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## NATIONAL CONVENTION OF SOCIALIST PARTY.

### Great Gathering of Socialists from Nearly Every State and Territory Now Meeting in Chicago.

#### Convention Larger Than Any in the History of the Party, a Total of 218 Delegates Being Present, Including Many from Southern States That Have Hitherto Not Been Represented, and Eighteen Women Delegates—Great Meeting in Garrick Theater—Convention Occupied with Preliminary Work the First Two Days—Nominations Will Not Be Made Before Thursday.

The national convention of the Socialist Party was called to order in the Garrick Theater, Chicago, at 12:40 a. m. Sunday, May 10. In the morning a reception was held for the delegates in the Garrick Theater, which was crowded to the doors and hundreds were turned away. Marcus Taft of Chicago presided and Jos. Wanhope, May Wood Simons, Morris Hillquit, and John Spargo spoke. The enthusiasm was tremendous.

Mrs. Simons spoke in the name of the unemployed, the hungry and the helpless to whom Socialism brings the light of hope, and in the name of the women and children who suffer and cannot help themselves. Her remarks were eloquent and pathetic and had a pronounced effect on the audience.

Comrade Hillquit reviewed the last four years of history, a history pregnant with manifestations of the class struggle. He dwelt on capitalist aggression, the usurpation by the Republican governmental machine, the ineptitude of the Democratic party, the attempt to force Haywood and others to mount the scaffold, the remarkable resistance the workers opposed to that conspiracy and the solidarity it promoted in the labor world. He said the labor movement is growing stronger and wiser and Socialism is discussed everywhere, even in presidential messages. Neither silence, nor lies nor sneers, nor clubs, nor fake reforms can check it. We now begin a campaign that will make Socialism a power here as in Germany, France and England. Hillquit's speech won stormy applause at its close. Chicago singing societies sang the "Marcellaise" in English, German, Yiddish, and Swedish and the audience joined in heartily.

#### First Session.

At the first session on Sunday, greetings were read from the Independent Labor Party of Great Britain, the Austrian Social Democrats, the national convention of the Arbeiterding, the Jewish "Daily Forward" and many locals and state committees. Morris Hillquit was elected temporary chairman and the Rules Committee recommended election of the following committees:

Platform: 9 members; Resolutions: 9; Constitution: 9; Women in Relation to the Socialist Movement: 9; Socialist Draw: 5; Auditing: 5; Ways and Means: 9; General Program: 9; Farmers' Program: 7; Immigration: 5; Relation of Foreign Speaking Organizations: 5.

The convention later made provisions for committees on General Program and Farmers' Program. The debate on the latter developed an interesting situation. Farmer delegates from Alabama, Oklahoma, Texas, and Oregon opposed any special program. Berger, Seidel, Steadman, Brower, and Toole favored it. The farmers contended that capitalism is making Socialists of farmers and there is no necessity for any special bid for their vote. The Committee on Immigration was stricken out as the question will be handled by the Resolutions Committee.

#### Credential Committee's Report.

Comrade Solomon of New York, for the Credentials Committee, reported 218 delegates entitled to seats and nearly all present. The convention of 1904 reported 173 delegates and 32 alternates. Of the latter, 21 were seated in place of delegates not attending. There was thus a total of 194 votes in that convention, about 50 less than what the various states and territories were entitled to. Florida, Georgia, Maine, New Mexico, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, Delaware and Nevada were not represented. Of these unrepresented states in 1904, Delaware, Georgia, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina and Virginia are represented in the present convention. A. W. Mance and E. B. Drury of Toronto were seated with a voice, but no vote, as fraternal delegates of the Socialist Party of Canada. Protests were made against seating the Washington and Nebraska delegations. They were seated temporarily till the committee could make a further report. Osborne of California opposed seating of McDevitt of California, claiming he had violated party principles. McDevitt was seated on the ground that he had and not the convention should consider charges. Among the delegates were the following women committees:

Antoinette Koulikow, Mass.; Milla Tupper Maynard, Colo.; May Wood Simons, Ill.; Ida Crouch Hazlett, Mont.; and Josephine R. Cole, Cal. Two California delegates—J. C. Osborne and H. C. Tuck—are blind men.

On Monday, Miller (Colo.) got the floor on a question of urgency and personal privilege. He read a telegram he wished the convention to send the Western Federation of Miners, congratulating them on past victories and promising support for Steve Adams. The miners met meeting in convention Hillquit moved to refer to the Resolutions Committee. Miller replied in a bitter speech. Brown (Wash.) protested and Miller charged his opponents with favoring the mine owners, for which language he afterwards apologized. A hot discussion followed. The matter was finally referred to the committee by a vote of 183 to 122.

Rules Committee recommended election of a committee of 7 on Trade Unions. Goebel (N. J.) moved to strike out. Said he was instructed. Moore (Pa.) took the same attitude, saying that Socialism appeals to the whole working class without distinction. Cole (Cal.) favored electing the committee and Berlyn (Ill.) declared the class struggle is in the mines and factories. Unions are fighting for their class, some better than others, but all for the working class against the capitalist class. Berger (Wis.) said we must have a trades union declaration and, if defeated, he would quit. Clark (Tex.) favored industrial form of organization and Lee (N. Y.) said it was not a question of craft vs. industrial unionism, but one of all unions against capitalists. Osborne (Cal.) favored no declaration. Pope (Mo.) said Supreme Court's action was equal to the Dred Scott decision in favor of slavery and this is no time for evasion. Toole (Md.) moved to substitute "Labor Organizations" for "Trade Unions", which was carried and the motion to strike out was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

#### Two-Thirds Rule Defeated.

The convention will elect a member of the International Socialist Bureau and the National Secretary was given a voice but no vote. A proposed rule requiring a two-thirds vote to nominate candidates was defeated, and it was decided to make nominations not later than Thursday night.

On motion of the Oklahoma delegate convention will elect a committee to consider the system of commission government of cities. The idea is not very clear, but it seems to be opposed to the present tendency to deprive cities of self government.

On Monday Slobodin (N. Y.) moved to reconsider action in establishing a committee on Farmers' Program, but the motion was tabled by a heavy vote.

Credentials Committee recommended seating of Porter (Neb.) as other faction failed to affiliate with the national organization after the state charter was revoked. Minority report favored hearing the whole case. Majority report adopted. Also recommended seating of Washington delegates and that the National Executive Committee consider the case and report to the convention. The day was hot and uncomfortable. Chairman Carey's quick wit and good humor did valuable service for the convention.

John W. Sinton (Pa.) was elected chairman on Tuesday. New York got four committee chairmanships: Spargo on Resolutions, Lee on Labor Organizations, Peiser on Auditing and Solomon on Foreign Speaking Organizations. Following are the committees:

#### The Committees.

Platform: Simons (Illinois), Hillquit (N. Y.), Utermann (Idaho), Carey (Mass.), Warf (Iowa), Clark (Tex.), Berger (Wis.), Miller (Colo.), Brandstetter (Okla.).

Resolutions: Rhodes (Tex.), Kaplan (Minn.), Wilson (Kans.), Kerr (Ill.), Moore (Pa.), Kearns (N. J.), Wagenknecht (Wash.), Thomas (Wis.).

Constitution: Gaylord (Wis.), Lipscomb (Mo.), Snyder (Kans.), Berlyn (Ill.), Fenton (Mass.), Slobodin (N. Y.), Kraft (N. J.), Hill (Tex.), Bauer (Cal.).

Women in Relation to the Party: Milla Tupper Maynard (Colo.), Gertrude B. Hunt (Ill.), Josephine Cole (Cal.), Antoinette Kozlowski (Mass.), Margaret Trever (O.), Friedman (N. Y.), Grace Brewer (Mass.), Laura Payne (Tex.), Winale Brandstetter (Okla.).

Socialist Press: May Wood Simons (Ill.), Jacobs (Wis.), Joyce (O.), Ida Crouch Hazlett (Mont.), Spargo (Pa.).

Auditing: Fisher (N. Y.), Garver (Oregon).

Boomer (Wash.), Buchanan (Tex.), Young (Pa.).

