water power of the Mississippi for the benefit of the city.

III. Since the working class needs all possible knowledge and training, we therefore imperatively demand that no pains be spared in giving a thorough, free and universal education in the public schools; we also demand the establishment of free night schools. That the laws against child labor be strictly enforced; that provision be made for feeding and clothing school children where necessary, and that school books be furnished free to all.

IV. We demand that the factories, tenement houses, business blocks and public buildings be subjected to rigid inspection periodically, and such sanitary improvements as are necessary to the public health be compelled from the owners of the premises.

V. That provision be made for the relief of the unemployed, without subjecting them to the insults of so-called charity. Poverty should not be treated as a crime as it now is under the vagrancy laws, and the organized charities should not be used as they now are, for the purpose of supplying cheap labor to unfair employers.

VI. The people to have the right to propose laws and vote upon all measures of importance according to the referendum principle. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

The abolition of the poll tax.

This, fellow citizens, is our local program and ticket for your thoughtful consideration, for you workingmen, to study the problem of society, to understand why such great distress and misery fall to the lot of the vast majority of mankind. It is for you to study our national declaration of principles and platform. It is for you to study and understand socialism.

The man who admires, supports and defends his master's whip does not deserve freedom. We ask you to make an attempt to free yourselves from conditions which enslave you. Will you support, at the coming city election, men who stand for the principles of justice, by voting the Socialist Labor ticket? Or will you continue to vote for your own enslavement by casting your ballot in favor of your masters as heretofore? Elect the above ticket, and we guarantee the abolition of the "lively barn" council chamber.

Remember that the emancipation of the working class from capitalist exploitation must be the work of the working class itself.

Remember that we do not buy votes. We have no free rides to offer, no beer nor free lunches to distribute. Vote for principle.

Don't be deceived by decoy ducks.

## TICKET.

Mayor—A. E. Allen.  
Clerk—B. W. Wilson.  
Treasurer—Max Hagemann.  
Assessor—Fred Peters.  
Police Magistrate—A. K. Gifford.  
Park Commissioner—Aug. Lelonek.  
Park Commissioner (to fill vacancy)—Paul Roehl.  
Alderman-at-large—John Munnecke, Ad. Gehler.  
Aldermen—  
First ward—H. Nielson.  
Second ward—J. Wellendorf.  
Third ward—J. B. Welzenbach.  
Fourth ward—K. E. Westphal.  
Fifth ward—M. J. Kremer.  
Sixth ward—A. H. Gebhardt.

## SOCIALIST POINTERS

Justice is not so blind but she can distinguish between rich and poor.

The campaign this summer will be educational. The harvest will be later.

The socialists appear to be cutting some ice even in as warm a country as Italy.

The small dealer would not object to a little class legislation if it was in his favor.

It is a sad truth but under socialism the professional reformer will have to go to work.

A man can call himself a socialist all day but it does not make him one unless he votes the ticket.

A good many people would like to dig ditches, shovel coal, etc., the way Sheldon would do it—by proxy.

Members of the Populist party will have a hard time this summer trying to combat the logic of events.

Our imperial government could not think of such a thing as allowing Cubans without property to vote.

The socialist is the strongest political party in the world. How can a vote for such a party be thrown away?

The captains of industry get all of the good things the same as in the army and the privates have to take what is left.

The "good citizen" we hear so much about at election times is not so much in evidence when the assessor comes around.

Some people who make a specialty of being "clear" on socialism are about as clear as the mud they sling from week to week.

All governments (except those of Porto Rico and the Philippines) derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.

How would you like to be a favorite bank and have the government loan you a few millions without interest or security?

Rockefeller evidently thinks that a few millions spent in educating the youth according to his notions is money well invested.

In four years from now the party that happens to be out and wants to get in will be falling over itself to capture the socialist vote.

The government appears to have stopped even the pretense of wanting the open door for the purpose of letting bibles flow into China.

People who are going to vote for Bryan to secure socialism don't have time to stop and explain how they expect to get it that way.

Having won out in the battle with De Leon the socialists look forward with comparative complacency to an encounter with Mark Hanna.

Politicians do not want government ownership of railroads for then they would be obliged to pay car fare and could get no passes for friends.

No doubt the millionaires have their troubles but they never have to worry over where they are going to get the money to buy medicines for sick babies.

McKinley is a member of the Brick-makers' Union. He was a member of the gold brick makers' craft before being initiated into the union of which he is now a fellow.

This hubb raised throughout the country will probably cause the Porto Rico legislation to cost the sugar trust more money but the trust will get the tariff if it wants it.

A long stride will have been taken toward the social revolution when the workman has become educated to be satisfied with nothing less than the entire product of his labor.

Lucky for this city it has no rainy season or the people would drown unless the Municipal Voters' League followed them around and told them when to come in out of the wet.

