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THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST.

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SIXTH YEAR Historical Library. VOL. NO. 301.

CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1904.

PRICE ONE CENT

While the committees are working enthusiastically for the Daily, which we all hope will materialize, it must not be forgotten that we have a weekly now, and this needs and must have support. We do not ask you to do an impossible thing--just send \$2.00 for Five Yearly Subscription Cards. If the \$2.00 are not handy, send for the cards and forward money when sold.

DAILY SOCIALIST TIMES.

JUST A JOT OR TWO.

Name Adopted by Subscribers to Stock for the Daily Newspaper--Report of Meeting Held Dec. 3.

The comments which I shall make under this heading will be taken exclusively from the indictment of capitalists found in the news items of the Tribune of Dec. 6, which certainly furnishes pleasant reading for cold evenings.

The Oberlin Bank has failed. It may be that Carnegie signed the notes, and maybe he didn't. Under the present system, every one who wishes to place his money in a bank must do so by turning it over to private individuals, who may use the money for their private use and advantage. The bankers are un-ethical and legal obligations to return the money to the depositors when requested, but all business is a risk, and a banking institution is no exception to the rule.

The depositors are now raving mad at Mr. Beckwith, who may have been hypnotized. (But not one-half as badly hypnotized as the average wage-worker on election day.) They have lost by virtue of private enterprise. Some time ago there was considerable agitation for public savings banks, where the people of moderate means might deposit with perfect security. The News and the Record-Herald supported the proposition, but the advertisers soon told Mr. Lawson that it would be more to his interests that he accept their advertisements and cease their "patriotism," so Lawson dried up like a summer squash. As long as the people insist on turning their money over to private parties to be used to advance and promote the interest of capitalists, they have no reason to complain when they lose. They get what they vote for.

Thomas H. Carter, President of the National Commission at the World's Fair, has served notice on President Francis that the bribery, corruption and fraud in the awarding of prizes prevents the government committee from giving its sanction to the prizes. Mr. Carter has been asleep a long time. From the commencement of the building of the St. Louis Fair to the present time it has been one complete carnival of fraud, hold-up, grafting and bribe-taking. It is a common report among those holding concessions, from the electrical glass-cutting concession to the Boer War exhibit, that everyone has been held up by the management; that the buildings cost twice their actual value; that the pike has been especially emphasized because of the rake-off of President Francis and his crowd; and those who held concessions have been plundered by the pirate methods of the Louisiana World's Fair management.

A portion of the corruption noise which has been heard all over the country seems now to have reached the ears of a few in responsible positions at the World's Fair. The corruptive influence of capitalism penetrates everywhere, no matter how inspiring the task or the purpose may be. The whole system must be overthrown.

The large cars on Clark street are so close together that when passing each other a person caught between them is killed. Several people recently have lost their lives by this means, and Mr. Edward S. Lacey, a brother of the President of the Bankers' National Bank, was crushed and killed on Monday. His prominence may direct the attention of the people to the fact that spreading the rails about ten inches would have saved four lives in the last ten days. It will cost the street car companies some money to make this improvement, but as long as men of little income were killed, it made little difference; now that a man of some social standing has been immolated, we may expect that improvements necessary for a little public safety will be made.

Dr. Joseph F. Blehn, of the Health Department and a Tribune man made a tour of inspection through South Water street and found the "honest butcher man" of that district selling "painted pecan nuts." They were old and the meats were dried up, but by application of oxide of iron the ancient nuts were dressed anew and sold for this year's product. Self-preservation is the first law of nature. It leads a man to lie, steal, rob and cheat. The South Water street merchant is not different from a preacher who molds his expressions to suit the largest (?) contributor, the lawyer who sells his tal-

THE SPRING CAMPAIGN AND PRIMARY LAW

Facts Submitted for the Consideration of the Comrades and the Socialists of Cook County--The Great Work to Be Done and How to Do It.

TO THE SOCIALISTS OF COOK COUNTY:

THERE has been much rejoicing on the part of the fifty thousand people of the City of Chicago and Cook County over the magnificent vote cast by the Socialist party voters on Nov. 8. And well may each and every one of the fifty thousand set up a mighty shout, for that vote means the largest measure of success that has ever come to the Chicago and Cook County movement. Let me make myself very plain. There are four hundred thousand registered voters in the City of Chicago. Out of these four hundred thousand we have the great task of finding the names and addresses of the fifty thousand who voted the party ticket last November. This means an army of comrades setting up nights and working like Trojans evenings and Sundays ringing door bell and locating these voters. What an immensely happy Christmas we are all going to have and how this work is going to stimulate every fiber in each one of our trained proletarian muscles. How the lists of membership applications are going to roll in and how the new subscribers are going to flood the office of The Chicago Socialist until Comrade Edwards will put on one of his old-time smiles and Comrade Mance will again don that determined look, and his eyes shall snap fire. In six months' time we shall have to rent the Chicago Auditorium in which to hold our C. C. C. meetings, so great will be the crowds in attendance thereon and so many will be the applications for membership and the increased clerical labor that we shall have to rent the entire fifth floor of the Monadnock Building as our County, State and National Headquarters.