Farmers' Program: Thompson (Wis.), Barzee (Ore.), Willis (Okla.), Steadman (Ill.), Thompson (Tex.), Blizz (Idaho), Rohrer (Iowa).

Foreign Speaking Organizations: Solomon (N. Y.), Gonsou (Pa.), Hiltunen (Mich.), Esther Nieminen (Minn.), Knopfengel (Ill.), Government of Cities by Commission: Hazel (Okla.), Cowen (O.), Strebel (N. Y.), Ambrose (Mont.), Tuttle (Wis.), Bentall (Ill.), Hills (Iowa).

Ways and Means: Sandberg (Wis.), Davis (Okla.), Schwartz (Pa.), Smith (Tex.), Perlin (Ark.), Brandt (Mo.), Bule (Colo.), Gerber (N. Y.), Dorsey (Mass.).

Labor Organizations: Lee (N. Y.), Bandlow (O.), Weber (Wis.), Miller (Neb.), Hoehli (Mo.), Morgan (Ill.), Graham (Mont.), Maurer (Pa.), Reynolds (Ind.).

The personnel of the last committee indicated that the reaffirmation of our present policy of vigorous support of all unions against capitalism and no interference in international questions of unions.

The reports of the National Secretary and the International Secretary were taken up Wednesday.

Haywood has issued a signed statement which appears in the Chicago "Daily Socialist". He states he will not be a candidate. The essential part of the letter follows:

"I feel that at the present time I can best serve my co-workers myself, and above all else, our cause, by working as a private in the ranks. No matter who may be nominated, and we certainly have abundance of excellent material in our ranks, I desire nothing better than to devote every effort to advocating our principles and our candidates and be able to do so without in any way considering the personal equation. For what my comrades have done for me in the past I am grateful. Their loyal fellowship has greatly aided me when I needed aid, and I am anxious now to help in the struggle that is impending. Because I am satisfied that I can do more good for our cause if not a candidate—and I never was with my consent—I have asked my friends to discontinue any suggestion that I become a contestant for any honors at the disposal of the present convention."

The question of nominations is quite unsettled, but Debs, Carey, Hanford, and Steadman are mentioned in the convention.

Many delegates from the Far West and some from the East seem determined to secure a declaration favoring industrialism against craft unionism. It is probable that the majority of the convention will favor maintaining practically the same attitude taken four years ago, but it will not be done without a heated and, perhaps, a prolonged debate. There is a tendency for some delegates who are not themselves in the labor movement to favor whatever sounds most revolutionary, even if it is not exactly clear.

There is also the tendency of delegates wasting time in speech making, a symptom that always develops in the early sessions of conventions, but as the convention proceeds with its work and delegates become tired, this gradually subsides. While it has been decided to make nominations not later than Thursday night, it is possible that important work will delay nominations until Friday.

The large delegations present and the presence of delegates from four or five Southern states, a field that has been almost barren of Socialist sentiment, shows the great progress the Socialist movement is making in the United States.

At the time The Socialist goes to press the committees are at work and it will be a day or two before the convention takes final action on the questions submitted to them. Next week a complete report will be made.

#### The Ability of Labor.

The assumption that capitalist ability creates value and is a factor apart from the work of wage laborers is a fallacy. The capitalist does not contribute any ability in the management of industry and what ability is necessary resides in the working class. Directing and managing ability is developed among the workers and is hired by the possessing class. If the workers sell their ability for wages to another class, they can employ that ability for their own class, and avoid paying the capitalist class a premium for the opportunity to work. That is the proposal of Socialism.

## "EVENING CALL" ANNOUNCED TO APPEAR ON MAY 30.

### Final Arrangements Being Completed for the Great Event Looked Forward to for Years.

#### Many Obstacles Overcome and a Staff of Editors, Reporters and Cartoonists Nearly Completed—Big Mass Meeting in Grand Central Palace on Decoration Day to Celebrate Launching of the Daily.

The Board of Management of "The New York Evening Call" met Monday night and decided to issue the paper on May 30, Decoration Day. This is final. Several times during the past two years tentative dates of issue have been announced and recently—within the last two months—when the matter of publishing "The Evening Call" was taken up in real earnest the Board from time to time in response to inquiries from anxious comrades expressed the hope and belief that it would be possible to get the paper out by May 15.

So many obstacles were in the way, however, and there was such a vast amount of labor involved in preparatory work that the Board unanimously deferred the date of publication until Decoration Day. The Board appreciates that some of the comrades will be disappointed, but it begs all such to be patient yet a little while.

City Editor George Gordon has practically completed the organization of the staff and has been fortunate in finding trained newspaper writers who are either members of the party or sympathizers.

Mr. Gordon has discovered a cartoonist whose work will prove to be the sensation of the year in Park Row newspaper circles. Artists who have seen it say it is marvelous and predict as big a stir when it appears as Davenport created in 1896 and Davenport cannot be compared with this newly arisen genius. A department for women and children will also be in charge of competent writers.

To celebrate the publication of "The Evening Call" the Board of Management will hold a great mass meeting, probably in the Grand Central Palace on the evening of Decoration Day. There the comrades will be given thousands of sample copies for distribution and in other ways directed in the work of the mighty campaign for its success which they have everywhere shown their determination to fight.

John B. Menz will from now on devote his efforts exclusively to the work of getting advertisements, and he has a comprehensive plan prepared to that end.

Under the management of "The

Evening Call" the New York Socialist will be radically changed, but will continue to be a fearless, able and uncompromising advocate of Socialism. The reorganized New York Socialist will, if the plans in contemplation go thru, increase its present circulation by many tens of thousands and become "The" Socialist weekly of the United States. With the advantage of being in the heart of the East where industrialism is developed in its highest degree and with more than a score of millions of people right at its doors the outlook for it is bright.

The matter of choosing the editor-in-chief was again put over for a week. The Board realizes how vital this problem is and that it is a case where making haste slowly will in the end prove the wisest policy. There is no doubt that the final choice will be a man about whom the comrades will rally as one.

Six months' subscription cards are now ready at \$1.50 and should be bought by every active comrade in the United States as from now until after the November election every phase of the social problem will be discussed in "The Evening Call" by the ablest minds and contributors in the world. Special correspondents will write from every center of population in the United States and the big cities of Europe.

The Board calls the attention of the comrades and all those who sympathize with "The Evening Call" to the bond issue which is now ready. These bonds, secured by the Association's plant, can be bought for \$5 each. The rate of interest will be 4 per cent.

The bonds are issued largely for the many non-Socialists who have asked what they can do for the paper. To the comrades who have been members of the party in good standing for not less than six months the stock of the Workingmen's Co-operative Publishing Association, which will issue and own "The Evening Call", can be bought for \$5 a share. This may be paid for at the rate of \$1 cash and the balance at the rate of \$1 quarterly.

All communications for various departments should be addressed to "The New York Evening Call", 6 Park place.

## BIG "INTERESTS" RULE.

The news from Washington is that the "interests" have decided to make no further objection to the nomination of Taft for President. Roosevelt has reached an agreement with the big financiers by which they are to support his candidate and he in turn is to reward them by giving up the program of prosecuting violators of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law. Taft's brother came to New York a few weeks ago and made arrangements with three of the most powerful capitalists in the country for this "deal". So the spectacular crusade of Roosevelt against "rich malefactors", a crusade that never did more than keep them on the anxious seat, will give way to an alliance with "practical men". Big capital will again displace the small fry that applauded the swish of the big stick for the past three years. High finance will ascend the throne. The smaller capitalists, whose property is being seized by their larger brethren, will be deserted until the votes are counted.

After the great mass of workmen have given their votes to the "interests" and seated the ponderous Secretary of War in the White House, that gentleman will take up the rôle of clown where Roosevelt left off. Another campaign of messages filled with glowing promises and threats of disaster to "malefactors" will follow. But big capital will thrive. It will continue to gather the industrial resources into huge organizations and so press the smaller exploiters to the wall. The Supreme Court will continue to issue decrees that outlaw the

struggles of the working class and will ask the latter to be quiet while their hands are being tied. The congress will continue as a central agency for perfecting the control of America by a few enormously rich men.

