

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. 100.

CHICAGO, ILL., FEBRUARY 2, 1901.

PRICE ONE CENT

GRATUITOUS ADVICE

Some Remarks on the Economic Aspects of Vaccination.

CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES

Portions of the Anatomy Selected for Inoculation Must Be Determined by the Demands of "Business."

It seems that a corporation in this city, comprising 300 young women, has announced a general vaccination of its employees. In its wisdom it has directed that these girls be vaccinated on the leg, so that swollen arms may not interfere with business. Writing under the pseudonym of "Hello" a young woman, presumably one of the employees of the above corporation, inquires in the columns of the Tribune as to whether vaccination on the leg or arm is preferable, just as if the corporation had not already decided the question.

While in general we recognize the propriety of waiting for our opinion to be asked, yet as this is a matter in which the "public" are to some extent concerned, we may perhaps be pardoned for having something to say on the subject. As to the medical side of the question we plead ignorance. Upon the economic side however, we possess an ample store of knowledge from actual experience, possibly, (we do not say positively), more than any writer connected with the Tribune. Therefore it may perhaps be advisable to insert the entire text of the letter, which appears under the headings, "Must Be Vaccinated or Quit. Three Hundred Young Women Must Submit to Inoculation on Their Legs," so that our readers may be able to judge as to the efficacy of vaccination in this particular case. The letter is as follows:

Chicago, Jan. 25.—(Editor of the Tribune.)—The undersigned, one of your subscribers, would like to have your solution of a problem as to the efficacy of vaccination. A certain corporation of this city, employing 300 girls, announces that a general vaccination is in order. Well and good. The young ladies are ready, but to a surprise is in store for them. They are told that they must be vaccinated on the leg to prevent their being incapacitated for work on account of swollen arms. The same employees are also given to understand that failure to comply with the above demand will result in their discharge. Hoping you will favor me with your valued opinion as to whether it is best to be vaccinated on the leg or the arm, I remain, yours respectfully,

"Hello."

We will first begin by calling the attention of Miss "Hello" to the fact that the selection of a certain portion of the anatomy as the site of operation, depends to a very large extent, upon the economic status of the subject upon whom it is to be performed, and to a smaller extent upon the professional opinion of the performer. It will be quite clear, for instance, to our, or rather the Tribune's, correspondent that if she or any of her three hundred fellow workers were to come to the conclusion that the members of the corporation should be vaccinated on the scalp, the stomach, the back, or any other part of the body that they (the three hundred) might determine upon, their decision would be held, to use a legal phrase, "null and void," simply because the members of the corporation don't have to submit to the ruling, even though the whole three hundred might be unanimous on the subject. And further, they could not be made to suffer in any manner whatever for their refusal.

It will also be equally apparent that as the corporation have already decided how their employees shall be vaccinated, they in consequence possess some power by which their decision can be enforced, and some penalty which they can inflict upon those who would otherwise refuse to abide by it, a penalty which they think sufficient to compel acquiescence. As they do not mention this, it may be inferred that they suppose their employees are well aware that they do possess such a power.

And such is the case. They can give or withhold "employment." It is not necessary to tell the three hundred, or in fact the millions who are situated in the same manner, what this power means.

To explain somewhat further. They have bought the labor-power of the three hundred for a certain number of hours per day. The three hundred sold it and were probably delighted to get the opportunity to do so. That labor-power involves, and can only be exerted through, the bodily members, head, legs, arms, fingers, etc., and it will be seen that those who sell their labor-power, of course, can do as he pleases with what he has bought. The use of these arms, heads, legs, etc., belong to him. He must see that they are not injured. If an inoculation must be performed, those bodily parts which are most used in this particular business must not be interfered with, if less important parts, from a business point of

view can be found, because that would reduce profit. Consequently if swollen arms would interfere with "business" more than swollen legs, the latter members are selected for the operation.

Let us suppose, on the other hand, that the corporation were employing the three hundred in an industry where the legs were of more "business" importance than the arms, say for instance that the three hundred were occupied in driving sewing machines with their feet. Miss "Hello" will at once see that in this case the corporation would most probably issue a command that upon no account should the leg be thought of as a proper site for inoculation. "Business" demands would forbid it.

As we declared in the beginning of this article that we gained a considerable amount of knowledge upon this subject from actual experience, perhaps it might not be altogether out of place to attempt to make good our assertion by drawing upon some of the incidents of a somewhat checkered career, by way of illustration.

The writer many years ago followed an occupation which perhaps in a greater degree than most others, demanded a general activity of all parts of the body. One of the peculiarities of this profession lay in the fact that the labor-power required in it had to be sold for a term of years, and that it was exceedingly difficult and at times impossible to break the contract. The corporation who bought the labor-power were by no means scrupulous in disguising the fact that they had bought the bodily members with it. Their purchases were invariably examined with a minuteness of which Miss "Hello" has no doubt not the slightest conception. Eyes, ears, teeth, toes, fingers, limbs, in fact all parts of the body inside, (so far as could be got at), and outside, were subjected to a rigorous professional inspection. No aged, imperfect or damaged animals were purchased—they might take their inferior article to another market. Upon two occasions of such sale the buyers decided that their purchase should be vaccinated. The operation was performed without the slightest regard to the wishes or feelings of the latter. As the labor-power purchased was intended to be utilized immediately, a portion of the body which, in the judgment of the buyers, interfered least with "business" was selected, and it happened in both cases to be neither legs nor arms.

When a fancy cur is purchased, the owner very often clips his coat in such a fashion as to make him appear as a ridiculous travesty of a lion, and everybody recognizes that no law has been violated by such action, although it may perhaps be considered foolish. A carriage horse may have his tail docked and his mane clipped and combed for the sake of appearances, and no serious objection is made. Waiters, coachmen, butlers and others, are not allowed to grow mustaches, (that is when they are purchased by the "best society"), and in all these cases no particular "business" interests demands such action, though in the latter the same economic necessity for complying with the demands of the buyer exists, as in the case in which Miss "Hello" is interested.

On the whole, we think that the solution is plain enough. About the medical efficiency of vaccination we know nothing, but have no hesitation in recommending its economic efficiency in the case under discussion, and strongly advise Miss "Hello" to comply with the demands of "business," lest a worse thing happen. And we are glad to say that our opinion is in complete accord with that of the Tribune upon this matter. Perhaps Miss "Hello" may not have observed that in publishing her letter, our esteemed contemporary has answered her query in the headline, "Three Hundred Young Women MUST SUBMIT to inoculation on Their Legs." If so, we call her attention to that fact, and hope she will accept as gracefully as possible the decision of her rightful owners, supported as it is by the Tribune, and our own unsolicited opinion, which is, that in this case the legs are undoubtedly the proper members to be operated upon. The vaccination may or may not preserve the subject from the ravages of small pox, (we cannot presume to decide where doctors disagree), but we are positive that it will in this case aid materially in preserving the harmonious relations which should exist between labor and capital. And if Miss "Hello" cannot stand for this, she must do as we are now about to do, viz., "quit."

Socialist Songs With Music.

The long-expected book of Socialist Songs with full quartette or piano music is now ready. It is a handsome book of 36 pages with a stiff cover lettered in gold. Among the well-known songs contained in it are the Marseillaise, The International, The Hope of the Ages, All for the Cause, No Master, The March of the Workers, The Voice of Toil, etc. It is the first book of the kind offered to American readers. Every Socialist will want it. Twenty cents a copy, or \$2.00 a dozen postpaid. Charles H. Kerr and company, publishers, 55 Fifth Avenue, Chicago.

If you want more recruits for socialism spread the circulation of this paper.

WORSHIP OF "WORK" AN ABLE PEDAGOGUE

Old Capitalist Creed Undergoes a "Revival" Process.

A RELIGION FOR THE MASSES. PUPILS IN A CAGE ARE FREED.

Cornerstone of the Faith to Be Found in the System of Capitalist Appropriation.

At the present time when manufacturing supremacy seems to be almost in the grasp of the motley of capitalist exploiters who dub themselves "the United States," and speak with authority in its name, the worship of "work" becomes a theme which is dilated upon to an unusual extent in the columns of nearly every capitalist journal of any importance in the country. Upon every hand the American workman is praised not so much for his ingenuity and skill, but rather for his ability to accomplish a certain amount of "work" in a less time than the workmen of any other nation.

Every instance of superiority in this direction is carefully recorded in the capitalist press, and the working class was read these productions as expected to feel a sense of triumph in the recounted stories of their achievements in turning out more "work" than others, and as a matter of fact they do, which is a source of further satisfaction to the parties who "furnish employment."

So far has this passion for "work" been cultivated that when here and there a labor union attempts to restrict the output of its individual members, a howl of abjuration at once arises from the press, and the offenders are pilloried and exposed to public indignation as if they were criminals and malefactors.

A slight examination of this phenomenon will, however, disclose some curious features common to the high priests of the worship of "work," which may perhaps cast some doubt upon their sincerity in the matter.