Unless their class-consciousness is quickened no doubt many of the union men will be voting next fall with the bosses who locked them out this spring. Their interests are the same, you know.

Reading the bulletins of the Municipal Voters' League in regard to our candidate in the Seventh ward, whom they finally endorsed, his disqualifications did not seem to consist so much in the fact that he was a socialist as that he was a laboring man.

Remember that we send The Call in clubs of ten for three months at ten cents each.

THE WORKERS' CALL.

Issued every Saturday at 35 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. Entered at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., as mail matter of the second class.

The Workers' Call is published for and under the control of Section Chicago of the Socialist Labor Party of Illinois, a corporation without capital stock, the whole revenue of which must be expended for socialist propaganda.

Subscription Rates: One year \$3.50, Six months \$2.00, Three months \$1.00, Single copies 15c.

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

Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed. Communications must reach the office by Monday evening.



The Socialist Vote. UNITED STATES.

Table showing election results for the Socialist Party in the United States from 1889 to 1898.

THE ELECTION RETURNS.

The summing up of the showing of the socialist movement in this city, as measured by the late election, is still incomplete, but as we go to press we have sufficient data to show that NEARLY 5,000 VOTES have already been polled for the cause of the emancipation of the wage earner.

FOR SOCIALIST UNITY.

We call the attention of our readers to the account given upon the third page, of the work of the joint committees of the S. D. P. and the S. L. P. in New York City, looking towards the amalgamation of the two bodies into one united socialist party.

SMALL RESULTS.

The machinists' strike is ended we are told, and while it is difficult to see just what has been gained according to the published accounts of the agreement, the promise of a shorter work day is at least something.

Will take place about that time. These craftsmen will begin to see that power is necessary to enforce the terms of any agreement, and that lacking this, such terms cannot be binding upon those who can violate them at pleasure.

SOCIALISM, OR "THE GANG," WHICH?

That the placing in the field of socialist candidates in local elections is a thorn in the flesh of the capitalist parties is well attested by the action of the latter in the 8th, 19th and 21st wards in this city, where strenuous and successful efforts were made to have the names of the socialist candidates stricken off the ballot.

The Tribune need not feel anxious about the conduct of the little boys. If they derive any amusement from the spectacle, they will be so much ahead of their capitalist adviser, who will certainly not extract much enjoyment therefrom.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

Mr. Debs will now proceed to throw upon the screen a lifelike picture entitled "The Suffering Country in the Grasp of the Money Power."

THE ITALIAN WORKING CLASS REPRESENTED.

The Italian working class represented by the socialists in the Italian parliament determined that Signor Colombo should no longer preside in that assembly.

TONIGHT I SPEAK FOR AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE.

Tonight I speak for an independent candidate, because he is the only man on the ticket for whom anyone can have any respect.

MR. BONNER, HOWEVER, HAS ONE LAST HOPE.

Mr. Bonner, however, has one last hope—the use of the military. Well, that is a rather precarious weapon and not at all satisfactory, for you see, Mr. Bonner, that it is not possible to shoot all the working class, and those that survive will be infallibly driven to take measures so that your class will not be able to use the military for such purposes.

BOOK REVIEWS.

HOW I ACQUIRED MY MILLIONS. By W. A. Corey, Los Angeles, Cal. Price, 10 cents.

Although this work deals with a well-nigh exhausted theme, viz., that of the successful business man recounting the method of his lifework as an inspiration and example to the "young man starting out in business," it is yet distinctly unique in this respect.

FRATERNALLY, CHARLES H. KERR.

FREE SPEECH Muzzled.

Editor Workers' Call: The following resolution was adopted by Section Kansas City, Kan., S. L. P., at their regular meeting held March 26, 1900.

LETTER BOX.

Harriman at Kansas City.

From out of the jungle of false and misleading cries which the activity of the socialist movement here and throughout the country has elicited from the capitalist press—the "German on the Mount," "Turn the Other Cheek," "Blessed are the Meek" Socialism of Charles Muddled Sheldon and his Christian edition of the Topeka "Capital," "Earth is the Lord's" socialism of a local preacher, previously mentioned in this correspondence; and the suave assertion of the profound, Kansas City "Star" that socialism, anarchy and communism are all the same thing.

LISTEN TO THE FOLLOWING TALE OF WOE FROM MAYER HARRIMAN.

Listen to the following tale of woe from Mayer Harriman in regard to the Twenty-third ward. It is needless to say that the statesman alluded to is not a socialist.

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Tonight I speak for an independent candidate, because he is the only man on the ticket for whom anyone can have any respect.

MR. BONNER, HOWEVER, HAS ONE LAST HOPE.