All these wonderful things are not so much due to our splendid organization in the past, but rather in spite of it. We have at last come to be a real factor in politics and have now become a legal party. Do you realize what that means? Let me tell you something about it:

It is no longer optional with our party to remain upon the official ballot as heretofore. We have either to go upon the ballot this spring by petition or under the primary law. No longer does the 2 per cent. of vote give us official standing. To go upon the ballot by petition means to secure 5 per cent of the voters upon the petition. This is an expense in itself something enormous, to say nothing of the labor involved. It, therefore, becomes imperative that we organize under the primary law, and however great the task we cannot shrink from it.

Inside of the next very few weeks we have got to have in the hands of our County Secretary a complete poll of the City of Chicago and notations made in a uniform manner upon the lists of registered voters that will enable him to have the names all transcribed upon cards and properly indexed and alphabetically arranged by wards and precincts. Then it also means that these same names must be brought into close touch with the organization in order that we may hold our primaries and successfully defend our party and its principles.

SOCIALIST PRIMARY CAMPAIGN FUND SUBSCRIPTION LIST. We, the undersigned, will pay the sums set opposite our names to create a fund to enable the Socialist party of Cook County to perfect the work of reorganization under the primary law in Cook County, Ill., and ask that receipt for same be published in The Chicago Socialist:

Table with 3 columns: NAME, ADDRESS, AMOUNT.

ent to any client who has the price, or the woman who yields her company for a consideration to a passer-by. It is all within the one system out of which we cannot lift ourselves, but which the Socialist movement can and will destroy.

We have been told by the eulogizing essays of jurists how judge-like justices should with blind eyes impartially weigh the evidence, viewing neither one side or the other with favor. This simple notion of unsophisticated Americans has been recently shocked by the conduct of a United States judge before whom is pending the legal aspect of the traction problem of Chicago.

Those who are graduated from law schools, and who have been filled with the flatterful eulogy of the legal profession, would suppose that this distinguished justice, who is honored by

The task is so stupendous that none but an aroused proletariat, who is determined to shake from his limbs the shackles that bind, would for a single moment think of engaging upon it. But there is no option for us in this matter. It must be done. And what must be done shall be done. What say you? Of course, you say yes. You can say no other word. All right. Then get ready for the duty that shall write deep and strong the name of the Socialist party in the annals of the spring campaign of 1905 in the City of Chicago and Cook County.

Let me burn into your class conscious minds the fact that one thing above all other things must be had and must be had NOW, and that is money--the cold, hard cash. I would not dare to say how much. The County Secretary inherited from his predecessor a bankrupt treasury. Not a particle of working material came with the office. Not a penny in money, a pencil or a pen, a desk or a letter file, and there are those great lists of names to be gone through--that four hundred thousand, out of which we are to find and classify the fifty thousand. Are we equal to the task? Most assuredly, and that right NOW. It takes a Socialist to do things and do them quick and to do them right. Here's the bill of fare. Fill your order, for YOUR cause will not brook the slightest delay:

ONE. Send to this office at once your own personal subscription to THE PRIMARY CAMPAIGN FUND.

TWO. Every member make a speech in the next branch meeting and tell each other what is needed, and then take up a collection for THE PRIMARY CAMPAIGN FUND, and send in the cash.

THREE. Cut out the blank at the bottom of this article and paste same on the head of a sheet of blank paper, and then quietly to your shop mates and strenuously to your acquaintances elsewhere, ask for good round contributions to THE PRIMARY CAMPAIGN FUND, and get the result of same into the hands of the Secretary at once, for your emancipation demands haste and energy and action and money.

Of course you have all read the notices to the branches about a meeting for canvassing purposes to be held on the 18th. There are many things that must be accomplished at that meeting. YOU MUST BE THERE; this work must be done, and your County Secretary will endeavor to explain the things necessary to be known on that occasion. But in order to do the work on that day, and do it well, get the subscriptions going, and get them going quickly. Whatever else you do, get the cash into the hands of the County Secretary and we will yet show old capitalism that the workingman has not forgotten how to organize, and that he, having learned how to toil for capitalism is not now afraid of the labor for himself that is involved in the Socialist party of Cook County measuring up to the demands of the Primary Law. Crowd in the subscriptions of THE PRIMARY CAMPAIGN FUND.