In the first place the "work" alluded to is always productive of character, such as building bridges and locomotives, making shoes, bicycles, etc., and the speed with which these things can be produced forms the principal object of worship. The fellows who chant most loudly the praises of "work" will in every instance be found to be non-productive workers themselves. Their function is to urge others to produce with ever greater speed. Nor is their admiration of swift "work" altogether disinterested. It does not extend beyond the borders of the United States. They derive no satisfaction from the discovery that some particular commodity can still be produced somewhat faster in other lands than here. The leisurely and deliberate methods of "work" pursued in Great Britain and Germany does not anger them in the least. On the contrary, they are quite satisfied if all efforts to hurry the workers of those countries were to result in failure.

The reason is plain enough. The worship of "work" is confined to particular countries solely because the capitalists of those countries own the product which their laborers create. There is no national sentiment about it from the capitalist side. Let the British capitalist who is now alarmed at the speed with which the American laborer produces, invest his capital in an American industry, and he will sing the praises of American workmen just as loudly as the native capitalist does. "Where the treasure is, there will the heart be also."

That this cult should meet with success, as it undoubtedly has, is at once a tribute to the intelligence of the capitalist and the folly of the laborer. That the American workman can be actually persuaded that in allowing himself to be driven to work at top speed so that his masters may secure a larger share of surplus product, he is acting like an intelligent human being, is certainly not the least of the miracles which the industrial revolution has accomplished. That he should regard the workman who refuses to be extended to his utmost limit of labor power, as less sensible than himself, is perhaps still more wonderful.

All things tend to an end, however. The last straw breaks the camel's back, and almost said the donkey's back. And signs are not wanting that the intensity of labor has nearly reached its culminating point. "Work" as an object of worship for its own sake (for that is about all the laborers get out of it), will ultimately be relegated to the place which is being prepared for similar economic superstitions, when capitalism, from whence this fetid springs, has passed away for ever.

The Workers' Call is the organ of the SOCIALIST PARTY.

A sample copy invites your subscription. Don't neglect the invitation.

scops of "business"—that is, of his "business."

They might have wives and children dependent upon them for shelter, clothing and bread—that, however, was their "business"—not Mr. Hill's—and he gave them leisure to speculate upon it.

Where did Mr. Hill get his gullotine? Turn back to the sketch and you will discover. He bought a great block of Erie stock and was made a director in consequence. Translated out of "business" language into plain English this means that Mr. Hill secured as his private property the results of the labor of thousands of workers, such as engineers, firemen, section hands, conductors, porters, brakemen, switchmen, railroad construction laborers of all kinds, telegraph operators, and others, including also the fellows who sit in cages, (free men in cages does look rather curious), counting money that the co-operative labor of all these people alone makes possible but, which nevertheless belongs legally to Mr. Hill.

Now what is the meaning of that word "legally"? It means that the law sanctions Mr. Hill's claim to it. Who makes the law? Men appointed for that purpose. Who appoints them? Men elected for that purpose. Who elects them? Well, the great majority of them are laborers of all sorts, just like the ones that are in terror of Mr. Hill's gullotine. Then these people vote for the system which permits him and others like him to operate it. Well, now, why do they do so?

For various reasons. Most of them think that no other state of affairs is possible. They think so just because Mr. Hill and those that his class employ for that purpose, told them so, and as they ascribe the power which Mr. Hill displays to his intelligence, they would not think for one moment of disputing his assertion on that point, and besides it saves the trouble of thinking.

Some of them, (the "head men" class more especially), indulge a hope that they may be able to operate a "gullotine" of their own at some future time, and like the great Mr. Hill, be in a position to speak "bluntly and brusquely" to the "free" men who may be employed by them. They don't see that it is also Mr. Hill's "business" to spoil this program, neither do they understand that he will almost certainly succeed in doing so. When they arrive at that knowledge, as they ultimately will, they will want to know something of socialism, but at present, the "head master of the Great Northern school" is putting them through the preparatory course.

As for the fellows that are too lazy to think for themselves, and accept what is told them without question, they are also under the tuition of the capitalist school master, the result of whose teachings and practical illustrations will in the end drive them into the Socialist movement likewise.

Mr. Hill, in opening the bars of the cage and letting the "free" men out, is in reality freeing forces which will ultimately demolish his gullotine, though he may not be aware of the fact. However, it is satisfactory to know that even if he were, he cannot do otherwise. The schoolmaster of the Great Northern cannot increase profits without at the same time increasing the number of Socialists, which, after all, is something to be thankful for.

The Campaign Fund.

Comrades:—By the daily papers you may see that the Republican leaders are already down at Springfield attending to their political "fences."

What does that mean? It means that they are looking out for their interests. Are you doing likewise?

You need not go to Springfield to do so. Your interests are here in Chicago. And they can only be attended to in proportion to the amount of campaign funds which you furnish.

If you expect your Executive Committee to carry on the campaign you must supply the means to do so. New money is needed and must be forthcoming at once if the cause of socialism is to be properly placed before the working class this spring. So far your responses to previous calls have not been at all sufficient. See to it that from now on socialism does not suffer from lack of funds to push its propaganda.

Let us see your name on the list this week, comrades.

THIS MEANS YOU!

Fraternally,
The Executive Committee,
Per R. A. Morris.

The Church of England statistics recently published show a very perceptible falling off in Sunday school work. There were 15,070 fewer boys and girls in church Sunday schools during the past statistical year than during the previous twelve months. All of which leads us to infer that, as the capitalist system nears its climax, the smooth, God-fearing individual who spends the week exploiting the dispossessed class and attending his colleagues, may find his exemplary job of Sunday school teacher slipping from his hands.

Get your neighbor to read the Call.

Socialist Pointers

Agustaldo knows that capitalism never keeps its promises.

What are you doing to help make a Socialist of your neighbor?

The average reformer is like Mrs. Nation of Kansas, attacking effect rather than cause.

Mark Hanna is going to have a ship subsidy bill in his dinner pail. What will you have in yours?

No man who does not vote the Socialist ticket is as good a Socialist as you are, provided you vote it.

People who are surprised that Armour left only \$15,000,000, evidently have not consulted the tax lists lately.

The way to make Socialists is to pick out one man and camp on his trail. If will not be long before the rush begins.

The more money contributed to the campaign fund the greater showing we will be able to make in the spring campaign.

Just a little more life in some of the ward branches would not do the Socialist party any positive or permanent harm.

Even if we do not elect John Collins mayor, suppose we just get a move on ourselves and give the other fellows a good scare.

The long winter evenings are good times to loan your farmer friends a few books on socialism or to send them some party papers.

Whereas the workman has only two kinds of pie under Carter Harrison he would have at least three kinds under John M. Harlan.

In getting subscribers for the Workers' Call you are not helping the editor nor yourself so much as you are helping the man who subscribes.

The Emperor William is a field marshal of the British army, so he has a job secure when the Socialists get into power in his own country.

No doubt if the tunnels were lowered the workmen of Chicago would get at least 20 cents extra each per day. Let us all shout for lower tunnels.

Returns from all parts of the country seem to indicate that the name Socialist party is the correct one. Frills cannot make it stronger or more plain.

Why should we bother about municipal ownership when all of the capitalist parties are pledged to it? Good or bad, we cannot bring it at present and they can.

The common people should not worry their feeble brains about candidates. The business men, through the Municipal Voters' League will soon tell them how to vote.

The silly story comes from Paris that the Socialists are arming. They are already armed with the ballot, which is the most deadly weapon capitalism ever fought against.

It is not so surprising that the labor leaders who are drawing pay from the city hall should be for Carter Harrison, but why should any workman want to see him re-elected?

No one but a Socialist would be mean enough to call attention to the fact that the average man who is earnestly trying to reform the world from above is a tax-shilker and a labor-killer.

Mourning for the queen is to be out short because it hurts the trades people of London. Even the death of so high a person is not to be allowed to interfere with the profits of the ruling classes.

Bishop Fallows says that Bryan's undoing was because he tried to array classes against each other; the undoing of the workmen is that they cannot learn that there are classes in this country.

With a state composed almost wholly of agriculturists, Nebraska is in a germ over a contest between a dozen lawyers and politicians for the senatorship. A few easy lessons in the philosophy of the class struggle might do the farmers no harm.

Hyde Park Town Picket:
For Collector—Frank Rudinski.
For Supervisor—H. De Boer.
For Clerk—Chas. Knudsen.
For Assessor—A. J. Nielsen.

More subscribers are ALWAYS wanted.

THE WORKERS' CALL.

Issued every Saturday at 36 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. Entered at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., as mail matter of the second class.

Subscription Rates: One year \$6.50, Six months \$3.50, Three months \$2.00, Single copies 10 cents.

Advertisements: A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted.

Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.

Capitalist Estimates: The great musical composer Giuseppe Verdi died on January 27th at Milan, Italy, aged 88.