Mr. Bonner, however, has one last hope—the use of the military. Well, that is a rather precarious weapon and not at all satisfactory, for you see, Mr. Bonner, that it is not possible to shoot all the working class, and those that survive will be infallibly driven to take measures so that your class will not be able to use the military for such purposes.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All matter intended for publication must reach this office on or before Tuesday of the week in which the paper is issued.

E. J. Pihlaja.—Your communication arrived too late for publication in our columns.

Frank Kreuger, Millwaukee.—Notice of mass meeting arrived here too late for publication.

List of twenty-five books in hands of Propaganda Committee:

- 1. Socialism, Its Growth and Outcome—Bax-Morris.
2. The French Revolution—Bax.
3. The Religion of Socialism—Bax.
4. Bismarck and State Socialism—Bernstein.
5. La Salle as Social Reformer—Bernstein.
6. The Evolution of Property—Lafargue.
7. Commercial Crises of the Nineteenth Century—Hyndman.
8. Wealth Against Commonwealth—Lloyd.
9. The Descent of Man—Darwin.
10. Trade Unions, New and Old—Hawwell.
11. The Unemployed—Hobson.
12. The Paris Commune—Lissagary.
13. The Factory System—Taylor.
14. The Evolution of Modern Capitalism—Hobson.
15. Socialism, Utopian and Scientific—Aveling translator.
16. Scientific Socialism—Vail.
17. The 18th Brumaire—Marx.
18. Darwinism and Race Progress—Haycraft.
19. French and German Socialism—Ely.
20. The Students' Marx—Aveling.
21. The Evolution of Sex—Geddes and Thomas.
22. What is to Be Done?—Tchernechewsky.
23. Socialism and Anarchy—Plechhoff.
24. Civilization, Its Cause and Cure—Carpenter.
25. Ancient Society—Morgan.

Tickets or monies from tickets must be returned by April 15th to members of the committee without fail.

By order of The Committee.

A prominent minister of Brooklyn who made an effort to live among the working people of an Ohio town is credited with saying that the life of the majority of toilers in the industrial towns of Ohio and Indiana is killingly monotonous, that in nine months not a word was spoken to him by a representative of the privileged class concerning anything outside of toil and the lower things of life; not a recognition had been made by one of the fortunates that the people who labor were anything more than animals.

Markham's vision of the "dumb terror" is truly American in spite of all that may be said to conceal it.—Brauer Zeitung.

Notice.

Delegates to the Central Committee are hereby notified that a meeting next Tuesday, April 10th, at 45 N. Clark street, 8 p. m.—Important business will be discussed and all delegates are urged to be present.

Keep your eye on your subscription number.

### For a United Party.

Work of the Joint Committee of Eighteen From the Two Socialist Bodies.

The Unity committee of the Socialist Labor party and Social Democratic party convened at the Labor Lyceum, 64 E. 4th street, New York City, at 10:30 a. m., Sunday, March 22, 1920.

The delegates elected by the Rochester (S. L. P.) convention were:

J. Mahlon Barnes, Philadelphia, Pa.; G. B. Benham, San Francisco, Cal.; C. E. Fenner, Worcester, Mass.; Max S. Hayes, Cleveland, O.; Job Harriman, Los Angeles, Cal.; Morris Hillquit, New York City; N. I. Stone, New York City; F. J. Steverman, of Rochester, N. Y., and W. E. White, New Haven, Conn.

The delegates elected by the Indianapolis (S. D. P.) convention were:

Wm. Butcher, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Victor Berger, Milwaukee, Wis.; John C. Chase, Haverhill, Mass.; Jaa. P. Carey, Haverhill, Mass.; Margaret Halle, Roxbury, Mass.; Frederic Heath, Milwaukee, Wis.; G. A. Hoehn, St. Louis, Mo.; W. P. Loneragan, Rockville, Conn.; Seymour Stedman, Chicago, Ill.; Victor Berger did not attend.

Job Harriman was elected chairman, John C. Chase, vice-chairman for the committee. Margaret Halle was secretary for the S. D. P. delegation, and N. I. Stone secretary for the S. L. P. delegation.

After a short preliminary discussion, it was decided to take up the matters of importance, and after their general consideration, to take a vote upon the best arrangement for the bringing about of unity upon satisfactory terms.

The subjects were taken up as follows: Name, constitution, party press, candidates platform.

Adjourned at 12:30 to reconvene at 2 p. m.

The question of name taken up in the afternoon session, was argued upon strictly party lines.

Hoehn opened the debate with a brief argument for the name, Social Democratic party, pointing to its prestige in Germany and the victories already won by the party under that name in the United States during the past eighteen months.

Benham presented an argument against the name. Attention was called to the fact that the name was meaningless from the socialist standpoint; that the name was misleading, and that the name lost its significance when translated into English. Definitions were given and it was shown that the socialist conventions in the United States in 1877 and 1884, although composed almost entirely of Germans, had discarded the name as inappropriate for the political party in this country.