Yours for the Primary Campaign Fund, CHAS. L. BRECKON, County Secretary, 163 Randolph St., Room 27.

the ermine of a United States Judge-ship, would weigh the issues presented to him by the pleadings, evidence and attorneys for the respective sides, and that his opinion, if biased at all, would be on the side of the people of Chicago, who have voted for municipal ownership, but not this judge. Like most of them, he is as true instinctively to the capitalist class as any lackey that ever winked at his family with folded arms across his liveried breast as he rides at the tail end of an aristocratic carriage.

Judge Grosscup, the obedient errand boy of the traction company, runs to New York in the interest of the traction company. (Who pays the expenses?) And says the Tribune, Judge Grosscup has a plan "which requires two million dollars." The people of Chicago have a plan also, which will discount the problem of the United States Judge, who is working so hard

OUR STRIKE.

The Ballot is the Weapon--Class Consciousness the Force, It is impossible for some people to give in until they give out.

Yes, many a man goes to the front to find himself out behind.

Christmas is coming for the capitalists, and so is the working class.

Some people are so innocent and so honest they won't even take a tumble.

Politicians run for office because the workers run for jobs.

Capitalism puts you on the market. Hogs, 5c to 10c higher; labor, 5c to 10c lower.

Wall street has its stocks and bonds because the working class is stock in bondage.

Game pulpiteers are now pitching their voices against Socialism and call it a base hit.

According to the latest election returns the incentive to work must be coming our way.

Some people think Socialism is not what it's cracked up to be until they get a few cracks from capitalism.

From the way capitalist newspapers are yelping it is quite evident they understand our strike of Nov. 8.

Wage workers who are looking for tariff revision are more likely to get their brains revised.

Just think--over a half million votes for Socialism and not a god darn one hauled to the polls.

It is quite natural that some people should holler against Socialism to try and protect what little they know.

Capitalism has again gone to the mill to grind out cobs for the working class.

Politics may have no place in the universe, but it puts many a man out of his place.

A great many of the twentieth century wage workers seem to have a pull--like a horse.

If they put too much into that charter there might not be anything left to vote for next election.

So long as wage workers are short on brains, capitalists will be long on cash.

AMERICA'S AWFUL POVERTY PROBLEM.

Ten Millions of Our People Live in Poverty in "Prosperous" Times.

Mr. Robert Hunter of New York, well known for his work in various social settlements in this country and Great Britain, has published through the Macmillan Company an important book dealing with poverty in the United States.

There is a widespread belief that in this country there is much less poverty than in Great Britain and other European countries. Books like Mr. Sherwood's "White Slaves of England" and Jack London's "People of the Abyss" have raised cries of condescending pity and the self-complacent "Thank God, things are not so bad in this country!"

Mr. Hunter, who is a competent writer, has made a careful and scholarly study of the question, and he does not share this prevailing opinion. From the all too meager and confused sources of information yet available he draws terrible and convincing conclusions.

"It would seem," says Mr. Hunter, "imperative that every nation should know the number of people in its dominions who, although using their best efforts, are failing to obtain sufficient necessities for maintaining physical efficiency. How many people in this country are in poverty? Is the number yearly growing larger? I have not the slightest doubt that there are in the United States ten million persons in precisely these conditions of poverty, but I am largely guessing and there may be as many as fifteen or twenty million!"

The real difficulty is that no reliable measure of our national poverty seems possible. Our sources of statistical authority are as unreliable as they are numerous and confusing. Some three years ago I undertook to deliver a course of five lectures in New York City upon "Some Problems of Our National Poverty." Having spent most of my life in England, where there exists an utterly erroneous and unwarranted admiration for American statistical authority, I was not a little surprised to find that not only was there an almost entire lack of such independent researches into poverty problems generally as those of Messrs. J. A. Hobson, Charles Booth and others, but also that there should be no means of ascertaining even approximately the number of paupers. It seemed to me perfectly certain, however, that poverty was just as prevalent, and just

(Continued on page Three.)

FIRST OF THE SERIES OF WINTER ENTERTAINMENTS COLUMBIA HALL 62nd AND HALSTED STREETS SATURDAY EVE., DEC. 10, 1904 FIRST-CLASS PROGRAM AND GRAND BALL For the Benefit of the Party Paper, the CHICAGO SOCIALIST. Branches in the 6th, 7th, 31st and 32nd Wards Co-operating. Second Entertainment and Ball, North Side, Dec. 31 Hall to be Announced. Third Entertainment and Ball, N. W. Side, Jan. 14 Hall to be Announced. TICKETS ON SALE AT THE HEADQUARTERS, FROM BRANCH DELEGATES TO ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE AND SECRETARIES, AND AT THE DOOR 25c

3.00. GURNEY'S HATS. \$2.00.

Warm Caps and Gloves, Christmas Glee, now ready. Comrades should go to this store. All goods guaranteed union made. 97 East Madison, northwest corner Dearborn.

THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST

Issued every Saturday at 163 E. Randolph Street, Room 27, corner Randolph and La Salle Sts. CHICAGO, ILL. Auto. 8268.

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Editor, A. W. Vance; Business Manager, A. S. Edwards; State Secretary, J. S. Smith; C. L. Brecken, County Secretary.

Entered at the Postoffice, Chicago, Ill., as second-class matter, March 18, 1902.



If your branch is not bubbling with life and energy; if you have the blues, and don't know just which way to turn, come down to headquarters and have a talk with Comrade Brecken, our new County Secretary Organizer.

SOCIALISM AND LOCAL POLITICAL ISSUES.

For the next few weeks we will reserve space in the Chicago Socialist for discussion on the more important local political issues that are now and will for some time be uppermost in the minds of the people of Chicago.

Our city convention is not far off, and it is desirable that the rank and file of the party and Socialist voters have as large a knowledge of these subjects as possible before that time.

This week we print by permission a draft of a general outline of a new charter for Chicago, drawn by Mr. William Bross Lloyd, by way of getting this subject intelligently before our readers.

ABOUT THE DAILY SOCIALIST PAPER.

The committee elected by the stock subscribers last Sunday are holding daily sessions. The legal and business aspect of the enterprise will no doubt be faithfully attended to by this committee.

APITALISM LOOKING FOR DEFENDERS.

Think They See It in the Farmer. The following editorial from the Tribune of Dec. 7 speaks volumes. It demonstrates beyond a shadow of doubt that capitalism recognizes in the Socialist movement the only power which stands in the way of absolute mastery by the large capitalists the world over.

Organized labor is slow in learning this truth; but continually bumping up against the cold economic facts at Pittsburg, Buffalo, Pullman, Colorado, Packington and a hundred other places where labor has been defeated, has finally jarred the gray matter in the heads of working men a little below the surface.

ganda will be ineffective. Says the Tribune in this article, entitled—

"THE FARMER AND SOCIALISM"

Many of the hopes and many of the fears excited by the Socialist vote at the last election begin to shrink when they are confronted with the farmer.

What will the independent farmer think of having his corn field sown by the State or by the Nation? The prediction is thick. As the Socialists themselves say, a man's economic opinions are determined mainly by his economic position.

It is conceivable that in some States the farmer will be swept into an agitation for the national ownership of railroads. He does not usually own railroads. But Socialism is different. It calls for the national ownership of railroads only incidentally.

The Tribune writer apparently only sees a small portion of the whole, only a segment of a great circle. He says, "The Socialists are confronted with the task of carrying the nation without the farmer. This will take some time. They may wax fat and kick in the cities, but they will peak and pine on the prairies."

The vast majority of small farmers in the United States are renters, or what is about the same thing, living on a mortgaged farm and are at the mercy of the landlord, the money lender, the railroad and elevator trusts.

When once the tremendous advantage of co-operation on a large scale becomes apparent to them, there will be a most congenial soil for Socialist propaganda among them.

If the capitalists expect them to do that they will have to start in "changing human nature."

Socialism is coming, coming fast and such editorials as this from the Tribune is one of the best evidences of its progress.

THE PRICE OF PROFITS.

Wonders never cease! The Chicago Journal has turned reformer. It prints a series of articles headed, "City Clerks in Big Stores Face Problem in Living on Their Small Wage."

\$2.50 to \$3.50 a week; and a cashier, if she is experienced, gets \$4.50 a week. "Then there are other establishments where the girls receive from \$2 to \$4 a week, and also a 5 per cent commission on sales, with the prospect that, if at the end of the week their sales average less than \$5 a day, they will be discharged."

"Here the pay of regular cash girls is from \$2 to \$2.50 a week; and 'extras,' who are taken on the force for special occasions, get 33 cents a day."

"It is not the ordinary hardships of failure that a good woman fears so much as those dangers which she knows are waiting for, inviting, menacing, the woman who fails."

"There is only one way that reform in this matter can be brought about," says Edgar T. Davies, State factory inspector, "and that is through better feeling on the part of the employer."

This is the season when Organized Beggary stands on all street corners asking for money to give two square meals a year to the poor and 1,905 ditto to the whole lot of beggars forming the organizations. That is, the poor get what is left.