The lives and health and happiness of the wealth producing men, women and children are not considered and never will be so long as the great "interests" rule society. And if this long suffering class looks for relief to the Democratic party, it sees its chief representative, William Jennings Bryan, making a deal with Tammany Hall, the most rotten political organization in America. Here, too, notwithstanding the lofty utterances of its foremost spokesman, the Democratic party is nursed by the big interests that always care for their friends. Neither the past achievements or present promises of either party give any hope to the working class. And it did not require the "deals" both are making to emphasize that fact.

The big interests for the working class are their own, the interests they have neglected or have unwittingly sold to those who live at their expense. Their interests will only be cared for by those who are interested in doing so—themselves. They have the numbers, they have the votes. To unite their great numbers and direct their votes so that government will be administered in their behalf, is the task of to-day. The Socialist Party serves the workers' interests and will set them into law when the workers awake to the opportunity they have in the polling booth.

#### The Power of the Masters.

It is said: Deprive a man of three meals and he will lie; deny him six meals and he will steal; nine meals, and he will commit murder. Men driven to desperation are in no position to make a free contract; the man who owns the job is the master of the man who wants it. The master can dictate the terms, fix the wages and hours, force him out of the labor organization, compel him to join a certain religion or support a particular party; and when they do these very things for a while, the

#### The Earth's Crust.

Geographers speak of the "Earth's Crust" as if there were only one—in reality, there are, as in a pie, two crusts—the UPPER CRUST and the UNDER CRUST.

The upper crust is pleasantly situated on the top, and is light and agreeable and much sought after.

The under crust is DULL and HEAVY and disagreeable. The only apparent reason for its existence is to support the Upper Crust.

When, as sometimes happens, the SOCIAL PIE is turned upside down, the under crust then becomes the upper crust.—Life.

## THE ONE VITAL FACT.

One point kept in mind by Socialists when overtures are made that they change their demands or unite with some "practical" movement, is the position of the worker in capitalist society. Labor power is the energy of a human being who, when denied the control of instruments to work with, must sell it to those who possess such instruments. Such a sale carries with it the sale of the worker for the time being, and the buyer only purchases such labor power on condition that the worker will produce a surplus above the wage received. This surplus is the basis of the colossal fortunes of the past and present century and represents the terrible cost the worker pays for the chance to sell his brains and muscles.

Nor is it a voluntary sale for the worker. His life, and that of those dependent on him, is a perishable commodity. He cannot wait for a raise in the price of his labor power because there is too many offering themselves for sale and to wait means to starve and bring weakened tissues into the market. A scrawny, ill-fed laborer does not afford "good picking" to his exploiter who is looking for vigorous material for his factory as well as for his stables. It is a forced sale, and no man is free who is forced to sell a commodity regardless of the conditions of the market. Neither is he free if he is fortunate enough to find a buyer only to have to sell himself at a loss.

Every source of employment is closed to the worker who does not agree to a profit reward for the capitalist owner of mills, mines and factories. And the sum total of these owners constitute a great class who practically own all the opportunities of employment and who withhold

them at will. As these opportunities are concentrated into great corporations, the owners dominate all industries and have closed every avenue of escape for the working class. As a class the workers must remain dependent wage slaves and subsist on the small earnings they can win from the sale of themselves in a glutted labor market. These are the fundamental conditions the working class face in capitalist society.

Will the various measures urged by "practical" reformers change these conditions? Will money reform, trust regulation and all other nostrums offered release the workers from the necessity of selling themselves to the capitalist class? Will they lessen the economic dependence of the workers or release the grip of the capitalist class on the sources of wealth? Will they give the workers economic conditions whereby they will not have to struggle for jobs or restore to them the great surpluses they produce and a small ruling class take? If not, what value are the "practical" reforms put forward by social and political quacks?

So long as the workers sell labor power to live, their problems are not solved. Free access to the machinery of wealth production is required to release the working class from exploitation. And that will never be realized until industry is the collective property of society and the rewards of cooperative effort go to those who produce the wealth that makes civilization. The workers will then be free collective employers of themselves and industry will be liberated from the profit control of a few millionaires. The workingman who realizes this great fact will never be swayed from voting for Socialism until its ideals are realized and his class is free.

## DAILY CALL FAIR CLOSSES.

### Ten Day's Congress Will Net a Good Sum for the Socialist Daily.

#### Hard Work of Comrades and Assistance of Sympathizers Make the Fair a Success—A Partial List of the Most Active Workers.

The Daily Call Fair closed last Sunday night with a good attendance and while the sum realized is not as large as could be wished, it was a complete success. The bad weather kept large numbers away several nights, and it was apparent that the unemployed problem affected the receipts. Credit is due to the many faithful comrades who worked months for the fair and the volunteers who gave liberally of their time while the fair was on.

The contest between the various organizations and individuals were not as spirited as expected. Usually the contests are the most popular feature of such affairs but, with one exception, the visitors took little interest in them. The only organization that attended in a body was the "Light and Truth" group.

Those who may be mentioned as active workers are General Manager Reichenthal and his assistant, J. Chant Lips, who were kept busy night and day; E. Ramm, cashier, and Mrs. F. Solomon, assistant. Comrade Eckert served in the Bayerisch Bierstube. One of the most successful was the Italian Booth, in charge of the Bronx Women's Society, including Comrades Scheeler, Wegener, Marx, Wittekind, Miller, Simon, H. Hesse, M. Felbeck, D. Wymer, J. Obrist, Holteriel, Vanduffe, Schmidt, J. Rosenberg, and S. Glassner.

The Dutch Booth was in charge of the Dutch Branch with G. De Jong, O. Bengel, M. Swart, B. Swart, D. Swart, L. De Jong, M. De Jong, and R. De Jong, assisting.

One of the most artistic booths was that of the Germans, with Comrades Arnold, A. Meyer, Lang, Naehem, A. Kaplan, B. Kaplan, Sapherstein, F. Meyer, M. Wachenburg and Glnsberg in charge.

In charge of the soda fountain were Comrades Murdoch, Schemman, Englert, Eckert, Sharp, A. Block, Stillman, Rosenthal, Crimmins, and Hauke. Japanese and Coffee Booth: Comrades Yabel, Mrs. Schneppe, Greenwood, Fraser, Chertle, Miss Schneppe, Maube, Belchauer, and Reichenthal. Hungarian Booth: Comrades Koenigsnecht, Mrs. Szabo. Bohemian and Slovak Booth: M. Androvlich, Danda. Russian Booth: Miss Levin, Com-

rade Russell.

International Booth: Mrs. Malkiel, L. Malkiel, F. Bennet, John Spargo, Morris Steizer.

The following assisted in selling chances or books not connected with any booth: Miss Kaplan, Lottie Berman, Bella Berman, Gertrude Weil, Isabel Reichenthal, Miss Silverstein, Mrs. Youslaf, Sara Gordon, Henry Feigenbaum, Mrs. Nicolaus, Miss Fox, Mrs. Graebner, M. Jacobson and others.

The following is a partial list of the business men who contributed articles: J. R. Keane & Co., Third avenue and Seventy-seventh street; J. M. Goldberg & Son, 171 E. Broadway; Adlerberg & Berman, 34 W. Houston; F. Handrich, 309 E. Fifty-sixth street; Shulman Bros., 86 Leonard street, Brooklyn; L. Heschelberg, 202 Delancey; Klein, 206 E. Eighty-sixth; Blum & Cohn, 112 Canal; S. Zachnowitz, 193 Division; J. Hirsch, 1501 First avenue; Paul Helfer, 1557 Third avenue; J. Bartlet & Son, 28 Hudson; Levine Bros., 26 Wooster; New York Waist Co., 141 Wooster. The following breweries donated beer: Eichler & Son, Peter Doelger, Bernheimer & Son, Heepfel & Son, W. E. Peters, George Ringler, E. Heene, J. Ruppert, Consumers' Brewing Co.