The prospect of its being contested by the Democratic party in any or all states was, in addition to many other objections, alluded to in this statement made in opposition to the name.

Nearly all the delegates took part in this discussion, and many interesting facts were developed, although the chief arguments in favor of the name were made on its behalf because of the hold it had made upon the people and the success that had attended its career in this country.

Margaret Halle gave some light on the word "social" from an etymological standpoint. Stedman, Butcher and Chase particularly desired the name Social Democratic retained during the present campaign.

Carey did not particularly like the name, but declared its necessity for the present campaign. Hillquit, Steverman and Harriman all pointed out the necessity of a new name, one that would indicate not only the character of the movement, but the unification of forces.

Fenner said many Social Democrats had requested of him to vote against the name Social Democratic.

History, etymology and philology were all made basis for arguments against the name. Stone regarded the retention of the name S. D. P. as a mistake, as a new name would gather new material and dissolve all prejudice that might exist.

The debate was heated, and the qualifications of the debaters were well displayed.

Shortly after 6 p. m. Frederick Heath said he desired to speak, but for the benefit of the S. L. P. delegates could only speak in executive session. In accordance with this, the public were excluded from the room and the conference went into executive session.

Heath made charges against some of the members of the sub-committee that attended the Indianapolis convention. Heath stated that the S. L. P. delegates had broken faith in regard to the support of the name, Social Democratic.

The charges were shown to be completely false, and all the S. D. P. delegates so recognized them, except Heath, who had seemed but slightly interested in the proceedings and withdrew from the sessions, only Wednesday morning sitting with the S. D. P. delegation for a few moments and voting on one proposition.

The episode developed the fact that it had been stated by some newspapers that the Social Democratic party had absorbed the S. L. P., evidently with the end in view to make the S. L. P. membership dissatisfied and to prevent union if possible.

### MONDAY MORNING.

Committee met at 9:30 a. m., Monday, March 23.

Chase, speaking for the S. D. P. delegation, said that after full consideration, it was decided that in the interest of the movement two names be submitted to the referendum. This statement was received with manifestations of satisfaction by the S. L. P. delegation.

The matter of the National Executive

Committee was now taken up.

Stedman desired a national council of two members from each state, this council to select a national executive committee, and proposed Chicago as the seat of the committee.

Benham stated that accessibility to membership and expense of meeting should be considered. That no one city should select, nor could the National Executive committee be brought from localities long distances apart. By selecting a city within reach of Massachusetts and New York all said results could be attained; advocated New Haven as the seat and that a provisional committee of 14 be elected, 6 from New York, 2 from Connecticut, and 6 from Massachusetts, half the delegation of each state to come from each party as now constituted.

A discussion of considerable length now took place on seat of national executive committee. Carey presented the name of Springfield as the seat of the national executive committee. Harriman and two others voted and spoke against the proposition.

The Rochester platform and the S. D. P. demands were adopted as a platform for the united party.

Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman were endorsed as the national nominees of the united parties.

Constitution was taken up. Boards of appeals abolished. Word local to be used instead of either branch or section, as now used in the parties' organization. National council to meet yearly.

On motion of Hoehn, stamp system of dues adopted, and many other alterations, changes and abbreviations made, both S. L. P. and S. D. P. constitutions being considered.

Party press taken up. Carey proposed two party organs, one for official news, one for propaganda. Hoehn saw impracticability. Benham wanted national executive reports and other official matters furnished to any paper that wanted them.

Stedman declared that in the open field the S. D. Herald could not exist, as it had been used as a propaganda sheet and sent to every party member. It was finally decided to have the united party pay a deficit on the S. D. Herald not exceeding \$60 per week for six months following the union of the parties.

The S. D. Herald to be furnished to all members that might request it, and that every member pay ten cents per quarter and select from a list to be furnished by the national executive, one of the party papers. It was considered unwise to withdraw the Herald from the membership of the S. D. P., from whence the paper had been supported, and as the dues now went into the general funds of the united party, it was equitable to see that the Herald was put upon a footing until adjustment to changed conditions was made.

It was decided that Chicago should elect a campaign committee for the conduct of the presidential campaign.

Eugene Dietzgen was unanimously chosen as the united party representative at the Paris congress.

No local or state organization can fuse or compromise with any capitalist political party.

Provisional executive committee authorized to make proper arrangements for the organization in American colonies.

The S. D. P.'s voluntary offering to submit two names was an evidence of their sincerity in union and confidence in the membership. The S. L. P. also signified the proper spirit when it decided to stand by the choice of the S. D. P., as to the seat of the national executive committee.

It was a conference that will have a great historical significance and one that not only reflects credit upon the organizations represented, but upon the rising socialist movement of the United States.