A Jefferson Park, Chicago, preacher censures Socialists because they teach ownership of property by the producers instead of the "holders." Seldom are the robbers' henchmen so candid.

Very frequently we see sickly writers telling young lovers how hard it to live on \$1,000, \$1,200 or \$1,500 per year, thus showing their contempt for the average family who has to get on somehow on \$400 or \$500, or even less.

STATE SECRETARY'S FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1904.

Table with columns for INCOME and EXPENSES. Includes items like Braidwood, Caseyville, Chambersburg, etc.

Table with columns for INCOME and EXPENSES. Includes items like Campaign fund, Half day lists, Return of balance of speakers, etc.

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Table with columns for INCOME and EXPENSES. Includes items like Postage and telegrams, Agitation and Organization, etc.

MILLS DISABLED. Comrade Mills was suddenly attacked by an old trouble last Friday morning. Expecting to recover, it was learned too late for general announcement that he would be unable to speak at Willard Hall on Saturday night, Dec. 3.

A PROPOSED CHARTER FOR CHICAGO.

An Act to Incorporate the City of Chicago and to Provide a Charter or Scheme of Government Therefor.

The following is a draft of certain sections which it seems to me desirable to include in Chicago's new charter and on which it is my hope that all good citizens can unite.

BOUNDARIES.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, that until altered, as hereinafter provided, the boundaries of the City of Chicago shall be as follows:

ANNEXATION AND DISCONNECTION OF TERRITORY.

Section 2. The inhabitants of the territory heretofore described shall form and constitute, and they are hereby constituted, a body corporate and politic for municipal purposes under the name and style of the City of Chicago.

POWERS OF SAID CITY.

Section 3. The inhabitants of the territory heretofore described shall form and constitute, and they are hereby constituted, a body corporate and politic for municipal purposes under the name and style of the City of Chicago.

Section 4. To exercise any powers usually incident to municipal or private corporations.

Section 5. To deal with, hold, acquire and dispose of for corporate purposes property, both real and personal, the same as a natural person.

Section 6. To alter and amend this charter at its pleasure.

Section 7. To assess and levy such taxes and to require and issue such licenses as it may deem best in the manner it may deem best.

Section 8. To hold, conduct and regulate municipal elections, general and special, at any time and in any manner deemed best, and to prescribe the qualifications of voters thereat.

Section 9. To elect such executive officers as it may determine.

Section 10. To provide for the appointment of such executive officers as it may determine and to prescribe the manner of their appointment.

Section 11. To provide for municipal courts and for the election or appointment of the judges thereof.

Section 12. To provide for the recall or dismissal of any appointive or elective officer.

Section 13. To control the finances and property of the corporation and to appropriate money.

Section 14. To exercise to the fullest extent the police power.

Section 15. To prescribe municipal offenses and to punish offenses by fine or imprisonment.

THE EXERCISE OF SUCH POWERS AND THE MANNER THEREOF.

Section 1. Twenty thousand qualified voters may by signing a petition and presenting it to the Board of Election Commissioners propose the enactment of any specified measure. On presentation of such petition it shall be the duty of said board to publish the text of such measure and to submit the question of the adoption thereof to the voters at the municipal election next ensuing after the expiration of sixty days from the presentation of the petition.

Section 2. The holder of any elective office may be recalled, removed and dismissed at any time by the electors qualified to vote for the successor of such incumbent. Upon presentation of a petition for the recall of any such officer signed by such qualified voters in number equal to at least twenty-five per cent of the entire vote cast for all candidates for the office in question at the last election thereof preceding such petition it shall be the duty of the Board of Election Commissioners immediately to call an election for such purpose and give public notice thereof, the said election to be held not less than twenty-five nor more than thirty-five days after the presentation of said petition.

OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

The powers heretofore conferred on said city may also be exercised by the City Council thereof, subject to their exercise by the legal voters thereof. No ordinance, order or resolution (except routine ordinances, orders, resolutions or urgency measures necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace, welfare, safety or convenience) shall go into effect until sixty days after its passage, nor until submitted to the legal voters and approved by a majority of those voting on the question of the approval or rejection of such ordinance, order or resolution if within the said sixty days a referendum is demanded by a petition filed with the Board of Election Commissioners and signed by 15,000 qualified voters.

All routine ordinances, orders and resolutions and all urgency measures necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace, welfare, safety or convenience may go into effect at once, but in all cases they shall be subject to alteration, amendment or repeal for sixty days after their passage, either by the legal voters through the initiative heretofore provided or by the Council, and if within the said sixty days a referendum thereof is demanded by a petition filed with the Board of Election Commissioners and signed by 15,000 qualified voters such ordinance, order or resolution shall continue, subject to alteration, amendment and repeal until the question of its approval or rejection shall have been submitted to the legal voters, and if approved by a majority of those voting on the question the ordinance, order or resolution in question shall go into full force and effect, but if a majority disapprove it shall stand repealed.