The contests resulted as follows: Most popular candidate for President: Debs, 164; Haywood, 119. Most popular Socialist agitator, Alexander Jonas, 100; Morris Hillquit, 86. Most popular trade union secretary, Kruger, 9; M. Brown, 7. Most popular trade unionist, J. Mahlon Barnes, 7. Most popular worker at the fair, Kussnow, 171; Adler, 103. Most popular walking delegate, Paulitsch, 112; Stule, 9. Most popular woman worker, Mrs. U. Solomon, 829; Florence Margolies, 829. Owing to a dispute between the two contestants, it was decided to declare the vote a tie, giving each 829 votes and award the prize by chance.

Comrades are requested to make an early settlement for outstanding tickets. Money should be sent to Mrs. U. Solomon, 239 E. Eighty-fourth street.

#### Socialists Defeat Opposition.

Last year no Socialist votes were cast in Casseyville, a St. Louis suburb. A few weeks ago the Socialists, who had organized, carried the town over the combined opposition.

#### Socialists Carry a Town.

At Snythboro, Ill., a rich inhabitant offered to donate sufficient land and \$1,500 to the town if the voters would defeat the Socialists at the recent election. However, the people refused to be bribed. The Socialist ticket, with the exception of one candidate, was elected. A year ago not a Socialist vote was cast in the place.

The New York Socialist

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As The Socialist goes to press on Wednesday, correspondents sending news should mail their communications in time to reach this office by Monday, whenever possible.

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

1900 (Presidential) 68,961. 1902 (State and Congressional) 229,782. 1904 (Presidential) 408,230.

MR. ROBINSON AGAIN.

The "Weekly Bulletin of the Clothing Trades" is a bright little union publication, but we confess some surprise at its editorial denunciation of the Cleveland "Citizens" lashing of Herman Robinson.

Now the "Bulletin" ignores the charges made by Robinson entirely and assumes that that gentleman is the aggrieved party, and that he is entitled to sympathy.

The "good patriot" Roosevelt has mentioned in an interesting gentleman, among his characteristics can be found the trafficker in child labor, the unk looter, the political grabber, the wner of death-trap mines, the capitalist food poisoner, the military man fishing to glut his thirst for blood, the debauched worker who joins the army to satisfy that thirst, every politician with a "pull" and millionaire "patriot" of all stripes.

Announcement is now made in Washington that no further efforts will be made at this session of Congress for the passage of the Anti-Injunction bill or for consideration by the House of Hepburn's amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law.

"THE KING CAN DO NO WRONG"

That men of the highest intellectual attainments will perform tricks of questionable character is attested by the action of Prof. Seligman in the Hillquit-Seligman debate in Cooper Union last week.

It is also a strange doctrine that men in public life may be immune from criticism and stranger still when the man in whose behalf this defense is made should be Theodore Roosevelt.

As for Roosevelt's sincerity in supporting social reforms, the Professor has a fight to his opinion, but he will have a hard time to reconcile it with the President's double dealing with Harriman.

Socialists have no reverence for the halo that attaches to any man in public life, tho at the same time they are willing to accord him due respect if he has earned it.

If some little political Peterkin were to ask to-day what the glorious battle between parties is all about, "and what they fought each other for", his elders would be hard put to it for an answer.

A trio indictment and one that will be pressed by Socialists during the coming campaign. Roosevelt may make more noise than Bryan and the latter may execute more political flips than the organizer of the "Ananias Club", but fundamentally both of them are in agreement that one class shall produce and the other take.

In the "American Federalist" for May President Gompers writes on "Labor's Political Campaign" - by which he means the "non-partizan" campaign waged by the A. F. of L. in 1900 against certain individual candidates of the old parties.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A bill has been introduced in the Philippine Assembly to give women a vote in the Philippines but not to hold office. The measure provides that a woman to vote must be 23 years old and that a married woman must have the consent of her husband in writing before she will be allowed to cast her ballot.

It seems almost incredible that politicians, brazen, vulgar and corrupt as most of them are, could seriously introduce such a measure. But most anything can be expected from those whose influence reaches Washington, the center and official agency of the most reckless and domineering ruling class of any country, with the possible exception of Russia.

ROOSEVELT, THE KING.

In discussing his authority over the army and navy and his opposition to restoring the negro soldiers of Brownsville to the army, President Roosevelt is said to have written two Senators that he would veto any bill favoring such restoration and would refuse to obey its provisions if it was enacted over his veto.

It is more than probable that these reports are true for concentration of power in the government must inevitably follow the concentration of industries into a few hands. The executive and judicial branches of the government have for years been seizing powers that properly belong to the legislative branch and it is notorious that the Supreme Court to-day is supreme over Congress.

The vital statistics of France for 1907 show a further marked decrease in the birth rate which, in a century, has fallen from 1,007,000 to 774,000 a year. The reduction in the number of births last year was 33,000 as against an average decrease of 12,000 for the last seven years.

An advertisement in the New York "Times" states that "the Sunday Times" is always sold out early. We are willing to believe that the Sunday issue is not only "sold out", but that every issue is. Why make a virtue of one thing when it is merely a duplicate of all the rest?

NOTE, COMMENT, AND ANSWER.

H. RUEMMELE.—It is true that the Postmaster General, with the approval of the President, has issued an order excluding from the mails the Italian Anarchist paper, "La Questione Sociale", published in Paterson, N. J.

There are, in fact, a few professed Anarchists in Paterson, as in all cities - perhaps a few more than the average, in consequence of the fact that the anarchistic profit-takers grind their working people a little harder there than in most places and drive more of them to desperation.

A large number of exchanges have reached us containing a reprint of the series of "Historic Utterances of Great Men" which appeared in The Socialist of April 4. While the marked appreciation given this collection of sayings by some of our "great men" is appreciated, we confess some surprise that a number of papers have failed to give credit where credit is due, and a few have credited the collection to other journals.

THE NOISELESS GUN.

Noiseless guns and smokeless powder! We are making progress still! Science splendidly assists us when we sail forth to kill! We have done with ancient methods; they were poor and they were slow.

SHERIFFS IN WARREN CASE TO FACE CHARGES.

A new and interesting turn has taken place in the trial of Fred Warren of the "Appeal to Reason", and one that has set the government officials thinking and may cause them considerable trouble.

Thomas J. Ryan regards his juggling of the "propolltan" as a "fertile clover patcher," say picking, so to speak.

Current Literature

In the course of a letter to the Editor expressing his dissent from the judgments set forth by Joshua Wanhope concerning Upton Sinclair's "The Metropolis" and Jack London's "The Iron Heel", John Spargo says of the latter book:

It is not to take issue with Comrade Wanhope's literary judgment that I pen this protest. Here is a book, heralded by our Socialist press as a great contribution to the Socialist propaganda, conspicuously advertised as such, the comrades being urged to use it to "make Socialists", when, in fact, nothing more calculated to keep people out of the Socialist movement has ever been put forward.

If some one were to write a pamphlet urging that Socialism will never be attained by political methods, advocating physical force, methods and arguing that it would take three long centuries of terrible, bloody carnage, in which hundreds of thousands of people would be slaughtered, would any sane man propose that we should use it for Socialist Party propaganda - and would the party stand for it?

Unpleasant as it may be, I am compelled to express my conviction that we might just as well circulate the writings of the most rabid Anarchists as "The Iron Heel". Certainly, the book has no more to do with Socialism than "Home or Reason?" and some other books conspicuously advertised in The New York Socialist.

A number of Jack London's works have been adopted as text books in some of the colleges. This is true of "The Road" and "The People of the Abyss", both of which are used in courses of sociology.

COMMUNAL DEMOCRACY.

If there was but one slave in the world there would be one too many. If there were but one master in the world there would be one too many. For if there is one slave all the rest are masters and if there is one master all the rest are slaves and in either case civilization is a sham.

Economic disaster to-day is not only borne by those least able to bear it, but it is precipitated by those who mismanage industry and who therefore ought to be the sufferers, if any are to suffer at all.

APOSTLES OF LIBERTY.

By Joyce Kilmer. To you, Tom Paine, great Freedom's chosen priest, To you, Lassalle, who joined the West and East, To you, Karl Marx, who wrote our Book of Life, To you, our Morris, Knight of Love and Strife-

THE HISTORY OF THE GREAT AMERICAN FORTUNES.

By Gustavus Myers. Author of "The History of Tammany Hall", "History of Public Franchises in New York City", etc.