THE ENCYCLICAL ON "SOCIALISM."

The fiat has gone forth. The oracle has spoken. The greatest masterpiece of organization which the world has up to the present ever known, has launched its thunderbolts against "socialism"—and wonderful to say, "nobody seems a penny the worse."

Whether the encyclical is the individual production of Leo XIII or the result of the collective wisdom of the Ecumenical Council, is a matter of little moment. It contains nothing that was not expected by Socialists, and nothing calculated to give much assistance to capitalism in warding off the inevitable.

Like every other reactionary document that has ever appeared the encyclical carefully "defines" what it intends to demolish, and its definition of socialism is purposely contrived to render the demolition easy.

Which concerns itself solely with material possessions, and which is "always seeking to establish perfect equality and a common holding of goods." Now, whatever this thing may be—that is if it has any real existence—it is certainly not socialism, and the warning given to good Catholics to avoid it, is to say the least superfluous.

Socialism does not seek to establish equality. In the sense that the readers of the encyclical are left purposely to infer. It cares nothing for equality in material possessions, and recognizes to the full the mental and physical inequalities of individuals.

Socialism cares nothing for holding "goods" in common. It declares that the machinery for the production of these "goods" shall be collectively owned by those who collectively operate them—which is an entirely different matter.

What then has the encyclical to offer? Schemes for the "amelioration of the lot of the working classes." Why should the lot of the working classes require "amelioration" unless robbery is being committed upon them? Does not their labor produce all wealth? Why then should they not have it? But these "amelioration" schemes are now in full blast under the direction of the robber class, and for no other reason than that the system of robbery may be preserved.

"Almsgiving," "charity"—never a word of "justice." "Charity does not degrade," says the encyclical. No, it only transforms men and women into liars, crawlers, and hypocrites who "concern themselves solely with material possessions" which are modestly limited to a crust of bread, a rag of clothing and a filthy hovel—but it does not "degrade."

Socialism has not been attacked in this production—on the contrary, it has been carefully ignored. And in this respect the encyclical does not exhibit one particle of difference from its predecessor of ten years ago. The advice which it gives to the Catholic proletariat to avoid revolutionary movements

is being rendered impossible by capitalism itself. They have no more choice in the matter than non-Catholics, for the reason that they are all equally the product of an industrial revolution which has brought them into existence so that they may make it complete.

Against economic evolution the fiat of any group of men is utterly impotent, a statement which can be easily sustained by a glance at the growth of the Socialist movement since the encyclical of 1891 was promulgated, up to the present. And the fact that the present one is devoted entirely to an attack upon a pretended "socialism" is further proof, if such were needed, that the actual movement is more of a menace than ever before.

Capitalist Estimates: The great musical composer Giuseppe Verdi died on January 27th at Milan, Italy, aged 88. He was the son of a poverty-stricken innkeeper who deprived himself of the necessities of life in order that his son might obtain a musical education.

The result was that the world was enriched by a large number of musical masterpieces. About the same time a distinguished scientific man, Professor Elisba Gray, also departed this life. He left to the world various important discoveries in electrical science, particularly the teleautograph, with which his name will be always associated.

In giving notice of these deaths the capitalist journals of this city devoted at most hardly a column of their space. One week ago at Osborne House, England, there died a queen who gave to the world—nothing.

The world has nothing to remember her by except the poverty and misery that came as a result of maintaining a system of society in which she figured as queen.

For weeks the capitalist journals of this country devoted not columns, not pages even, but often the greater part of their entire space to disgusting laudations of her goodness and greatness.

And this is the twentieth century and we boast of civilization. Those who have helped to advance it are neglected. Those who did nothing but lead empty colorless lives are almost deified. But there were some papers—a few—which did not join in the general chorus of false and hypocritical adulation over the death of this nonentity. They were the Socialist papers. May their power and numbers increase.

A TRIVIAL OFFENSE.

"Divinity" professors of the Chicago university are said to be greatly surprised and grieved at the amount of scepticism displayed by the students of that institution. However, there is no reason for supposing that Mr. Rockefeller will feel so much discouraged over this matter as to withhold the "oil of gladness" with which the machinery of that establishment is lubricated. So long as the students accept without question the "miracles" of capitalist political economy, their attitude toward those of nineteen hundred years ago is of secondary importance, and possibly the "grief" of the "divinity" professors is not quite so poignant as the newspaper reports would have us believe. Over thirty years ago Marx observed that "the English Established church will more readily pardon an attack on 33 of its 39 articles than one one-thirtieth of its income," and that "nowadays atheism itself is culpa levis, as compared with criticism of existing property relations." His remarks hold good in any part of the capitalist world today, and the Chicago university is in no particular danger from the growing scepticism of the students upon Biblical matters. When it extends to existing property relations there will be real cause for alarm.

"Common People" Classified.

A paper drifted in upon us the other day bearing the uncommon title of "Commoners." Upon looking over this production for some blurb as to why this name was selected, we found that a "rich man who has honestly acquired his wealth and is not afraid to intrust his care to laws made by his fellows," might be considered a "commoner," also that a "commoner" is one of the "common people" and that these common people are sometimes called the "MIDDLE CLASSES." And then it blushed upon us suddenly that the writer could be none other than the papers W. J. B. and behold, it was as we suspected.

Going to the Dogs.

There was a gentleman in London who refused to pull teeth for his fellow man because he finds it more profitable to perform the same service for the canine pets of the upper class. Wonder what this poor man will do under socialism!

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

The capitalist press of this city in the "fight" against the street railway companies are doing noble work in preparing the way for the use of the trolley, which is 40 per cent cheaper than the cable system, and the capitalists who pocket the dividends are remarkably patient under the "lash." Capital is always submissive when its profits are to be increased.

Last week a tramp who was arrested on a charge of burglary pleaded not guilty, declaring that he was simply a "bum." Upon being questioned as to whether he had ever worked he replied: "I did work at one time in de rollin' mills, but I got wise to an easier game." This is a far superior record to that of those who "bum" upon the working class, and at the same time indignantly deny that they ever worked in their lives. As between the tramp parasite and the capitalist parasite, if there is any difference, it is certainly in favor of the former.

Amongst the crop of stories anent "royal" individuals, which are now going the rounds of the press, it is related that a "patriotic" Englishman whispered under his breath while the German Emperor and the newly created Edward VII were passing, "O, that we might have ten years of the Kaiser's rule in England." Possibly if this "patriot" had his wish, he might perhaps discover that the results might not be altogether to his taste. If the growth of socialism is in any measure to be attributed to Kaiser Wilhelm's efforts to cope with it, it might, from a Socialist point of view, have a similar effect in stimulating the class-consciousness of the British proletariat if the desire of this "patriot" for ten years of the Kaiser's rule could be realized.

The internal revenue office at Peoria was robbed last week of between thirty and forty thousand dollars worth of adhesive stamps. As the job bears marks of being the handiwork of an expert, the police are unable to find a clue to the perpetrators. The difficulty of doing so is further enhanced by the fact that the exact whereabouts of Mr. Neely of Cuban celebrity is definitely known.

On January 29th the batteries of the Vatican opened fire on socialism. It is thought that only blank cartridges were used, as up to the time of going to press no casualties were reported on our side.

An edible bamboo, it is stated, has been discovered in India, and we are told that it will be an invaluable aid to the famine stricken natives of that country. It will—if they have the price. The natives, it is said, regard the discovery as a "special act of providence" in their behalf. The capitalists of Great Britain may be expected to promptly dispel that illusion, as a government analysis shows that the new discovery is almost identical with the composition of cane sugar.

It is now being realized that many "gangsters" who were supposed to be "relegated to obscurity" are again emerging from that locality, and are preparing to enter the city council as aldermen next April. The street railway interests are said to be behind these parties, whose aid they require in settling the question of extension of franchises. This alliance between Michigan avenue and the "Levee" promises to give the "good man" candidates a run for his money at election time. Meanwhile municipal ownership is "in the air" and will probably stay there.

According to Dun & Co's commercial report for week ending January 27th, business is improving. The number of failures for the week is 396 against 231 for the corresponding week of last year, most of them being failures for amounts less than \$5,000. Yes, business is improving.

Madame Sarah Bernhardt, the celebrated "tragedienne," visited the stock yards the other day, under "proper guidance," and declared that the packinghouses were not the horrible places she had been led to believe. It is not to be supposed that the polite officials would permit anything of a "horrible" nature to intrude itself upon the gaze of the distinguished visitor. All the same, if Madame were to visit the locality popularly known as "back of the dump" and which is a direct factor in the operation of the packinghouses, she could learn more about "tragedies" in an hour than a whole lifetime on the stage could teach her.

Combination and consolidation goes merrily on amongst the large industrial interests in the United States, and large casks of water are being emptied into the thick pudding of stocks so as to make it turn out a finer stream of dividends. It is so coarse, don't you know, to put a large portion on a small plate. The good people must not be shocked so the movement goes on to provide plenty of plates to hold all of the pudding, pating only a respectable quantity on each plate.