ELECTIONS.

Section 3. Whenever and as often as ten initiative or referendum petitions shall accumulate on file with the Board of Election Commissioners it shall be their duty to call a special election and to submit the questions involved in said petitions to the legal voters, provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall warrant the non-submission of the question on any petition on file at the time of any election, general, municipal or special, and provided, further, that such election shall not be called if within six months there is to be any election, general, municipal or special at which such questions can be submitted.

The petitions heretofore mentioned may consist of separate sheets on each of which sheets the substance of the measure shall be set forth and the measure shall thereon be specified with sufficient accuracy to identify it. The circulator of any such separate sheet shall make an affidavit under oath on the back of each such sheet that the persons purporting to sign actually did sign, or authorized him to sign for them, and that he did so in their

presence, and that he inquired of them as to their being qualified voters, and that to the best of his knowledge and belief they are such voters.

The words "legal voters" as used herein shall be construed to mean that such voter is qualified to vote by law at the election in question.

The words "qualified voters" shall be so construed as to mean one who at the time of signing is a legal voter, or who at the time of the next election may become a legal voter.

JUST A JOT OR TWO.

(Continued from First Page.)

principle, he might deny the bondholders of the traction company any relief whatever, but to do this would imply that the judge was a real judge and had at heart the interests of the people, but he is not; he is appointed by the president and his appointment is confirmed by that grand capitalist college of cardinals, the American college of the House of Lords and so his action is radically capitalist.

While England is civilizing Tibet with Bibles and beer, America is holding by its imperial power the Philippines as a stepping stone in taming the yellow peril.

The citizens of both countries at home are passing through an industrial depression which will bring untold suffering and distress. At the same time, the barbaric countries in the Orient are free from hunger and want, except when war, pestilence or natural disturbances destroys their crops.

It takes the wonderful brain of the Caucasian to create the means of increasing their wealth and poverty simultaneously.

The Carnival and Bazaar donation lists have been sent out to every branch in the county. Now let us do business by soliciting donations. Everybody give a Christmas gift to the Bazaar.

WORK IN THE STATE.

The first steps in the Illinois campaign of organization and agitation for the battle of 1906 has now commenced with our State Organizer, Comrade Collins covering the very promising field in Sangamon County from Dec. 8 to 14, where the County Secretary has arranged meetings in such towns and cities as Springfield, Dawson, Pawnee and Chatham to strengthen the organized towns at those places.

From there he will go to Madison County for a similar work, beginning with the 15th, and will stay in that county to the 22d, with the exception of Sunday, Dec. 18, when he will be in Belleville, for the purpose of helping the St. Clair County comrades effect a county organization. Into this county organization five locals will be merged, and aside from these the comrade intends to organize two or three more towns, which will give them the second largest county organization, in point of number of branches, in the State.

From all parts of the State word comes of active preparations being made by the locals to arrange meetings in various parts of their counties, and without a doubt, the campaign will be in full swing all over the State, immediately after the holidays.

Striking garment workers are preparing to form a company in competition with their employers. This will fail. Workingmen cannot in any instance form a co-operative enterprise WHICH IS PRODUCTIVE, with any chance in competition with the employers. It is impossible for a man to work himself as long hours and as tirelessly as the boss can work him, and as long as the boss can drive the wage-worker he will produce goods more cheaply and secure the market. In other words, unless a man is willing to enslave himself to the extent that his boss will enslave him, he has no chance in the open market. The only chance for industrial freedom is through the nationalizing of all organized industries and— that through the Socialist movement.

In Great Britain, countless thousands are hungry and starving; they are sleeping in the open air, in the parks, in gutters, and in the alleys. One out of every four in the great city of the Parliament are buried in the potter's field. The charitable institutions are not large enough and squandering royalty are unable to provide the necessities for the ragged and wretched, and the system denies the poverty stricken the privilege of even maintaining themselves.

In this glorious country where the people are equal sovereigns at the polls, here, where the best of productive machinery is within reach of all, we read that "the city (New York) certainly faces a serious problem in the care of the unemployed this winter."

Said Wm. C. York, superintendent of municipal lodging houses: "There are forty per cent more idle men this year than there were this time last year. During November of this year we cared for 7,787 persons, ninety per cent being men."

How men can expect anything after having voted a platform of nothing is the greatest puzzle.

THE CHICAGO DAILY SOCIALIST. A Daily Evening Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of the Working Class and the Principles of Socialism.