PART II. The Great Land Fortunes. (Copyright, 1908, by Gustavus Myers.)

CHAPTER VI.—(Continued.) THE PROULSION OF THE ASTOR FORTUNE.

An Exalted Capitalist.

To return, however, to William B. Astor. He was the owner, it was reckoned in 1875, of more than seven hundred buildings and houses, not to mention the many tracts of unimproved land which he held. His income from these properties and from his many varied lines of investments was stupendous. Every one knew that he, along with other landlords, derived great revenues from indescribably malarious tenements, unfit for human habitation.

"No church disdained his gifts". The morals and methods of the church, as exemplified by Trinity Church, were judged by standards, much worse than those of Astor or of his fellow-landlords or capitalists. These latter did not make a profession of hypocrisy at any rate.

Q: Which is the good, and which is the bad? A: I think Trinity is the bad. Q: Do the Trinity people own a great deal of tenement property? A: Yes, sir. Q: Do they comply with the law as other people do? A: No, sir; that is accounted for in one way—the property is very old and rickety, and perhaps even rotten, so that some allowance must be made on that account.

CHAPTER VII. THE CLIMAX OF THE ASTOR FORTUNE.

The \$100,000,000 fortune which William B. Astor left was mainly bequeathed in about equal parts to his sons John Jacob II. and William. These scions, by inheritance from various family sources, intermarriage with other rich families, or both, were already rich. Furthermore, having the backing of their father's immense riches, they had enjoyed singularly exceptional opportunities for amassing wealth on their own account.

In 1853 William Astor had married one of the Schermerhorn family. The Schermerhorns were powerful New York City landholders; and if not quite on the same pinnacle in point of wealth as the Astors, were at any rate very rich. The immensely valuable areas of land then held and still in the possession of the Schermerhorns were largely obtained by precisely the same means that the Astors, Goetschs, Rhine-landers and other conspicuous land families had used.

Inter-Related Wealth.

The settled policy from the start of the rich men and very greatly of rich women was to marry within their class. The result obviously was to increase and centralize still greater wealth in the circumscribed ownership of a few families. In estimating, therefore, the collective wealth of the Astors, as in fact of nearly all of the great fortunes, the measure should not be merely the possessions of one family, but should embrace the combined wealth of inter-related rich families.

the times. Posterity, which is the true arbiter in distinguishing between the enduring and the evanescent, the important and the trivial, rightly cares nothing for essentially petty matters which once were held of the highest importance. Edgar Allan Poe, wearing his life out in extreme poverty, William Lloyd Garrison, thundering against chattel slavery from a Boston garret, Robert Dale Owen spending his years in altruistic endeavors—these men were contemporaries of the Astors of the second generation. Yet a marriage among the very rich was invested by the self-styled creators and dispensers of public opinion with far more importance than the giving out to the world of the most splendid products of genius or the enunciation of principles of the profoundest significance to humanity.

Money and Humanity.

As it was in 1908 so was it in the decades when the capitalists of one kind or another were first piling up wealth; they were the wealthy class of the day; their slightest doings were chronicled, and their flimsiest sayings were construed oracularly as those of public opinion. Nameless people sickened and died in the industrial strife and in miserable living quarters; ubiquitous capitalism was a battlefield strewn with countless corpses; but none of the professed expositors of morality, religion or politics gave heed to the wounded or the dead, or to the conditions which produced these hideous and perpetual slaughters of men, women and children, human flesh all of them and all incarnate with divine spirit. But to the victors, no matter what their methods were, or how much desolation and death they left in their wrath, the richest material rewards were awarded; wealth, luxury, station and power; and the Law, the majestic, exalted Law, upheld these victors in their possessions by force of courts, police, sheriffs and rifles, loaded with bullets if necessary.

Thus, as we have seen, the Astors debauched, swindled and murdered the Indians; they defrauded the city of land and of taxes; they assisted in corrupting legislatures; they profited from the ownership of blocks of death-laden tenement houses; they certified to thieving administrations. Once having wrested into their possession the results of all of these and more fraudulent methods in the form of millions of dollars in property, what was their strongest ally? The Law. Yes, the Law, theoretically so impartial and so reverently indued with awe—and with force. From fraud and force the Astor fortune came, and by force, in the shape of law, it was fortified in their control. If a starving man had gone into any one of the Astor houses and stolen even as much as a silver spoon, the Law would have come to the rescue of outraged property by sentencing him to prison. Or if, in case of a riot, the Astor property was damaged, the Law also would have stepped in and compelled the city to indemnify. This Law, this extraordinary code of print which governs us, has been and is nothing more or less, it becometh, than so many statutes to encourage, and guarantee the retention of the proceeds of fraud and theft if the prey were committed in a sufficiently large and impressive way. The indisputable proof is that every single fortune which has been obtained by fraud, is still privately held and is greater than ever; the Law zealously and jealously guards it. So has the Law practically worked; and if a thing is to be judged by its practical results, then the Law has been an instigator of every form of crime, and a bulwark of that which it instigated. Seeing that this is so, it is not so hard to understand that puzzling problem of why so large a portion of the community has resolved itself into a committee of the whole and while nominally and solemnly professing the accustomed and expected respect for Law, deprecates it, as it is constituted.

(To be continued.)

WORKERS OF THE WORLD. UNITE!

THE NEW YORK EVENING CALL

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE WORKERS

ALL THE WORLD'S LABOR NEWS

VOL. 1, NO. 1.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1908.

PRICE, ONE CENT

LABOR DIRECTORY

Advertisements of trade unions and other societies will be inserted under this heading at the rate of 10 cents per line per annum.

CIGARMAKERS' PROGRESSIVE INT. UNION No. 90—Office and Employment Bureau, 241 E. 84th St. The following meet every Saturday: Dist. 1 (Bohemian)—316 E. 9th St., 8 p. m.; Dist. 2 (German)—316 E. 9th St., 8 p. m.; Dist. 3 (Czech)—241 E. 84th St., 7:30 p. m.; Dist. 4 (Polish)—343 W. 42nd St., 8 p. m.; Dist. 5 (Irish)—209 Third Ave., 8 p. m.; Dist. 6 (Austrian)—77th St., 8 p. m.; Dist. 7 (Hungarian)—Superior Mission, 1551 Second Ave., 8 p. m.

CARL SAHM CLUB (MUSICIANS' UNION) meets every Thursday of the month at 10 a. m. at Clubhouse, 243-247 E. 84th street. Secretary, Hermann Weidner, address as above.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS & JOINERS OF AMERICA—LOCAL UNION No. 475 meets every Tuesday 8 p. m. in the Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th street. Financial Secretary, Joseph M. C. M. In the Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th street. City Secretary, Arthur Goan, 1092 Anthony avenue, Bronx.

UNITED JOUINRYMEN TAILORS' UNION meets every second and fourth Monday in Links Assembly Rooms, 231-233 East Thirty-eighth street.

LABOR SECRETARIAT.—Delegates meeting the last Saturday of the month at 8 p. m. at Labor Lyceum, 949 W. 11th street, Brooklyn. Board of Directors meet for the first time on Friday, May 29, 8 p. m. at the office, 320 Broadway, R. 703. Address correspondence to Labor Secretariat, 320 Broadway, Telephone 3817 or 3818 Worth.

SOCIALIST WORKING WOMEN'S SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—First meeting, Friday, May 29, 8 p. m. in the Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th st., New York City.

WORKMEN'S CHILDREN'S BENEFIT FUND of the United States of America. The address of the Financial Secretary of the National Executive Committee is: ALZ. B. House, Room 42, Astor Place, New York City.

Arbeiter-Verenigen - Sterbe - Kasse fuer die Arbeiter von Amerika.