A few weeks ago a small paragraph amongst a collection of "items of news in brief" announced that the law department of the city advised the water office to discontinue the investigations for fraudulent water pipes at the stock yards. This move on the part of the law department would lead to the belief that the \$50,000 bribe offered to Superintendent Nourse by one of the large

packers and refused by him, must have found acceptance in another quarter.

The Big Four railroad directors increased the dividend rate from 3 per cent to 4 per cent on that road's stocks. Of its capital of \$26,000,000 the Vanderbilt owns \$18,000,000. Thus the Big Four slaves turn \$18,000,000 additional prosperity into the Vanderbilt treasury. But of course any slave who is allowed to work for the Big Four has a full dinner pail, and that is what Mark Hanna promised in the way of prosperity to the workman.

Last Monday, January 21, the American Window Glass company and the Independent Manufacturing association agreed to close their plants on April 1st. This action means that eighty factories will be shut down and 20,000 workers given leisure. The object is to curtail production, thus maintaining prices; so that the workers who are made idle will have the satisfaction of knowing that their employers will lose nothing on their surplus product.

CIRCULATION NOTES.

A club of ten subscribers from Comrade Minwegan, of Chicago.

A couple more yearlies from Comrade A. Prince, of Chicago.

The Twelfth Ward branch takes \$2.00 worth of half-yearly postals.

There are no files roosting on that premium offer—it is winter time.

Eight Call postals go to Comrade Baur of the Twenty-first Ward.

Comrade Dretz of the Seventh ward sends in a club of four half-yearlies.

Comrade Robbins of the old Fifteenth Ward takes \$3.00 worth of yearly and half-yearly postals.

Twenty-five half-yearlies go to Comrade Strickland, organizer for the Twelfth and Thirtieth wards.

The German branch of the Socialist party at South Chicago takes five yearly and eighteen half-yearly postals.

The poorest Socialist in the land can possess a library of Socialist literature. Our premium offer makes it possible.

Comrade Martin turned in a club of four yearlies and took away with him ten yearly postals and ten half-yearly ones.

Comrade Ferguson has put on his war togs again and is making things lively around Elwood, Indiana. He begins his deprecations by sending in a couple of half-yearlies.

Comrade L. Anderson, organizer for the old Fourteenth (now the Fifteenth) Ward branch still keeps plugging away at the enemy. Four yearlies and eight half-yearlies is his latest item.

Comrade D. A. Boswell, of Herrin, Ill., sends us a bunch of half a dozen subs, and informs us that Local Herrin is making preparations to put a municipal ticket in the field for the spring election. That's right. Whoop it up boys!

A club of three yearlies from Comrade Gott, of Mystic, Iowa. Comrade Gott informs us that Local Mystic is holding a very successful series of agitation meetings, and that from one to six new members are admitted on each meeting night. Arrangements have been made to have Comrades Geo. D. Herron and J. Sitt Wilson address agitation meetings at Mystic in the near future.

A correspondent writing from Minnesota says: "May I here make a few remarks as to the 'Workers' Call.' I have been reading it for a long time, and am getting to like it more and more. I am glad to see that the Chicago comrades have dropped the name 'Social Democratic,' which in this country is about the most meaningless, absurd and misleading name that could be adopted."

We told all about it last week and gave fair warning. Comrade Nary of Rock Island sends us an order for another supply of Call postals. Suppose we will have to send them, but will get even all right. We have it all planned out. Comrade Herron will speak in Rock Island some time next spring. On that occasion we will send Comrade Nary a great big bundle of Workers' Calls. We can stand this thing just about as long as he can.

Last Saturday's postal business was a record-breaker. One hundred and eighty-nine postal cards, yearlies and half-yearlies, left the office on that day. One comrade took thirty six-month postals; another, ten yearlies and twenty half-yearlies. The Fourteenth Ward branch plunked down \$3.25 to pay for thirty-seven half-yearlies. Comrade Becker of the Sixteenth Ward brought in a list of subs and took half a dozen six months postals. The old Sixteenth Ward branch, having put on the fighting harness at their last business meeting, took fifty half-yearly postals. Comrade A. Eisenman came next with ten half-yearlies. Another comrade took half a dozen of the same stripe. Comrade Dunkelberg wound up the day's postal business by taking ten yearlies and ten half-yearlies.

Socialism in Connecticut.

A public meeting will be held February 7, 1901, in room 27, Platt's block, east Main street, Waterbury, Conn., to take action on resolutions submitted by the N. E. C. of the S. D. P. of Springfield, Mass. All persons recognizing the class struggle and the necessity of independent political action of the working class, are invited to attend.

A. E. Babia, organizer. Get your neighbor to read the Call.

Great Premium Offer

It is with pleasure that the Workers' Call announces to its friends and patrons that it has completed arrangements with one of the largest Socialist publishing houses in the country, whereby it has obtained a quantity of the best Socialist books published in the English language to be given as premiums to its subscription hustlers. The terms upon which these books have been obtained make it possible for us to extend to active workers the best premium offer that has ever been made by a Socialist publication. The books which we offer are the very cream of Socialist literature, and should be in the home of every active comrade. With a little hustling—in a good cause—it is possible for every comrade to obtain them free of cost. This remarkable offer is as follows:

With every two dollars' worth of subscriptions or Workers' Call postals, paid for at the rate of 50 cents for yearlies and 25 cents for half-yearlies, we will give a copy of "The Peoples' Marx," an excellent epitome of Karl Marx' "Capital," translated from the French of Gabriel Deville. Retail price, 75 cents. Or "A History of the Commune of 1871," by Lissagary; price, \$1.00.

With every one dollar and fifty cents worth of subscriptions or Workers' Call postals, we will give one copy of Eugene Sue's "Silver Cross, or the Carpenter of Nazareth," cloth bound, price 50 cents.

With every one dollar's worth of subscriptions or Workers' Call postals, paid for at the same rate, we will give any two of the following classics of Socialist literature: "Socialism from Utopia to Science," by Frederick Engels; "The Workingman's Program," by Ferdinand Lassalle; "The Right to Be Lazy," by Paul Lafargue; "The State and Socialism," by Gabriel Deville; "Socialism, Revolution and Internationalism," by Gabriel Deville. Retail price of each of the above books, 10 cents.

Also with one dollar's worth of subscriptions we will give any one of the following 25 cent books: "The Civil War in France," by Karl Marx; "Science and the Workingmen," by Ferdinand La Salle; "The Socialist Campaign Book for 1900."

It is unnecessary for us to dilate to any extent upon the merits of the books which we thus place within the easy reach of every comrade in the country.

"The Peoples' Marx" has been introduced to our readers in previous numbers. It contains all the salient points of the parent book, "Capital," and presents them in a form more readily understood by the average mind, "Kapital" in its original form is a book for the student. "The Peoples' Marx" is a book for everybody. The other books which we offer are familiar to all Socialists.

In taking advantage of the above offer comrades are requested to make use of the following blank application. Fill it out and send it with your letter:

Form for subscription application: The Workers' Call, 36 N. Clark St., Chicago. Comrades—Enclosed you will find to pay for subscription on the names elsewhere enclosed or to pay for Workers' Call postals of which I advise you in this letter. You may put my name on your roll of agents and may depend upon me to do all I can for the cause of socialism and the success of the Workers' Call. Please send me the following books to which I am entitled as premiums on the above remittance:

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Recommendation. To the Socialists of Illinois. Greeting:—From our meeting of December 27th, 1900, we issued a call for a state convention of the Socialist forces of Illinois. Since that time a national convention of the S. D. P. with headquarters at 126 Washington street, has been held, and a call for a unity national convention issued therefrom.

Viewing this fact, and since, also, the S. D. P. with headquarters at Springfield, Mass., is now taking a referendum on the same proposition, it appears that the Socialists of the United States will soon have complete national unity. This being true, a state convention to more perfectly organize and unify the movement at this time, becomes unnecessary, and if called its work could at best be only tentative awaiting the outcome of the national unity convention.

Therefore we recommend that the date of said convention be postponed until the first Saturday in June, 1901. Expressing our sincere wish that complete organic unity may be speedily accomplished, we are, Fraternally, Joint Campaign Committee, January 26th, 1901.

The National Council. Comrades—Your attention is once more called to election of members of the National Council by each state, which must be done in January, and the name and address of the member sent to the National Secretary immediately after the first of February. Any state failing to send in the name of its member of the National Council by February 9th, will be considered as not caring to participate in the deliberations of said council.

Voting blanks on unity proposition have been mailed, and all organizations who have received a copy, whether affiliated with this committee or not, are requested to vote and send the report of said vote to the national secretary. All locals who have not yet made returns on semi-annual report blanks, are requested to do so at once, as it is desired to ascertain as soon as possible, the numerical strength of our party.