The proceedings of the conference were carried out with dignity and precision. No actions, except those that they believed to be for the good of the movement were performed by those members who sat through its sessions.

The early deliberations of the conference were marked by decisive and logical debating, and the presentation of arguments brought out a considerable amount of legislative and parliamentary ability.

The latter part of the proceedings was a strenuous effort by all to adjust affairs so that a working organization could be turned over to the referendum. The vote in favor of unity seems a foregone conclusion.

That the result will be received with joy by the membership is already sure. The future of socialism is brought nearer, and the success of the new party assured by the result of the conference of the committee of eighteen.

### TUESDAY

On Barnes' motion, each delegation then nominated four names from Massachusetts, four from New York and two from Connecticut, to be selected from by the membership by referendum. The names were as follows: S. L. P., Massachusetts—Kaplan, Oliver, Fenner and Wrenn; Connecticut—White and Bartels; New York—Hillquit, Slobodin, Stone of New York City, Steverman of Rochester. The S. D. P. nominees were: Massachusetts—Halle, Jones, Chase, McCartney; Connecticut—Loneragan and Sweetland; New York—Butcher, Guyer, Gordon, Phillips.

Stedman moved that the national council be composed of two delegates from each state; the council to elect a national executive committee of 11, the latter to be removable by council, the latter's members to be removable by state membership electing them. This was finally modified and adopted as follows: One of the council is to be elected from each state; they to nominate not less than 15 members, this list to be submitted to referendum, seven to be selected for a national executive committee. Harriman, Benham and two others voted and spoke against the proposition.

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That the result will be received with joy by the membership is already sure. The future of socialism is brought nearer, and the success of the new party assured by the result of the conference of the committee of eighteen.

G. B. Benham.

### In The People.

Did you order and pay for the paper you hold before you? No! Then it was paid for by some friend, who seeing the light, desires you also to see it. If you are convinced of the justness of the doctrine, that the toiler, under a rational system is entitled to the full product of his toil, and that this he can never secure, while another owns the tools with which he toils, then seek out a few of your friends who are still in that deep sleep from which you may have recently awakened, and arouse them by sending each one a three month's subscription to The Workers' Call.

Have you asked all your shop mates to subscribe to The Workers' Call? If you are not willing to do that much how long do you think it will be before you are free?

### Tip to the Reader.

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### LABOR ITEMS.

Notes From Trades Union Journals and Exchanges, Throughout the United States.

(For further Labor Items see Foreign News.) Philadelphia painters' unions, 500 strong, are discussing socialism.

In Haverhill, Mass., the operatives of five shoe factories are on strike at present.

Union plumbers in St. Joseph, Mo., struck for an increase to \$3.75 per day, for eight hours work.

Big strike in the building trades at Joliet, Ill. Several hundred men out and no immediate prospect of settlement.

At Brazil, Ind., all coal mines have been closed down throwing 5,000 miners out of work. Every prospect of a long strike.

Chicago Typographical union has re-annealed its action declaring the boycott off on the News-Record, which caused its expulsion from the central body.

The executive council of the A. F. of L. decided to issue an appeal calling on organized labor to arrange mass meetings on May Day, July 4 and Labor Day to preach the propaganda of labor.

Plumbers of Indianapolis have struck for an increase to \$3.50 per day. Bosses are unwilling to accede to this demand, and the harmony which "should" exist between capital and labor has sustained a severe fracture.

The plasterers of Minneapolis have been locked out by their benevolent employers, owing to a dispute over the length of the working day. The ideal workingday according to capitalist principles is somewhere about 25 hours long.

The Whitaker Iron works at Wheeling, W. Va., has shut down throwing 250 Amalgamated Ironworkers out of employment. Differences between the employes in the tin plate department are alleged as the cause of the shut down.

Between 23,000 and 30,000 coal miners struck at Pittsburgh on April 24 and 10,000 more were expected to be out next day. In the Irwin field 10,000 miners are on strike for 70 cents per ton, for three quarter inch screen coal. The interests of capitalist and laborer are of course identical but—

Two thousand painters and fifteen hundred carpenters have gone on strike at St. Louis, Mo. Painters want an increase from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per day, and carpenters demand 45 cents per hour instead of 35. Both demands have been refused by the bosses, and the struggle is on.

Union painters and carpenters at Newark and Orange, N. J., quit work. About a thousand of each trade are out. They demanded more pay and shorter hours, but the bosses couldn't see how their interests would be furthered by assenting to this proposition. Hence the strike.

The employment of non-union carpenters upon some houses in New Brighton, Staten Island, was the cause of 260 union workmen dropping their tools. The non-union men were working for George Vanderbilt, who of course purchases his workers as cheaply as possible according to the laws of the present capitalist system.