WORKMEN'S and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America

The above society was founded in the year 1887 by workmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and Socialist thought. Its numerical strength (at present composed of 233 local branches with 31,567 male and 6,408 female members) is rapidly increasing among workmen who believe in the principles of the modern labor movement. Workmen between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to membership in any of the branches upon payment of an initiation fee of \$4.00 for the first class and \$2.00 for the second class. Members belonging to the first class are entitled to a stipend of \$4.00 for 4 weeks and of \$4.50 for another 4 weeks, whether continuous or with interruption. Members belonging to the second class receive under the same circumstances and length of time \$2.00 and \$2.50 respectively. 250 deaths benefit is guaranteed to the beneficiaries of every member, and the wives and unmarried daughters of members between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to the third class upon payment of an initiation fee of \$1.00. For further particulars and application forms at all addresses, send to the Secretary, 311 Third Avenue, Room 2, New York City.

TO COMRADES THE WORKINGMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION BELIEVES THAT EVERY SOCIALIST IN THE UNITED STATES WANTS "THE NEW YORK EVENING CALL" TO BE A SUCCESS. THE COMRADES, PERHAPS MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE IN THE LABOR WORLD, ARE AWARE OF THE CRISIS NOW CONFRONTING THE AMERICAN PROLETARIAT. THEY REALIZE THE VITAL NEED OF A DAILY NEWSPAPER IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WHICH SHALL FEARLESSLY STAND FOR THESE IMPERILED INTERESTS. THAT ALL MAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS OF "THE CALL" THESE BONDS, AN ISSUE OF \$25,000 BEARING FOUR PER CENT INTEREST, PAYABLE ANNUALLY AND TO RUN FIFTEEN YEARS, ARE PLACED BEFORE THEM. NOT ONLY SHOULD EACH COMRADE STRIVE TO BUY ONE OR MORE BONDS, BUT GO TO ALL NON-SOCIALISTS WHOM HE HAS REASON TO BELIEVE SYMPATHIZES WITH SUCH A PROJECT. CONFRONTED AS THEY ARE WITH CONDITIONS WHICH ENDANGER THEIR VERY EXISTENCE THE TRADE UNIONISTS OUGHT TO BE EASILY INTERESTED. NOT ONLY INDIVIDUALS, BUT SOCIALIST LOCALS AND UNIONS AS SUCH OUGHT TO GIVE US THEIR SUPPORT BY TAKING SOME OF THESE BONDS. WITH THAT CO-OPERATION WHICH WE HAVE A RIGHT TO EXPECT "THE CALL" WILL BE SUCH A TRIUMPH AS WILL MAKE MANY A CAPITALIST REALIZE THAT THERE IS A "CLASS CONSCIOUS" SPIRIT IN OTHER CLASSES THAN HIS OWN, OUR PREACHING PRESIDENT NOTWITHSTANDING. Fraternally, The Workingmen's Co-op. Pub. Ass'n

Debenture Bond \$5.00 OF THE Workingmen's Co-operative Publishing Association The WORKINGMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New York, for value received, hereby acknowledges itself indebted to in the principal sum of FIVE DOLLARS and promises to pay the said sum on the 1st day of July, 1923, at its office in the City of New York; and also until the repayment of the principal of the said bond, to pay at the same place interest on said principal sum on the 1st day of July in each year, at the rate of four per cent. per annum, such payments to be evidenced by the signature of the holder endorsed on the back of this Certificate. In Witness whereof, the said Workingmen's Co-operative Publishing Association has caused these presents to be executed by affixing hereto its corporate seal, and has caused this Certificate to be signed in its name by the President and Treasurer, this day of 1908 President Treasurer

The Workingmen's Co-op. Pub. Ass'n

SEND ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR BONDS TO THE NEW YORK EVENING CALL, 6 PARK PLACE, NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

TO OUR NON-SOCIALIST READERS:

WHATEVER YOU THINK OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE WORKING CLASS, WHETHER YOU TAKE DEEP INTEREST IN ITS STRUGGLES OR HAVE GIVEN IT BUT CASUAL NOTICE YOU MUST LONG SINCE HAVE REALIZED THAT ITS ONE GREAT NEED TO-DAY IS A POWERFUL DAILY NEWSPAPER WHICH WILL FIND IN THE STRUGGLE OF THE MASSES OF OUR PEOPLE FOR A LIVELIHOOD A SUBJECT OF AT LEAST EQUAL NEWS IMPORTANCE WITH THE SCANDALS OF THE DAY. A FEW WORKINGMEN AFTER YEARS OF SACRIFICE AND PRIVATION HAVE ACCUMULATED THE FUNDS BY WHICH SUCH A PAPER, "THE NEW YORK EVENING CALL," IS LAUNCHED.

TO KEEP THIS PAPER IN THE FIELD AND TO MAINTAIN ITS EFFICIENCY AT THE HIGHEST STANDARD IT WILL NEED YOUR SUPPORT. WE HAVE A RIGHT TO IT. WE ARE NOT FIGHTING FOR SOCIALISTS ALONE, BUT FOR THE VAST WORKING MULTITUDES. ISSUES WHICH HAVE ARISEN IN THE LAST YEAR GIVE YOU LITTLE OR NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO STAND SHOULD TO SHOULD WITH US IN THIS FIGHT. THE RECENT DECISIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT AND THE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM WASHINGTON IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS REJECT LABOR'S MODEST DEMANDS AND LAUGH AT YOU FOR YOUR IMPOTENT METHODS OUGHT TO CONVINCING YOU.

BY ASSISTING US TO MAINTAIN "THE CALL," WHICH MEANS TO MAKE YOUR FIGHT ITS OWN. YOU CAN DO MUCH. THE TIME HAS INDEED COME FOR THE WORKINGMEN OF THE WORLD—PARTICULARLY OUR END OF THE PLANET, TO UNITE. Fraternally, The Workingmen's Co-op. Pub. Ass'n

PARTY NEWS

National. Charters have been granted by the National Office to local in unorganized states as follows: Nebraska, 8 members; Hickory, N. C., 7; Abbeville, Va., 14; John Kerrigan of Dallas, Texas, is working upon a form of a monthly financial statement, with a view to devising one that may be used by the several party divisions. He makes the request that state secretaries send him a sample of one of their financial statements. The third ballot for the election of a committee of three to arrange rules and order of business of the national convention resulted in the election of Carl D. Thompson with 20 votes, John M. Work 19. In reply to a general request from the National Office for names and addresses of foreign speaking comrades and secretaries, names of a great many localities have reached this office without the mention of a correspondent. It is urged that names and addresses be not overlooked. The National Secretary acknowledges receipt of \$300.71 in contributions from locals throughout the country to assist in paying mileage of delegates to the national convention.

Wisconsin. The Socialists of Milwaukee have, in accordance with a state law, filed a sworn account of their campaign expenses. The total expense was \$5,371. Of this \$1,110 was for newspaper advertising. Socialist matter having been inserted as advertisements in the capitalist papers; \$2,401 for printing and literature; \$803 for speakers; \$224 for postage; \$20 for citizens' papers; \$224 for stationery; \$16 for car fare. Compare with these expenses just one item of the expenses of the Democratic candidate—an item of \$120 for toothpicks! The Wisconsin state convention has been called for June 13 and 14. The basis of representation will be one delegate for every branch and one additional delegate for every 100 Socialist votes cast in the respective districts.

New York City. The Young Men's Progressive Organization has organized a life and drum corps, which meets every Monday night at the Labor Temple, 245 E. Eighth street. All young men are invited to join. The West Side Agitation Committee concludes its lecture course with a social at the headquarters at 583 Eighth avenue, Sunday, May 17, 8 p. m. A good time is promised to all comrades and friends who attend. Admission is free. The 9th A. D. has ordered 500 copies of the first issue of the "Evening Call" for free distribution. The General Committee met Saturday evening, May 9. Thirty-eight applications were acted on. Floor was granted to Gustave Victor Hugo, who stated that he was from Russia, that he had been arrested there by the government, was without funds, and needed money to get to Kansas City. He was referred to Dr. Romm of the Russian Revolutionary Society, and a collection was taken up for him. An overwhelming desire of the delegates to attend the Daily Call Fair resulted in an early adjournment. The Sunday evening lecture course has closed at 253 W. One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street, but social gatherings, with refreshments, will be given.