Now is the time for the locals to do active propaganda work and distribute literature, so as to educate the workers to know how to vote right next election. For this purpose we have on hand a supply of leaflets "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," which we are selling at \$1.25 per thousand. This is an excellent propaganda leaflet and every local should have a supply on hand for distribution. All orders will receive prompt attention. Yours fraternally, Wm. Butcher, Nat'l. Sec'y; Springfield, Mass., Jan. 25, 1901.

From Oklahoma. The following letter from Oklahoma, in reply to that from Local Chicago, published in The Call of January 12, has inadvertently escaped publication till now. We congratulate our Oklahoma comrades on the work they are doing.

To the Secretary of Local Chicago, Socialist Party of Illinois. Dear Comrades—On behalf of the Oklahoma comrades, allow me to express our appreciation of your kindly greeting of December 25, 1900. Our convention met as per call, with delegates present from two-thirds of the counties. The party name "Socialist" was adopted, and territorial chairman and secretary instructed to work for a union of all the Socialists of the United States into one party. A copy of said resolutions was furnished The Call and Herald of Chicago, and the Socialist press generally.

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The Reward of Abstinence

From "An Unsocial Socialist," by George Bernard Shaw.

"You know what I do, according to the conventional description: a gentleman with lots of money. Do you know the wicked origin of that money and gentility?"

"Oh, Sidney, have you been doing nothing?"

"No, my best beloved, I am a gentleman, and have been doing nothing. That a man can do so and not starve is nowadays not even a paradox. Every half-penny I possess is stolen money, but it has been stolen legally, and what is of some practical importance to you, I have no means of restoring it to the rightful owners even if I felt inclined to. Do you know what my father was?"

"What difference can that make now? Don't be disagreeable and full of righteous rags, Sidney dear. I didn't marry your father."

"No, but you married—only incidentally, of course—my father's fortune. That necklace of yours was purchased with his money; and I can almost fancy stains of blood—"

"Stop, Sidney. I don't like this sort of romancing. It's all nonsense. DO be nice to me."

"There are stains of sweat on it, I know."

"You nasty wretch!"

"I am thinking, not of you, my dainty one, but of the unfortunate people who slave that we may live idly. Let me explain to you why we are so rich. My father was a shrewd, energetic, and ambitious Manchester man, who understood an exchange of any sort as a transaction by which one man should lose and the other gain. He made it his object to make as many exchanges as possible, and to be always the gaining party in them. I do not know exactly what he was, for he was ashamed both of his antecedents and of his relatives, from which I can only infer that they were honest, and, therefore, unsuccessful people. However, he acquired some knowledge of the cotton trade, saved some money, borrowed some more on the security of his reputation for getting the better of other people in business, and as he accurately told me afterwards, started FOR HIMSELF. He bought a factory and some raw cotton. Now you must know that a man, by laboring some time on a piece of raw cotton, can turn it into a piece of manufactured cotton fit for making into shirts and shifts and the like. The manufactured cotton is more valuable than the raw cotton, because the manufacture costs wear and tear of machinery, wear and tear of the factory, rent of the ground upon which the factory is built, and human labor, or wear and tear of live men, which has to be made good by food, shelter, and rest. Do you understand that?"

"We used to learn all about it at college. I don't see what it has to do with us, since you are not in the cotton trade."

"You learned as much as it was thought safe to teach you, no doubt, but not quite all, I should think. When my father started for himself, there were many men in Manchester who were willing to labor in this way, but they had no factory to work in, no machinery to work with, and no raw cotton to work on, simply because all this indispensable plant, and the materials for producing a fresh supply of it, had been appropriated by earlier comers. So they found themselves with gaping stomachs, shivering limbs, and hungry wives and children, in a place called their own country, in which, nevertheless, every scrap of ground and possible source of subsistence was tightly locked up in the hands of others and guarded by armed soldiers and policemen. In this helpless condition, the poor devils were ready to beg for access to a factory and to raw cotton on any conditions compatible with life. My father offered them the use of his factory, his machinery, and his raw cotton on the following conditions: They were to work long and hard, early and late, to add fresh value to his raw cotton by manufacturing it. Out of the value thus created by them, they were to recoup him for what he supplied them with: rent, shelter, gas, water, machinery, raw cotton—everything, and to pay him for his own services as superintendent, manager, and salesman. So far he asked nothing but just remuneration. But after this had been paid, a balance due solely to their own labor remained. Out of this," said my father, "you shall keep just enough to save you from starving, and of the rest you shall make me a present to reward me for my virtue in saving money. Such is the bargain I propose. It is, in my opinion, fair and calculated to encourage thrifty habits. If it does not strike you in that light, you can get a factory and raw cotton for yourselves; you shall not use mine." In other words, they might go to the devil and starve—Hobson's choice—for all the other factories were owned by men who offered no better terms. The Manchesterians could not bear to starve or to see their children starve, and so they accepted his terms and went into the factory. The terms, you see, did not consist of their beginning to save for themselves as he had done. Well, they created great wealth by their labor, and lived on very little so that the balance they gave for nothing to my father was very large. He bought more cotton, and more machinery, and more factories with it, employed more men to make wealth for him, and saw his fortune increase like a rolling snowball. He prospered enormously, but the

workmen were no better off than at first, and they dared not rebel and demand more of the money they had made, for there were always plenty of starving wretches outside willing to take their places on the old terms. Sometimes he met with a check, as, for instance, when, in his eagerness to increase his store, he made the men manufacture more cotton than the public needed; or when he could not get enough of raw cotton, as happened during the Civil War in America. Then he adapted himself to circumstances by turning away as many workmen as he could not find customers or cotton for, and they, of course, starved or subsisted on charity. During the war-time a big subscription was got up for these poor wretches, and my father subscribed one hundred pounds, in spite, he said, of his own great losses. Then he bought new machines; and, as women and children could work these as well as men, and were cheaper and more docile, he turned away about seventy out of every hundred of his HANDS (so they called the men), and replaced them by their wives and children, who made money for him faster than ever. By this time he had long ago given up managing the factories, and paid clever fellows who had no money of their own a few hundreds a year to do it for him. He also purchased shares in other concerns conducted on the same principle, pocketed dividends made in countries which he had never visited by men whom he had never seen, bought a seat in Parliament from a poor and corrupt constituency, and helped to preserve the laws by which he had thriven. Afterwards, when his wealth grew famous, he had less need to bribe; for modern men worship the rich as gods, and will elect a man as one of their rulers for no other reason than that he is a millionaire. Heaped gentility, lived in a palace at Kensington, and bought a pair of Scotch land to make a deer forest of. It is easy enough to make a deer forest, as trees are not necessary there. You simply drive off the peasants, destroy their houses, and make a desert of the land. However, my father did not shoot much himself; he generally let the forester out by the season to those who did. He purchased a wife of gentle blood too, with the unsatisfactory result now before you. That is how Jesse Trefusis, a poor Manchester bagman, contrived to become a plutocrat and gentleman of landed estate. And also how I, who never did a stroke of work in my life, am overburdened with wealth; whilst the children of the men who made that wealth are slaving as their fathers slaved, or starving, or in the workhouse, or on the streets, or the deuce knows where. What do you think of that, my love?"

"What is the use of worrying about it, Sidney? It cannot be helped now. Besides, if your father saved money, and the others were imprudent, he deserved to make a fortune."

"Granted; but he didn't make a fortune. He took a fortune that others made. At Cambridge they taught me that his profits were the reward of abstinence—the abstinence which enabled him to save. That quieted my conscience until I began to wonder why one man could make another pay him for exercising one of the virtues. Then came the question: what did my father abstain from? The workmen abstained from meat, drink, fresh air, good clothes, decent lodging, holidays, money, the society of their families, and pretty nearly everything that makes life worth living, which was perhaps the reason why they usually died twenty years or so sooner than people in our circumstances. Yet no one rewarded them for their abstinence. The reward came to my father, who abstained from none of these things, but indulged in them all to his heart's content. Besides, if the money was the reward of abstinence, it seemed logical to infer that he must abstain ten times as much when he had fifty thousand a year as when he had only five thousand. Here was a problem for my young mind. Required, something from which my father abstained and in which his workmen exceeded, and which he abstained from more and more as he grew richer and richer. The only thing that answered this description was hard work, and as I never met a sane man willing to pay another for idling, I began to see that these prodigious payments to my father were extorted by force. To do him justice, he never boasted of abstinence. He considered himself a hard-worked man, and claimed his fortune as the reward of risks, his calculations, his anxieties, and the journeys he had to make at all seasons and at all hours. This comforted me somewhat until it occurred to me that if he had lived a century earlier, invested his money in a horse and a pair of pistols, and taken to the road, his object—that of wresting from others the fruits of their labor without rendering them an equivalent—would have been exactly the same, and his risk far greater, for it would have included risk of the gallows. Constant travelling with the constable at his heels, and calculations of the chances of robbing the Dover mail, would have given him his ill of activity and anxiety. On the whole, if Jesse Trefusis, M.P., who died a millionaire in his palace at Kensington, had been a highwayman, I could not more heartily loathe the social arrangements that rendered such a career as his, not only possible, but eminently creditable to

himself in the eyes of his fellows. Most men make it their business to imitate him, hoping to become rich and idle on the same terms. Therefore I turn my back on them. I cannot sit at their feasts knowing how much they cost in human misery, and seeing how little they produce of human happiness. What is your opinion, my treasure?"