In Cleveland, Ohio, about 2,000 building trades workmen have quit work. The advance of wages, which they demanded, the bosses did not see fit to grant alleging that objectionable rules were coupled with the demand. During their period of enforced leisure the workmen will have time to study out how to make their demands impossible of rejection.

Upland, Ind., March 31.—The window glass blowers at the Butler Window Glass factory were ordered out this morning on account of a dispute over the pay of one of the blowers. The factory closed down and the matter has been referred to President Barnes of local assembly No. 200. Many of the men were opposed to a strike, but the Belgian members were in the majority and voted to quit.

Secretary Duncan of the Granite Cutters is hopeful of success in getting the eight-hour day and a minimum rate of \$3 a day, which has been the demand of the workers in the New England quarries. More than 6,000 men are involved in the strike which now enters upon its second month. Should the dispute not be settled it is claimed that the granite for the Chicago postoffice will not be ready when wanted.

"When the 25,000 miners of Illinois tomorrow take up their picks and enter the 600 coal shafts, starting in on the new agreement," said a mine manager, "they will begin work upon the highest rate of wages prevailing in coal mining since 1892. With such an understanding in the various competitive fields as will maintain prices for the year, and supply a foundation to the trade, it is natural to expect that 1920 will be a notable year of coal production."

Hartford City, Ind., March 31.—The result of the second ballot for the presidency of the National Window Glass Blowers' association was announced today and President Simon Burns of Gas City was re-elected for the sixth consecutive time, defeating Joseph Armstrong of Jeanette, Pa. The resolution providing for building three large tank window glass factories by the organization, costing \$30,000, and to be raised by a 5-cent assessment on the workers' earnings, was defeated.

All comrades holding Commune Festival tickets are requested to return them to the committee within ten days.

### FOREIGN NEWS.

Glimpses of the World-wide Struggles of the Proletarian Army for Its Liberty.

AUSTRIA. The strike among the coal miners in Bohemia and Silesia has now spread to Galicia, where 3,000 miners at Zavorano have gone on strike. They ask for an eight-hour day, a rise of wages, and some share in the management of benefit societies to which they contribute. Most of the mines in this district belong to two people: a Jewish banker called Guimann and a very pious Catholic called Potocki—a pair of precious gentlemen who pay men from 1d. to 2s. and women 3d. a day for eleven hours' work.

BELGIUM. The Abbe Pottier, of Liege, is the leader of the French speaking Christian Socialists of Belgium and was going to stand as a candidate for Liege. But the wealthy Catholics of the districts threatened in that case to withhold their subscriptions from the party funds, and the abbe did not stand. It is difficult to quite understand the aims of the Christian Socialists. They are probably clericals under another name.

In Mr. Whiteing's novel, "John Street," a bishop found great comfort when he heard that New York had its slums as well as London, "it made us feel such brothers." There are slums in Brussels too, and from statistics just published, it appears that there are 8,578 families which each only have one room. The mean death rate is 19 per 1,000, but in some of the slums it rises from 30 to 60 per 1,000, and in one case to 142 per 1,000. Perhaps when the Belgian government has some time to spare from "civilizing" the Congo, it will look to its slums, but I doubt it.

FRANCE. Gaston Moeh has published as a pamphlet the articles on a citizen army which appeared in "Le Petit Republicain," and of which a translation will be found in the "Social Democrat."

The president of the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Paul Deschanel, has been rebuking the French jingoism who want to go to war with everybody, and with England in particular. Jaures approves of this part of the speech, but goes on to say, "Why does M. Deschanel go on to provoke Germany? Why should statesmen give vent to such a mania of attacks. There are two classes of them now. Some wish France to quarrel with Germany, and some wish her to quarrel with England, the first want a continental war, the others wish for a maritime war. And perhaps if they go on we shall have both. Let us try to form, in opposition to these madmen, the great party of peace."

GERMANY. Another socialist has been elected a member of the Berlin municipal council, and there are now 22 socialists in that body.

Vollmar, the socialist deputy from Munich, has just celebrated his fiftieth birthday.

Aron—a private docent (that is to say a lecturer) at the University of Berlin—has been dismissed because he belonged to the Socialist party. This has been done by the ministers, though the university authorities condemned the action. And the case is more harsh because Arons was a lecturer in mathematics and it is not contended that he introduced socialism into his subject. He has now been chosen by the Socialist party as a candidate for the next vacant seat in the Reichstag. So the party prosecution will only lead to his being a member of Parliament and becoming, I hope, a real nuisance to the government.

HOLLAND. The new daily, the organ of the Social-Democrats, is to appear on April 1. It will be called "Het Volk" (The People), the organ of the labor party, and will be edited under the direction of Van Troelstra, the Deputy. On Sunday a double number will be published. Care will be taken to provide attractive reading for women, so as to make the paper as popular as possible.

F. Van der Goeis has been appointed lecturer at the University of Amsterdam, and his first introductory lecture on the power of labor has just been published by the Socialist party.—London "Justice."

### LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

The Seventh ward club at their business meeting took the initiative for holding a Mayday celebration. A committee of six was elected to visit the various branches seeking their co-operation for this purpose. Comrade Marcus was chosen chairman of the committee.

The Polish comrades at their meetings last Sunday in the Ninth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth wards respectively. The meetings were well attended both in the afternoon and evening. Comrades Barokowski and Stelnski, Levison and Knox were the speakers, in Polish and English.

At Schoenhofen's hall, Ashland and Milwaukee avenues, the Fourteenth ward branch held a well-attended meeting on last Sunday. Comrade Hitch, the candidate for the Socialist Labor party in this ward, gave an able outline of the socialist position on municipal affairs.

The Fifth ward branch held a crowded meeting on last Saturday night at their hall, 2299 Wentworth avenue. Comrade Saunders addressed the meeting on "The Future of Socialism," and his remarks were well received. Much lively discussion ensued before the meeting adjourned.

At Nelson Morris hall, 194 Ninety-second street, Comrades Taft and Collins addressed a meeting of the Thirtieth ward branch on last Saturday night. Comrade Collins spoke on "Trades Unionism and Its Relation to Socialism." A number of trades unionists were present and a healthy discus-

sion took place, in which many doubtful points were cleared up.

Comrade Becker addressed the Twenty-fourth ward branch last Sunday at 5 p. m. at 65 N. Clark street. A fair-sized audience was present and listened attentively to the speaker's delineation of the "Class Struggle." A spirited discussion ensued in which many questions were analyzed, the presence of Comrade Becker being generally a sure guarantee of a lively debate.

A meeting was held at the home of Wm. Bartels, 918 N. Washenau avenue, last Saturday evening. The organizer who was present, was called upon to give an outline of the principles of socialism, after which an interesting discussion took place. Before adjourning the audience decided to hold another meeting next Saturday, April 17th, at 8 p. m. in the same place, in order to organize a branch of the S. L. P. Invitations are extended to all who wish to join the S. L. P. to attend this meeting.

The Twenty-third ward branch will give an entertainment in which the Socialist Sangerbund will participate, on Sunday, the 15th of April at 3 p. m. at Svea hall, Larabee street and Chicago avenue. This ward has held successful meetings every evening last week at 163 E. Chicago avenue. Different speakers of the party addressed the audience and much interest was shown by those present. The energy and perseverance of our Swedish comrades is beyond all praise, and we hope their entertainment will prove an unqualified success.

A meeting of the Thirtieth ward branch, S. L. P., was held at Elke's hall, 1148 W. 63rd street on Sunday afternoon. The hall was well filled, and the audience listened with marked attention to the address of Comrade Klambek, the speaker of the evening, who gave an able and interesting exposition of the nature and object of the socialist movement. The action of the election commissioners in striking the name of our Comrade Rasmussen from the ballot as alderman candidate was also discussed, and the reasons therefor made plain to the audience, who seemingly were much interested in the proceedings.

Last Saturday the Pattern Makers' League of Chicago held a mass meeting at Sam T. Jack's hall, Madison street, for the purpose of admitting new members, of whom between 30 and 40 were accepted. About 300 members were present who were addressed by L. R. Thomas of Pittsburg, president of the League. He gave a general view of the conditions of the craftsmen all over the country, and wound up by stating that while under the present existing conditions of the grouped workmen, yet ultimately the political action by the means of the ballot would become imperative upon the working class in upholding their distinct interests as workers. He gloried in the fact that the cause prohibiting discussion of politics in the unions had been stricken out of the constitution and by-laws of the Pattern Makers' League. The address was received with much applause. Comrade W. Saunders addressed the meeting after the president had concluded. He showed the necessity for united political action on the part of the working class, in order that they might own and control the means and tools of production, the present individual ownership of which was the direct cause of poverty, misery and evil conditions by which the workers were surrounded, called the attention of his audience to the coming local election and urged them to consider to which class they belonged and vote accordingly. Altogether Comrade Saunders made an able and powerful appeal to the hearts for the cause of socialism which he demonstrated to be the cause of all the working class. His remarks were well received, and he was cordially invited to address the League again at a future date.

### STANDS ON BED-ROCK.

Pittsburg Socialist Strikes From the Shoulder for the Interests of Wage-workers.

You having invited correspondence, help and assistance of socialists, it is the giving of such help solely that prompts these lines.