Kings County. The Central Committee met May 9 and allowed bills to the Socialist of \$25.40 and the Financial Secretary of \$1.50, who also reported receipts of \$28.25; expenses, \$27.50 and a balance of \$53.70. Delegates to the county convention will be appointed according to the good standing membership vouchered for by branches. Five hundred reports of the vote for delegates to the national convention will be printed and subdivisions are asked to contribute one dollar or more to the National Office to assist in paying expenses of delegates to the national convention. An unemployed nurse meeting will be held in Day's Hall on May 22.

National organizers are working as follows: James H. Brower, South Dakota; Stanley J. Clark, Arkansas; E. E. Carr, Pennsylvania; John Collins, Indiana; Edward A. Cantrell, Illinois; J. L. Pitt, Indiana; George R. Kirkpatrick, Connecticut; James H. Maurer, Indiana; Clarence H. Taylor, Delaware; M. W. Wilkins, Michigan; James Williams, Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA. The first gun of the Socialist campaign will be fired on Sunday evening, May 24, at Labor Lyceum Hall, Sixth and Brown streets, where reports will be heard and branches made by delegates to the national convention. Our nominations for President and Vice-President will be ratified. Admission free. Get there before the doors open. Starts at 8 p. m. The Treasurer of the Free Speech Fund reports donations from the following: Robert Union No. 4, 45; Kansas...

Special Meeting of the East Side Districts. A special meeting of the East Side districts will be held in the Theater at 15 E. Third street, on May 17, at 10:30 a. m. Arrangements will be made with Julius Hopp to give a series of performances of "The Dolls" and other plays for the benefit of the campaign fund. The plan is to hold Sunday morning free lectures at the Theater. If performances are given during the week, the play, representing performance in Jewish and English.

Proletarian Society Dinner. The second dinner of the Proletarian Society will be held at Klein's Hall, 206 E. Eighth street, Sunday evening, May 24. Members and guests are requested to assemble at half-past six. Informal reception will precede dinner. Subject for discussion: "The Work of the National Convention", the opening speakers to be delegates. Comrade Oppenheimer will provide. In order to meet expense of printing, postage, etc., the price of the dinner has been made 50 cents. Tickets can be secured from Comrade Raphael, 250 W. One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street. Guests can be seated together by sending number of tickets to Comrade Raphael twenty-four hours before date of dinner. An appropriate souvenir has been prepared by Comrade Kling and will be given to members and guests.

THREE PLAYS AT THE BERKELEY THEATER. A performance will be given at the Berkeley Theater on May 20, when a carefully selected group of artists will present three interesting one-act plays by the well known dramatic and art critic, Clara Ruge. The plays deal with problems of modern life and embody the striving for something higher than the time-honored conventions. The first play, "On the Road", deals with Capital and Labor. The second, "The Strugglers", presents the problems of love and matrimony from a modern point of view, while the third, "Inconstancy", tries to find a solution of the suicide question. The last named play has been selected by Kate Parsenow to show her great ability as an emotional actress. She has achieved great successes at the Deutsches Theater in Berlin, the most artistic theater of Germany, in such parts as "Salome" and "Antonia" in "The Night Lodging House" by Gorky. Otto Schröder, who has taken character parts at the German Theater in New York this season, besides having acted successfully for several seasons on the American stage, will take part in all three dramas, in which the widely differing characters will give him ample opportunity to display his ability of characterization. The stage management will also be under his direction. Yona Grabu, another representative from the German Theater, will be seen in an ingenue and a sentimental part. Agnes Ruge, the young and talented daughter of the author, will make her debut on the stage in the emotional part of Jeannette in the play, "On the Road". A distinctive character will be given the performance by a selected musical program.

MR. TAFT EXPLAINS. Aspirants for presidential honors realize the necessity of meeting Socialist criticism to-day. A remarkable incident of this kind occurred in the dispatch from Washington shortly after Secretary of War Taft predicted a great struggle of classes in the future. Taft is quoted as follows: "My attention has been called to the action of the New York section of the Socialist Party in respect to certain alleged utterances of mine in a recent speech before the Order of Railroad Conductors in Chicago. In the report I am made to say: 'There is no denying the fact that we must look forward to a gigantic controversy between labor and capital, hoping and trusting that it will be settled peacefully.' This is not an accurate report of what I said. I have the stenographic notes taken of what I did say. What I said was this: 'That unless laborers united into organization, the laborer would stand no chance in that inevitable controversy that we always hope will be peaceful, but that must exist—that inevitable controversy as to how labor and capital shall share the joint product of both.' From nothing I said could the inference be drawn that I was prophesying a gigantic controversy in the future. I was only referring to an existing and always present condition, an ever recurring controversy."

Police Refuse to Club. The strike of the street car men at Pensacola, Fla., seems to be developing the peculiar situation that distinguished the strike at Chester, Pa. The police force has refused to be the cat's paw of those who seek to keep down the earnings of the worker, and for that refusal the entire force has been dismissed by the city authorities. The city ordered that the police protect the strike-breakers and naturally club union men for daring to better the conditions under which they sold their labor power. The police refused to do this. For this insubordination the 25 men who constitute the force were at once discharged. This was caused by the order under which the men were sent to take care of the strike-breakers who are operating cars for the Pensacola Electric Co. When the police rebel against clubbing their class there is hope for a wider solidarity of labor and more success in working class struggles.

Labor Crooks Slander Debs. If anyone tells you that Debs employed non-union labor to do certain work about his home tell him that he has been imposed upon or lies. This report, started by a cheap labor politician, is hardly worth denying. But certain alleged labor papers which support, and are supported by capitalist politicians, are peddling this falsehood. The miserable skates will not face Debs, nor dare they publish his letter. The labor record of Debs needs no defense, and ward-heeling labor crooks can pay him no better compliment than to squirt their venom at his name when he is far away. —Cleveland Citizen.

DRINK COLUMBIA TEA. Save the coupons. Every coupon has a value. When you have the coupons bearing the large letters to spell G-O-L-U-M-B-I-A Mail them to the below address and we will give you a \$6.00 COLUMBIA TEA. 193 DIVISION ST., N. Y. GUSTAF SJOHOLM, 266 UNDERWOOD AVE., Near Gates Ave., Ridgewood, B'klyn., N. Y.

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DR. M. GIRDANSKY, 237 EAST BROADWAY near Clinton Street, NEW YORK.

DR. CH. SCHWARTZ, 275 E. BROADWAY, NEW YORK. Telephone: 1632 Orchard.

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Would Bryan favor disfranchising the white workers of the North if they were as unanimously opposed to him as the colored workers of the South are?

WORKMEN'S Furniture Fire Insurance. Organized 1872. Membership 20,000. Principal Organization, New York and Vicinity. OFFICE: 241 E. Eighty-fourth street. Office hours, daily except Sundays and holidays, from 1 to 9 p. m. BROOKLYN: Every Tuesday evening from 8 to 10 p. m. at the Lyceum, 4th Avenue, at the corner of Broadway, Troy, Glensville, Binghamton, Oneida, Tonawanda, Schenectady, Rochester, N. Y., Trenton, Paterson, Newark, Elizabeth, Passaic, South River, Rahway, N. J., New Haven, Waterbury, Hartford, Meriden, Bridgeport, Hockleyville, Stamford, Conn., Adams, Boston, Lowell, Springfield, Mass., Luzerne, Philadelphia, Allegheny, Altoona, Scranton, Erie, Altoona, Pa., Chicago, Ill., San Francisco, Los Angeles, Cal., Cleveland, O., New York, N. Y., Manchester, N. H., Baltimore, Md., St. Louis, Mo., Providence, R. I., Milwaukee, Wis. For address of the branch local Secretaries see "Organizer."

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LAWYERS. ROBERT JABLONOWSKI, Counselor-at-Law. 116 NASSAU ST. Room 702-703. Telephone 9683 Beckman. Residence 129 5th St.

**THE LABOR MOVEMENT**

Strikebreakers whom the Iowa Central imported into Marshalltown, Ia., for their shops, were surrounded and driven to the city limits. A crowd of strikers followed them for more than a mile. Some of the strikebreakers were roughly handled.

As a result of the referendum vote taken by the unions of Toledo, O., a city convention will be held on May 31 to take independent political action in the coming election.