Henrietta seemed a little troubled. She smiled faintly, and said caressingly, "It was not your fault, Sidney. I don't blame you."

"Immortal powers!" he exclaimed, sitting bolt upright and appealing to the skies, "here is a woman who believes that the only concern all this causes me is whether she thinks anything the worse of me personally on account of it!"

"No, no, Sidney. It is not I alone. Nobody thinks the worse of you for it."

"Quite so," he returned, in a polite frenzy, "Nobody sees any harm in it. That is precisely the mischief in it."

Unity in Variety.

One strong indictment which the Socialists bring against the capitalist system is that it destroys individual initiative. The individual wage earner is a slave; hence his individuality is crushed. We want economic democracy, not for its own sake, but in order that the individual may be free to live his own life.

Therefore, the unity of humanity proposed by the Socialists is not the unity of men, but the unity of variety. Instead of "reducing all men to a dead level," we would break the dead level to which most men, the workers, are already reduced, and give the individual a chance to assert himself.

This being the spirit of the movement, we ought to expect variety in the movement now. What we expect, we find. Socialists differ. It is well they do. The only unity that is really desirable is the unity of political action on class-conscious lines and the unity of a common economic ideal.

The demand we hear so often that all separate social and educational organizations in the Socialist movement should be given up for the Socialist party is really out of place. The demand ought rather to be that all these organizations be made to contribute all of their strength to the one great Socialist political movement. Our attitude toward the trades union movement is inconsistent unless we take this position. From now on we may expect an endless variety of clubs and societies, ethical, economic, educational, social, dramatic, literary, artistic and musical.

There is plenty of room in the Socialist movement for a tea party, unless the said party makes of itself a POLITICAL party and so attempts to destroy our unity of political action. We are perfectly willing that our intellectual and oratorical Socialist comrades shall hold an occasional banquet, but we object if they nominate candidates over their cheering cups. We are happy to see our ethical comrades holding a lectureship of their own, but when they call to action it must be a contribution to the general Socialist movement or it is all in vain.

We are not state Socialists. We are not Democratic Socialists. Let us act worthy of our calling.

Fredk. C. Strickland.

Signatures Wanted.

Comrades—

Not less than ten thousand signatures will be needed to place the city ticket on the official ballot, and at present these names are coming in very slowly. It will be necessary to collect these signatures more speedily than at present if we are not to fall short of the requisite number.

The signatures of FIVE PER CENT OF THE VOTERS IN EACH WARD must be secured on the alternate petitions. The new ward divisions will be furnished by the organizer.

Now let us get to work at once.

Fraternally,

The Executive Committee,
Per: H. A. Morris.

Not Diplomatic Language.

Referring to the trouble with Venezuela over the asphalt concession granted to an American capitalist concern, the Chicago American indignantly asks, "Do the American people want to go to war for the asphalt trust?"

Does the rural visitor to our city want to hand over his wallet to the confidence man? Not at all. But he may have a strong desire to see the "place where the tunnel caved in," or view the effects of the recent "explosion on the lake front." This attempt upon the part of Hearst's paper to "give away the graft" is decidedly "unpatriotic," likewise "un-American."

Forty Years of Progress.

The death of Queen Victoria is responsible for the appearance of reminiscences of the visit of the Prince of Wales to this country in 1861. It is related that when the prince attended church at Dwight, Ill., after the service he offered a Mr. Spencer a sum of money, saying, "Use it for the poor of the church." His offer was declined with the remark, "We have no poor in this country." If Edward VII. could be again induced to visit us, he would be astonished to see the wonderful progress that has been made in supplying this necessary adjunct to "civilization."

No bill will ever be sent to any subscriber of this paper. If you did not pay for it some one else did. The number with which your subscription expires is on the wrapper. Watch it and when your time is out, if you like the principles the paper teaches send in your renewal.

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

The Thirty-first Ward branch held a very successful agitation meeting last Sunday evening at their hall, 608 S. Halsted street. The speakers were Comrades Beryn and J. Stitt Wilson. After the address there was an interesting discussion.

Comrades who have spare copies of the Workers' Call of October 27th, 1900, are asked to oblige the management by forwarding to this office any copies of that date that they do not need, as the issue of October 27th has in some manner unknown disappeared from our files.

The Fourteenth Ward held an interesting agitation meeting last Friday evening at their hall, 254 W. Division street. The speaker for the evening was Comrade John Collins, candidate for mayor on the Socialist ticket. After an interesting discussion, the branch went into business session and admitted three new members.

The Twenty-seventh Ward club held a ward and town convention Sunday, January 27th at the Altmira Turner Hall, 127 Armitage avenue, and nominated the following ticket: For alderman, J. H. Bard, 75 West Irving Park street; for collector, Wm. H. Longwell, 429 W. Wellington street; for supervisor, John S. Goebel, 235 Grand avenue; for clerk, A. Eisenmann, 1110 Armitage avenue.

At the North Town convention held on January 19th, the following were nominated as Supervisor, Clerk and Collector, respectively: A. W. Martin, C. A. Johnston, W. Lehnert. A large attendance was present, consisting of the membership of the Twenty-first, Twenty-second and Twenty-third Ward clubs and the York Marx club. After the nominations were made and ratified the meeting was addressed by several of the party speakers.

Comrade John Collins, the candidate for mayor on the Socialist ticket, spoke at a meeting arranged by the Twenty-fourth Ward branch last Sunday evening, at 52 Wells street. After the address there was an interesting discussion, participated in by visitors and comrades. The Twenty-fourth Ward branch is holding arrangements for a regular Sunday evening meetings will be discontinued until the branch has settled down in new quarters. Notice will be given in these columns.

A large crowd assembled last Sunday evening at the headquarters of the Fourth Ward branch, at 3355 State street, to listen to an address by Comrade Mills. The speaker, however, was unable to be present, so the audience made the best of their disappointment by holding a meeting all by themselves. There was an interesting discussion which lasted for over an hour. Another meeting has been arranged for next Sunday evening at the above address. Comrade B. Beryn will speak. The comrades of the Fourth Ward branch are doing good work hustling for subscribers for the Call.

A meeting was held last Sunday afternoon at Giltelson's Hall, southwest corner of Washburne avenue and Wood street, for the purpose of forming an organization in the new Eleventh ward. The meeting was addressed by Organizer A. Klenke. A branch was started with a membership of eighteen. Great credit for the success of this meeting is due Comrade Robert Pflister, who has been very active for the past few months in getting subscribers for the Workers' Call in his neighborhood. The next meeting will be held Sunday afternoon, February 3rd, at 2 o'clock at Giltelson's Hall. Comrade A. Bisno will speak.

Last Sunday afternoon at 939 Sheffield avenue Comrade J. Washboe, editor of the Workers' Call, addressed a large and enthusiastic audience, his subject being "Expansion." The series of meetings arranged at the above address by the members of the Twenty-fifth Ward branch are of the greatest success. The comrades of this ward know how to advertise a meeting and get out a good crowd. They also know how to hustle for subscribers for the Workers' Call. The Twenty-fifth Ward branch have sold over twice as many Call postals during the past year as any other ward branch. The next meeting of this branch at the above address, Sunday afternoon, February 3rd, at 2 p.m., will be addressed by Comrade Chas. H. Kerr. His subject will be "The Ethics of Socialism."

Last Friday night at the headquarters of the Second Ward branch, Prebeger's Hall, Twenty-second street, near State, Organizer A. Klenke spoke to a large and appreciative audience. After the address there was an interesting discussion between Comrades Klenke and Beryn. The meeting closed at 11 o'clock and was declared a great success by everyone present. The members of the Second Ward branch are doing good work for the cause. Although recently organized and having a membership which is quite small as compared with some other wards, they are rapidly growing in the front, and if their activity continues, will soon have a membership second to none in the city. There will be another meeting Friday night, February 3rd. Comrade J. B. Smiley will speak.

The Twenty-seventh Ward club organized permanently Sunday, January 27th, and the following officers were elected: J. H. Bard, organizer; A. Eisenmann, 1110 Armitage avenue, secretary; Comrade Shilvock, treasurer. Organizer Bard was instructed to arrange for an agitation meeting at an early date. He has, for the purpose of establishing another branch there, Branch No. 1 reported three active members, with excellent prospects for new members as soon as their new club rooms at Spaulding and Wellington avenues are opened up. Branch No. 2 reports eight members. Branch No. 3 reports twenty-three members. This branch gets 25 Workers' Calls each month for distribution. Branch No. 4 reports fifty-one members. Branch No. 5 has twelve members with a promise of eight new members. Comrades in Branches No. 1, 2 and 4 are urged to wake up. There are a number in these branches who are doing no "give work whatever, and their attendance at the meetings is absolutely required for the success of the movement.