Subscription form with fields for Name, Address, City, State, and Date. Includes text: "I, the undersigned, hereby order and subscribe for a Daily Socialist Paper for a period of... for which I promise to pay at the rate of \$3.00 per year, in monthly installments of 25 cents; the first payment to be made upon receipt of the first issue of the paper delivered at my address."

SOCIALIST CARNIVAL AND BAZAAR

BRAND'S HALL FEBRUARY 12th TO 19th, 1905

GREATEST EVENT OF THE YEAR UNIQUE AND CORCEOUS SPECTACLE IN PREPARATION

"KRAEHWINKEL" PRESIDED OVER BY BURGOMASTER AND OFFICIALS ENTERTAINMENT AND FIRST-CLASS MUSIC EVERY NIGHT

Great Variety of Articles Will Be on Sale SEE THE WINE CROTTO

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IS A RADICAL CAPITALIST PARTY POSSIBLE IN AMERICA?

BY A. M. SIMONS.

(From advance sheets of International Socialist Review.)

In view of the tremendous growth of the Socialist vote at the last election the frightened capitalists of America are agreeing that the only thing that can save plutocracy is a radical pseudo-socialist party.

The desire for such a party is undoubtedly here, but is its formation a possibility? Do the industrial elements exist upon which it can rest? A brief historical survey of industrial and political conditions will help us on this point.

Turn now to the field of actual political events and see how far our philosophy is being justified. Any radical party must simply rest upon a general alliance of the discontented, and as we believe the laboring disaffected, since if they were intelligently discontented they would realize the truth of the Socialist philosophy.

When we come to examine our present society, however, we find that there is no place for such a party. The industrial foundation upon which all political organization must rest shows but one sharp line of cleavage—that between capitalists on one hand and the producers of wealth upon the other.

Before analyzing these elements further, however, it is well to ask what it is that these gentlemen propose to reorganize and whether its reorganization is at their disposal. We remember the old recipe for cooking a hare was, "First catch your hare," and up until the present moment the Democratic party seems to still be safely in the control of Gorman, Hill, Cleveland, Belmont & Co.

In both classes, however, there is one wing, which, because of the advanced

civilized. It is specially backward in its relation to the labor question. Its notorious lack of child labor legislation, its disfranchisement of the entire working class population, both white and black, its medieval race hatred, all combine to make it the worst possible sort of a foundation on which to build a radical labor party. It would be a strange reversal of social laws if the most backward portion of the country were to lead in the organization of a radical party.

Another phase to be considered is the existence of reactionary radicalism within the Republican party. What reason is there to hope that they will leave that vigorous organization at a time when the spoils of office are most rich to go seeking the uncertain fortunes of a new party. For it must always be remembered that the only party that can live as a losing party and maintain its existence with no spoils of office is the Socialist party, because it, like its proletarian membership, has nothing to lose.

Let us then consider whether the Socialist party is capable of fulfilling its historical function and incarnating the revolutionary forces of our present society. It has the advantage of having already taken the initiative. It has also the much more important and more fundamental advantage of representing the only revolutionary advanced portion of modern society—the proletariat.

Examining Mr. Hunter's data somewhat in detail, we find that while the number of public paupers in England decreases in spite of the increase in population, in this country the number of public paupers increases almost as fast as the population itself. The number of paupers dependent upon public relief (of course there is no means of ascertaining the number dependent upon private or semi-private sources) is estimated at 4,000,000. In 1903 more than twenty per cent of the total population of Boston were relieved by public charities. If we could add to the total the number relieved by private benevolence the results would undoubtedly be still more alarming.

Mr. Hunter finds the chief causes of poverty to be low wages, unemployment, loss of wages occasioned by accident or illness. A pressing and ugly feature of unemployment is the fact that an increasing number of men fail to find employment on account of premature "old age," men who should be in the prime of life at forty or forty-five being declared "too old" by a great many of the largest employers of labor.

Taking low wages as a cause of poverty, we find that while it has been estimated by a well-known official of a large New York charity that \$624 per annum is barely sufficient to provide the necessities of life for a family of five, a very large number of families have to live upon an income much below that figure. Mr. Hunter is very conservative and places the line of the lowest living wage at \$480 for a family of five persons in the industrial centers of the North and \$300 in the South. This, of course, is altogether too low. The impairment of physical efficiency would be inevitable with wages considerably higher. Yet there are tens of thousands of workers, by far the largest number of the unskilled workers, whose yearly wages fall below that figure.