First, let me state that there is no pulling of the heart strings, no sentimental emotion in mine, when in a political discussion, Political propositions are business propositions. Deceminating questions in this sense, there can be absolutely no difference between a political boss giving an office to some one and then levying assessments on him to maintain his—the political boss's superior standing, and a factory or business boss giving a job to some one and then levying on a portion of his product to maintain his—the factory boss's—superior standing, and we certainly ought to give them equal credit for making the best of a system which absolutely prescribes the paying of a premium on crime. The swindler and forger, the gambler and the stock-broker, the speculator and the land shark, the franchise grabber and the labor skinner, they all play their metier in order to receive such a premium. Anomaly and logic: These premiums consisting in dollars and such dollars being erroneously called capital and capital being today the standard measure of the type of men, the incentive to become manly—by unmanly acts—is all absorbing.

The man that proclaims himself to be his brother's keeper, performs useful and necessary labor in order to give food, shelter, clothing and enjoyment of life to himself and his aged or disabled brother and demands and everlastingly insists on receiving the full product of his toil, he who does, I say, he is the type of a man. Under the present competitive system such is utterly impossible, and as the mountain will not go to Mohammed, Mohammed must go to the mountain—the system must be changed.

Individual production has been superseded by collective production, and individual ownership of the tools of production must be superseded by collective (public) ownership of said tools. Like you, my friend, I am a Democrat to the core, but without industrial democracy political democracy is a hair-brained vision. Palliative reforms will never accomplish a change. All the leading reformers of the past twenty-five years have returned to the capitalist Democratic-Republican parties each the party of their class. The Democrats of '96 have stolen the weak-

est plank of the Populist platform and they will not hesitate in the future to steal the weakest plank in the socialist platform.

The trusts by scientific production and distribution, by means of their ownership of the gigantic tools thereof, will drive even the millionaire into the fold of the already augmented ranks of surplus labor.

Our social, material and moral degenerations are the result of conditions and environments, and any writer who dodges this point will commit a ludicrous blunder.

It is rather surprising that the Populist county chairman (he constitutes the whole party), should steal his thunder from his friend the enemy, Col. Stone.

SOCIALISM AT WORK

(Continued from page 1) soldier and a special organization of young men who put their main energy into this form of propaganda work.

It would perhaps interest the people at home to know something of the way the socialist movement in America is regarded here.

English concerning the American movement. These remarks are suggested by the fact that De Leon has just taken a new tack over here that is so amusing as to be really worthy of preservation.

We have now been in London for a couple of days and leave here in about a week for a lecture tour through England under the auspices of the I. L. P.

The Socialist Review. Early in the summer of 1900 we hope to issue the first number of a monthly review under the editorship of A. M. Simons.

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Here is the field of our proposed Socialist Review. It competes with no existing publication. It will, we trust, prove itself indispensable to every honest student of social problems.

The size of the Review will be limited to 64 pages in order that the price may be kept down to ten cents a copy, or a dollar a year.

Socialist Labor Party of the United States.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor party of the United States, in Convention assembled, reaffirms its allegiance to the revolutionary principles of international socialism and declares the supreme political issue in America today to be the control of the working class and the capitalist class for the possession of the power of government.

The working class can not however, act as a class in its struggle against the collective power of the capitalist class except by constituting itself into a political party, distinct and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

Human energy and natural resources are wasted for individual gain. Ignorance is fostered, that wage slavery may be perpetuated.

Wars are fomented between nations; indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged; the destruction of whole races is sanctioned, in order that the capitalist class may extend its commercial dominion abroad and enhance its supremacy at home.

The introduction of a new and higher order of society is the historic mission of the working class. All other classes despite their apparent or actual conflicts are interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the means of production.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, without distinction of color, race or sex, and upon all citizens in sympathy with the historic mission of the working class.

THE WORKERS' CALL

36 NORTH CLARK, CHICAGO, ILL.

Subscription Price: One year, \$60; Six months, \$35; Three months, \$15. Enclosed find \$... to pay for a subscription to THE WORKERS' CALL for ... months.

Name... Address... City and State...

If, as seems probable, the receipts of the magazine more than cover the cost of publication, the surplus will be used, first, to pay contributors for their articles, and, second, to defray the cost of printing other socialist literature which is urgently needed in the movement.

If you are interested in the project, please answer the following questions: 1. How many shares of stock will you agree to take at \$10 each?

On the continent of Europe the socialist reviews are already a tremendous factor in the growth of the socialist movement.

Special Book Offer

"FREDERICK ENGELS, HIS LIFE, HIS WORK AND HIS WRITINGS" By Karl Kautsky.

Grand Ball and Festival

ARRANGED BY THE Twenty-third Ward Branch S. L. P., the Liberty Lodge and the Banbrytaren Lodge. SVEA HALL, corner Chicago Ave. and Larabee St. SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 1900 at 4 P. M.

DO YOU READ

The Class Struggle?

Official Organ of the S. L. P. from the Pacific Coast. Only paper giving News of the Movement in the West.

Send for sample copy. 25 cents for six months; 50 cents a year. With Workers Call one year 90 cents.

117 Turk St., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

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