The young hunters of the Socialist Party are determined to keep the propaganda going, and have in consequence taken steps in that direction by preparing a grand reception and ball, which will be held at Wicker Park Hall, on Sunday, March 4th. An advertisement of this function may be found in another column of this paper, and as one-half of the proceeds will be devoted to help pay the expenses of the Workers' Call, we hope that all comrades in Chicago will feel it their duty to help make the ball as thorough a success as possible. Comrades Mindlin, Kappa and W. W. who are on the committee for arrangements, may be depended upon to spare

no energy in doing their full part towards that end, and they specially ask all Socialists and sympathizers with the movement to assist them in this matter. Tickets can be obtained at the rooms of the Socialist Educational Club, 1123 Milwaukee avenue, or at this office, at 25 cents a person. Excellent music will be provided for the occasion and nothing left undone which will help to make the evening a most enjoyable one for all who may attend.

"REFORM" WITH AN AXE.

Capitalist Press Refuse to Indorse the Kansas Saloon Wrecker for Obvious Reasons.

The comments of the press upon the efforts of Mrs. Nation to "wipe out saloons" in Kansas are instructive, as showing how capitalism really regards the "reformer" when the latter meets together to "deplore" the saloon evil, (or any other of our multifarious evils for that matter), and formulate "demands" for its suppression, "demands" which invariably result in nothing, the press is always careful to indorse the action, or rather inaction of the "reformers." When any individual amongst them takes the matter seriously, however, and starts out with the object of suppression in view, as Mrs. Nation did, the entire question assumes another aspect at once. The efforts of the reformer who goes after the "evil" literally "with an axe" are exploited as sensational, and at the same time commented on with a mixture of contempt, amusement and reproach. Mrs. Nation may perhaps be furnishing an example of "how not to do it," but at any rate the tactics she employs have had some result, which is more than can be said of the efforts of the ordinary species of reformer, whose sole function is to eternally talk "reform" in a series of resolutions, petitions, essays, denunciations, etc. When these people come in contact with property interests, they seem to be doomed to confine their efforts to this hairless pastime. At best they only aspire to "influence legislation" in behalf of their pet schemes, so that "concessions" may be secured, and in this they are analogous to some extent to the labor union, who strive for "concessions," while the framework of capitalism remains intact. The apparent victories which are now and then won in this manner, have to be eternally fought over again, leaving practically nothing accomplished. The Socialist differs from the reformer in that he turns his attention first towards capturing the law-making power, without which the accomplishment of any scheme conflicting with predominant property interests must ever remain impossible.

Organizer's Notice.

The new ward redistricting ordinance recently passed by the city council has been tested in court and found valid. In view of this, the various ward branches of the Socialist party in Chicago will immediately reorganize according to the new ward boundaries. By the time this paper is in the hands of its readers each secretary of the old ward branches will receive a diagram of the new ward in his district. All members who will have to transfer their membership will receive transfers from their secretaries. This reorganization should be attended to at once, as it will be necessary for the new ward branches to nominate candidates for aldermen immediately. After this week each ward branch will be known by its new name.

A. Klenke,
City Organizer.

Socialist Press in Japan.

Amongst our exchanges we have received for the first time a copy of the "Labor World" published at Tokio, Japan. The front page is printed in the English, the rest of the journal in Japanese. The editor is S. Katayama, and it seems that capitalism in Japan offers plenty of scope for his criticism, of which the front page is full. The good old American word "hoodler" is much in evidence, proving beyond doubt that Japan has imbibed a considerable amount of the thing which we heartily call "civilization." A notice of Professor Murai, who recently visited the United States, is given, and it seems that the professor is quite active in Socialist work in Tokio. The paper contains 16 pages, well printed, and judging by the contents of the front page, it should do good propaganda amongst the working class of Japan.

Greengoods in Religion.

A new form of soul saving is being exploited in England. The victim is confronted with what might at first glance be mistaken for a bank note, but which on closer inspection proves to be merely a "tract" got up to resemble one. The religious bank note bears a "text" instead of the usual promise to pay, and official signatures, and the hope of the inventor is that the resemblance to money will excite the interest of the sinner, who is to undergo the "saving" process and induce him to read the precious message it contains. Thus the love of money, which is said to be the root of all evil, may be converted into a means of salvation if the prospective convert exhibits the cupiditv expected from him by those who are so desirous of his eternal welfare. Salvation may not be purchasable with money, but the counterfeit, presentment of that useful possession may aid to some extent in securing it. And then it has the unparalleled advantage of being dirt-cheap besides.

The whole is always greater than a part, but you can make a quarter equal to half a year, by subscribing to the Workers' Call.

LABOR ITEMS

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

Are you going to vote for yourself and your class at the coming election? Don't say yes, unless you intend to vote the Socialist ticket.

Rockefeller is said to have gobbled up the international pump trust and the agricultural chemical combine. Rockefeller is seldom asleep.

The tin plate trust proudly announces a dividend of 25 per cent on common stock. Have wages gone up 25 per cent in the tin plate industry?—Labor World.

Boiler makers' strike on the Erie railroad is imminent, and may result in a general strike amongst the shopmen of the system. About 3,000 men would be affected.

J. J. Hill, the railway magnate, wants to be a member of the United States senate. There is where he belongs, as the corporations feel perfectly at home in that body.

The twelfth annual convention of the Mine Workers of America will convene in Indianapolis January 21. This will be the largest labor convention ever held, as delegates representing 230,000 miners will be present.

We violate no confidence in stating that the Harriman interested with Cassatt, Vanderbilt, Pierpont Morgan and James J. Hill in the great railroad trust is not Job Harriman, late Social Democratic candidate for vice-president.—Southern Socialist.

Socialism has no objection to letting "well enough alone," if "well enough" in human affairs can be found; but it does not propose to let "bad enough" alone, and treat it as incurable, something to be borne with patience and resignation.—San Diego Chieftain.

The Colorado coal miners are striking for living wages and undergoing dire hardship. The capitalists controlling the mines cleared over a million dollars last year. The miners' demand would increase their wages by \$100,000 a year, leaving \$900,000 to the capitalists, but the latter refuse to yield.

A New York dispatch is gleefully published by the Erie Herald to the effect that the Debs party in New York is disrupting. Well, there is no "Debs" party in New York, and the Socialist party there and everywhere else is "going to pieces" in a way that will open a lot of eyes at the next general election. Watch the pieces fly.—Public Ownership.

Judge Doster, of the Kansas Supreme court, has come out in an address that is creating wide comment. "Young man," he said, "socialism is the coming power. Make your peace with it. It is an oncoming tide which will sweep over this and every other civilized land in the next twenty-five years and down every party and politician that try to impede its flow."

Several union men were arrested last week for spreading trades union propaganda amongst the employes of the Warren Electric company, by means of hand bills. They were charged with "disorderly conduct." Republican spellbinders for "prosperity wagons" and hand bills by the million worked this district for weeks before election and were never interfered with. It all depends whose ox is gored.

And now the Italian-speaking Socialists are following the Hungarian sections and leaving De Leon's sinking ship. Sixty delegates met at Newark, N. J., and resolved to sever their connection with Socialist parties and to start an independent organization, the question to be submitted to referendum. The Italian paper, "Il Proletario," will hereafter assume a neutral position instead of supporting the old S. L. P. The "buzz-saw" continues to lose its teeth.

The workers on the great lakes are becoming too well organized to please the shipowners and other federated capitalists and, therefore, steps are now being taken to circumvent the unions by organizing a "benevolent insurance association" among the employes. It is expected that by having a dualty of organization the workers will divide and battle against each other when they can be easily conquered by the capitalists. It is an old scheme.—Cleveland Citizen.

A machine has been invented which will not only tear up an old railroad track, but will also break up the rails into any length that may be desired. The motive power is electric and the operation of lifting and cutting the rails is accomplished at surprising speed. There is trouble ahead for unskilled labor, and the section hand may find that his occupation is gone when this machine gets into universal use.

Wise in Their Generation.

All classes of railroad employes, it is stated, are to be lined up against the proposed reduction of passenger rates to two cents per mile. The secretary of the Railway and Telegraph Employes' Political league declares that a petition against the two-cent rate will be signed by practically all of the 50,000 employes, and as the interests of the railroad companies are on the same side, it is probable that most of the 30,000 will find it advisable to do so. It is not fear of discharge which will prompt this action on their part. Not at all. It is merely the desire to give the public an additional proof that the interests of capitalist and laborer are identical.

WORKINGMAN! HOW LONG?

The Conditions of Labor as They Are At Present Must Turn the Laborer's Attention to Socialism.