For all these reasons, therefore—because of the irreconcilable contradictions within its small anti-monopolistic classes, and its dependence upon the reactionary solid South, and because of the positive organization of the Socialist party representing the only revolutionary class in modern society and corresponding to the only essential class division within capitalism—carrying on a campaign along national lines all year round, in close touch with all phases of the labor movement and having its forces in the great industrial nerve centers of our society—because of all these reasons we believe that the organization of a capitalist radical party of any importance is impossible and that the Socialist party is destined before many years to confront the party of monopolistic plutocracy in a final death grapple for supremacy.

AMERICA'S AWFUL POVERTY PROBLEM.

(Continued from First Page.)

as distressing in its nature, in this country, a conclusion which many of our most friendly lenders—some of them earnest Socialists—seriously questioned. Mr. Hunter in a much more elaborate manner and after a most exhaustive study has arrived at the same conclusion. Doubtless many persons will be surprised by Mr. Hunter's book. If they are only shocked into making the matter the subject of careful consideration, and, above all, demanding that something be done, Mr. Hunter will not have labored in vain.

What is "poverty"? Any definition in terms of income or actual possessions must be more or less arbitrary, of course. Have we not heard of the "poor family" with an income of only \$3,000 a year and the newspaper discussion on "Can a woman dress decently on \$2,000 a year?" But the definition which Mr. Hunter quotes from Prof. Marshall, that poverty means failure to obtain sufficient of the necessities of life to maintain physical efficiency, is sufficiently explicit and comprehensive for all purposes. And that there should be ten millions of our people so situated is at once a challenge to every right minded citizen and a menace to the nation.

Examining Mr. Hunter's data somewhat in detail, we find that while the number of public paupers in England decreases in spite of the increase in population, in this country the number of public paupers increases almost as fast as the population itself. The number of paupers dependent upon public relief (of course there is no means of ascertaining the number dependent upon private or semi-private sources) is estimated at 4,000,000. In 1903 more than twenty per cent of the total population of Boston were relieved by public charities. If we could add to the total the number relieved by private benevolence the results would undoubtedly be still more alarming. In New York in 1899, the last year for which there are available figures, 18 per cent of the population of the entire State received such assistance. In 1903 14 per cent of the families of the borough of Manhattan were evicted for non-payment of rent, and every year about 10 per cent of those who die in that borough are buried in pauper graves. These last two items are terribly eloquent. No one who is at all familiar with the life of the poor will fail to recognize their significance. To pay rent so as to keep the "home" together and to avoid the ignominy of a pauper's funeral are matters of deep anxiety to the poor. When one remembers that by far the greater part of the really poor never seek relief it is impossible to escape the conclusion that Mr. Hunter is very conservative in saying, "I should not be at all surprised if the number of those in poverty in New York, as well as in other large cities and industrial centers, rarely fell below 25 per cent of all the people."

Mr. Hunter finds the chief causes of poverty to be low wages, unemployment, loss of wages occasioned by accident or illness. A pressing and ugly feature of unemployment is the fact that an increasing number of men fail to find employment on account of premature "old age," men who should be in the prime of life at forty or forty-five being declared "too old" by a great many of the largest employers of labor. Taking low wages as a cause of poverty, we find that while it has been estimated by a well-known official of a large New York charity that \$624 per annum is barely sufficient to provide the necessities of life for a family of five, a very large number of families have to live upon an income much below that figure. Mr. Hunter is very conservative and places the line of the lowest living wage at \$480 for a family of five persons in the industrial centers of the North and \$300 in the South. This, of course, is altogether too low. The impairment of physical efficiency would be inevitable with wages considerably higher. Yet there are tens of thousands of workers, by far the largest number of the unskilled workers, whose yearly wages fall below that figure. How many cannot be told with accuracy so completely do our labor statistics based on misleading "averages" hide the truth. Before the industrial commission it was testified that 150,000 track hands on the railroads of the United States received wages ranging from 47 1/2 cents a day in the South to \$1.25 in the North. Half of these men, it was testified, are not employed in the winter months, but even if they could work every day in the year their wages would be only about \$150 a year in the South and \$375 in the North. It was also testified before the commission that there

(Continued on Page Four.)

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Mr. Hunter is a Socialist, though not, I believe, actually associated with the Socialist party movement.

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Branches are again reminded that the 25 cents per month for October, November and December, as delegate fees, is now due.

Attention—13TH WARD BRANCH. Comrades, take notice the last Friday of this month (Dec. 30) has been set apart for the election of new officers for the 13th Ward Branch.

Nearly 1,800 votes were cast in this ward for the Socialist party. Now is the time to join the ward organization and get in training for active work.

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AMERICA'S AWFUL POVERTY PROBLEM.

were on the same railroads not less than 200,000 workers employed in the shops at practically the same wages.

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