**Old Age Benefits.**

Forty of the principal trade unions of Great Britain paid in 1904 \$1,236,000 in superannuation benefits. The Amalgamated Society of Engineers itself is paying more than \$500,000 a year to its aged members. All this is in addition to large expenditure on the unemployed, which again is swelled by those who are made workless thru old age. The Northumberland and Durham Miners' permanent relief fund has for many years made provision for its aged members. In 1905 there were 4,391 on the fund, the total amount paid in superannuation for the year being \$300,000.

Henry White, expelled ex-secretary of the Garment Workers, has made a written defense of his conduct which appears in the "Weekly Bulletin" of the clothing trades. White charges that his successor, R. A. Langer, was exposed in a letter in the "Daily People" some years ago. Langer produces a letter from W. Block, who states he signed the letter which was prepared by White himself. The more that is known of White the less respect can union men have for him.

At a mass meeting of union men in Erie, Pa., resolutions were adopted asking the owners of vacant lots in the city to place them at the disposal of the unemployed.

National conventions of unions held this week are the Actors' National Protective Union in New York City, and the American Federation of Musicians at St. Louis. The Tin Plate Workers also meet in Detroit and the Print Cutters at York, Pa., this month, but no dates are given.

A movement has been started to amalgamate with the Journeymen Tailors National Union, 22,000 members, the Shirt Waist and Laundry Workers, 34,000 members, the International Women's Garment Workers' Union, 27,000 members, and the United Garment Workers with 67,000 members. The amalgamated body will have about 150,000 members and will be the third largest national body in the A. F. of L. The two largest are the United Mine Workers, with a membership of 375,000, and the Brotherhood of Carpenters, with a membership of 350,000.

The Belmont County Labor Congress will again meet in Bellaire, O., on May 17. The membership of the unions is, by a vote of four to one, voted in favor of independent political action. Over 3,000 men voted in the referendum. Bellaire County is across the river from Wheeling, W. Va., and

includes a string of cities with mills and factories in abundance.

The San Francisco Building Trades Council dedicated its new Labor Temple, Fourteenth and Guerrero streets, on Saturday evening, April 25. Invitations were sent out for the occasion, and it was fittingly celebrated with literary exercises and a grand ball.

**School Children Boycott.**

Three hundred school children at Chester, Pa., refused to enter the school building last week unless two of the teachers were removed. The teachers rode on a trolley car of the Chester Traction Co., against which there is a strike. When threats of arrest under the truancy law and pleas by the teachers failed to move the young boycotters the city superintendent declared a holiday. The trouble began, when two teachers, because rain was falling in torrents, boarded a trolley car that would take them within a block of their homes.

Ten prisoners were arraigned in the New York Court of Special Sessions last week on a charge of violating the factory law in employing children under sixteen years of age. Four of the prisoners were released under suspended sentence, and one, Isidor Reissler, had his bond of \$100 forfeited. The others were fined from \$10 to \$20 each.

Fully 2,500 unemployed men paraded in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on May 1. The Socialists had issued a call for the demonstration and great crowds marched thru the streets to St. John's Park. There was no Schmittberger on hand with clubs and as a consequence the demonstration passed off peacefully.

**Class Struggle in the North.**

The class struggle almost reaches the Arctic Circle. At Fairbanks, Alaska, the business men formed a citizen's alliance against the striking miners and subsidized a capitalist sheet for one month for \$2,000. The paper was boycotted and its circulation reduced one-half. The Alliance boycotted the union paper and its circulation increased two-fold. Some business men lost their nerve and profits, and then came over to the side of the miners. Strikebreakers were imported but, with the assistance of the troops, failed to break the strike. The struggle is still on.

All the members of the editorial staff of a daily paper in Matsuya, Japan, went on strike against the proprietor. In consequence, the latter was obliged to re-engage some writers who had been previously discharged.

The German master painters are going to lock out all the members of the Painters' Union in South Germany and a secret circular has been sent to all the masters asking them to join the lockout. The circular has been published by the Socialist press; despite, however, the efforts of the Masters' Association, it is said that Wirttemberg will not take part in the lockout.

**THE DEBATE IN COOPER UNION.**

Hillquit and Seligman Discuss Socialism Before a Large Audience.

The Professor Gets Indignant Over Criticism of President Roosevelt and is Ably Answered for His Uncalled for Attempt to Limit the Discussion.

The debate between Morris Hillquit and Prof. E. A. R. Seligman in Cooper Union, Wednesday, May 6, was a big success in every way. Every seat was occupied and many stood in the rear of the hall. The length of the debate prohibits its publication in The Socialist, but one incident took place that is worthy of notice. Comrade Hillquit in the course of his opening remarks spoke in part as follows:

"We notice, as a rule, that people who would otherwise carefully avoid fields of knowledge with which they are unfamiliar, for fear of making themselves absolutely ridiculous, will discuss all phases of Socialism without having taken the pains of informing themselves on its first essentials. A Maryland lawyer of mediocre ability is promoted to high office in the national government, and he at once acknowledges the honor by delivering a lecture on "Socialism and Charity". Just to show how little he knows of either. A well-known politician aspires to presidential honors, and he unhesitatingly proceeds to give to the country his valuable opinions on Socialism and on all social problems, all based on the alleged reading of one booklet on Socialism, written by a non-Socialist. A very enthusiastic, strenuous and somewhat noisy gentleman, thru the fortunes of war and misfortunes of peace, happens to find himself in the highest office in the land. He is under a bounden duty to disturb the quiet of our somnolent congress by periodic message eruptions and therein he gives most violent maledictions against the sordid Socialist philosophy, which you may be sure he has never studied."

Prof. Seligman became highly indignant at this reference to Roosevelt and proceeded to chastise Comrade Hillquit in the following language:

"I shall not attempt to rival the eloquence of my opponent, but will call attention in sober terms to the points that have been made. I must take exception only to one point, from the point of view of decorum or tactfulness. I object absolutely to the bringing into this discussion any spirit of criticism or obfuscation of the chief magistrate of the United States. If there is any one man who is trying to accomplish the very ends and ideals that are being sought by the party represented by my antagonist, it is the President of the United States. If there is any one man who has shown that he is obnoxious to both extremes, to the extreme individualist of whom I spoke at the beginning of the discussion, and to the radical, rampant Socialist, of whom I have heard so much to-night, it is President Roosevelt. For that he deserves, not obfuscation and criticism, but the thanks of every loyal citizen of the United States."

This unwarranted attempt to prescribe a limit to the discussion was listened to with astonishment by the audience, and Comrade Hillquit retorted it in the following vigorous language:

"Before going into the substance of the discussion I think I am bound to repel a certain charge made by Professor Seligman. I certainly never intended to imply or to say anything disrespectful or discourteous to Professor Seligman. I also do not suppose that he is responsible for the expression of my personal sentiments, and I must absolutely object to any effort or endeavor to place any kind of limit to any legitimate criticism I may desire to make against any man living, be he president or anybody else. And I will say next, and that with all due respect to my adversary, that if there is any man in high executive office who has forfeited the claim of immunity from criticism, it is Theodore Roosevelt. I say the man who, in high executive office, dares to brand men charged with crime before the public as undesirable citizens, invites criticism."

This statement brought forth tremendous applause. The following day the daily papers garbled the story and made much of the fact that a "lady", who was "shocked" at Hillquit's remarks, left the platform while he was speaking. Prof. Seligman also provoked surprise and amusement by his rebash of the discredited statement that Socialists wished to divide up. His defense was a weak one and scarcely creditable for one of his ability and knowledge.

**What Is It Worth?**

What is the wealthiest land on earth, if the Millions suffer and cry. And all but the happy, selfish Few would fain curse God and they? Wealth is a curse, and Art a mock, and Science worse than a lie. When they're but the gift of the greedy Thieves, the leeches that suck men dry.—Bulletin of the Clothing Trades.

**Ookrainian Socialist Weekly.**

"The Red Flag" is the name of a Socialist weekly now being published in the Ookrainian language in Winnipeg, Manitoba. It is a five column four-page paper and probably the only paper of its kind published in North America. Sample copies can be secured by addressing the publication at 467 Manitoba, avenue, Winnipeg, Man.

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