"Labor has no protector; the weak are being devoured by the strong. Wealth is being concentrated more and more in the hands of the few, and we, the white laborers of the North, are the victims."

Thus reads a resolution passed by the Iron Molders' union some forty or fifty years ago, while the agitation against chattel slavery was at its highest. It is even more true today, but as at that time, it is not heard.

What matters it to him if children starve and freeze? What matters it to him if men and women perish? What matters it to him that the greater portion of humanity live in want and misery, so long as his percentage is forthcoming?

You, workingmen, how long will it be until you rouse yourselves and demand at the ballot box what is rightfully yours? How long will it be before you tire of misery and seek to secure your share of human happiness?

What is to be the future of that boy of yours? While yet in his childhood he is sent out to help you support the rest of your family; no time for the play so natural to children; no time for education.

Later, when the time arrives that he should learn a trade you find that every union, as a sort of self-preservation, just to be able to hold out a little longer in the brutal struggle, permits only so many apprentices to so many journeymen, and erects a barrier against him.

And that little daughter of yours; where will she end? Will she some day be a happy wife and mother, or a woman of the street, or a dull slave in some dreary factory?

To whom shall you turn for relief and help? Will the Republican party, with Hanna at its head, change these conditions so that you and your children may have even a reasonable certainty of a livelihood, free from the lower depths of poverty and its results—vice and crime? Will the Democratic party do it? Are they not both representing the interests of those who use you and yours as material which yields profit?

You must look to your own class alone. There is no help elsewhere. They suffer as you do, and you have a common interest with them. Must you sink still deeper before you realize that the paramount issue for you is not municipal gas, (which you perhaps do not use), or municipal ownership of street railways, while you trudge along with your empty—excuse me—full dinnerpail to save the carfare to pay the landlord? Must you descend still lower before you understand that the paramount issue is that you and your family get more and better food to eat and clothes to wear, a better house to live in, more fresh air and sunshine and healthier and cleaner conditions of life—and that you shall not be required to ask permission from another man to work and be compelled to yield the greater portion of your product to him in return for such permission.

The world that you inherit belongs to no one man, to no one group of men, to no one class of men, but to all. The same power that placed Lake Michigan as the water supply for millions of us, also gave the coal fields to all of us, also gave the wind when the storms of winter howl through the streets. They were not given for the benefit or profit of a few, but for all.

The same power which gave man the genius to invent and operate the wonderful machinery of today, also gave him the power to lighten his labor, thereby, and enjoy the product. The productive power of the fields which bear the foodstuffs upon which we live, was not given so that warehouses should be filled while people perish from hunger, but for the benefit of all.

You, workingmen, are you still satisfied with the hovel, the crust, and the rag, when you produce all the houses, the food and the clothing? Are you still satisfied to beg as a favor from some, what nature gave for all? Are you still satisfied to freeze and starve, while the coal pockets are heaped full, and the elevators bursting with food? Or will you determine to use and enjoy what Nature has provided and your labor transformed into articles of use and enjoyment? Only through socialism will you ever be able to realize the attainment of this object. In your own class alone lies the power to do so. You can in united action with your fellow workmen make this possible by work-

HAYERHILL SOCIAL DEMOCRAT

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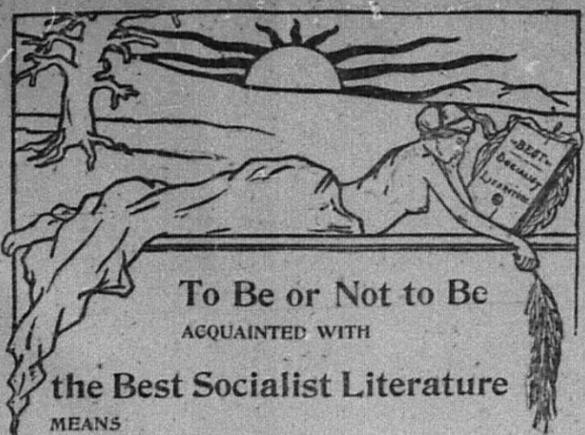
KARL MARX CLUB will hold a Social Entertainment SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd in FRITZ FLEINER'S HALL, 330 LaSalle St. Consisting of HUMOROUS RECITATIONS, MUSIC AND SINGING. There will also be speaking and dancing. Admission Free. Commences at 3 p. m.

SECOND ANNUAL GRAND RECEPTION AND BALL will be given by the SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL CLUB for the benefit of the Workers' Call, at WICKER PARK HALL, 501 W. North Ave. Sunday (afternoon and evening), March 17th. Entrance at 2 P. M. Music by PROF. STERN. Tickets 25 cents a person. Tickets can be obtained at this office, or at the S. E. clubrooms, at 1132 Milwaukee Ave.

Concert and Ball Given by the Socialist Branch of the Thirty-fourth Ward, for the benefit of the SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA FUND at KENSINGTON TURNER HALL, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10th, Commencing at 3 P. M. with CONCERT AND LECTURES. WALTER THOMAS MILLS will speak in English, and JULIUS VAHLTEICH in German. Ball Will Follow in the Evening. Tickets, 25 cents a couple, in advance; at the door, 35 cents a person.

Meetings for the Week. The following meetings have been arranged for the coming week: Sunday, 3 p. m., Central Music Hall, Speaker, Prof. Geo. D. Herron. Subject: "The Will of Love." Sunday, February 3rd, 3 p. m., Socialist Educational Club, 1132 Milwaukee Avenue. Speaker, Miss Jane Adams. Sunday, February 3rd, 3 p. m., Twenty-third Ward, 238 N. Franklin street, Speaker, J. W. Saunders. Sunday, February 3rd, 8 p. m., Twenty-fifth Ward, 289 Sheffield Avenue, near Belmont Avenue. Speaker, C. H. Kerr. Subject: "Ethics of Socialism." Sunday, February 3rd, 8 p. m., Fifteenth Ward, Socialist Hall, Armitage Avenue, four doors east of Milwaukee Avenue. Speaker, John Collins. Singing Society, 10 a. m.; Children's Sunday School, 11 a. m. Sunday, February 3rd, 8 p. m., Thirty-first Ward, 6008 S. Halsted, Speaker, W. H. Wiles. Sunday, February 3rd, 8 p. m., Fourth Ward, 2335 State Street. Speaker, B. Berlyn. Sunday, February 3rd, 3 p. m., N. Gittelsohn's Hall, southwest corner Washington Avenue and Wood Street. Speaker, A. Bisno. Sunday, February 3, 10 a. m., Twelfth Ward, 1027 W. Madison Street. Speaker, F. G. Erickson. Tuesday, February 5th, 8 p. m., 1003 W. Madison. Speaker, Alfred Andrews. Tuesday, February 5th, 8 p. m., Mill's Night School of Social Economy, 1132 Milwaukee Avenue. Wednesday, February 6th, 8 p. m., Twenty-sixth Ward, northwest corner southwest and Belmont Avenues. Speaker, F. W. Knox. Thursday, February 7th, 8 p. m., Thirty-first Ward, 6008 S. Halsted Street. Speaker, John Collins. Thursday, February 7th, 8 p. m., Mill's Night School of Social Economy, Schiller Building, 103 Randolph Street. Friday, February 8th, New Thirty-fourth Ward, Mt. Ida Fellowship Hall, Crawford, Twenty-sixth Street and Forty-second Avenue. Speaker, J. Stitt Wilson. Friday, February 8th, 8 p. m., Fifteenth Ward, Socialist Hall, Armitage and Milwaukee Avenues. Speaker, A. M. Simons. Subject: "Socialism the Greatest of the World's Powers." Friday, February 8th, 8 p. m., Fourteenth Ward, Hinchman's Hall, 384 W. Division Street. Speaker, F. H. Bard. Friday, February 8th, Second Ward, Freiberg's Hall, Twenty-second near State. Speaker, J. B. Smiley. Friday, February 8th, 8 p. m., Twenty-first Ward, Garfield Turner Hall, LaSalle and Garfield. Speaker, B. Berlyn. Saturday, February 9th, 8 p. m., Mill's Night School of Social Economy, 6008 S. Halsted Street.

Campaign Fund. For week ending January 29th: Previously reported \$28.45 Cash \$50 J. Stitt Wilson \$30 A. F. Payne \$25 Martha Berlyn \$25 Mrs. Alma Irelback \$20 M. Jucker \$1.00 Collected on list 212 by H. E. Landgren: H. F. Landgren 1.00 John Barklund 1.00 Robert K. Mark 1.00 P. Jacobson .50 C. M. Peterson 1.00 C. C. Bonneson .25 Ole Larson .25 Chas. Heuguen .25 H. Jacobsen .25 K. Jacobsen .25 John Smith .25 C. Nebel .25 Louis Kopnicka .25 V. Koveny .25 Christ Rasmussen .25 S. Soxka .25 August Lange 1.00 Total \$43.75



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