

CHICAGO DAILY SOCIALIST

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NEWS FOR UNIONISTS. Bricklayers of all local towns of the state of Minnesota are being organized into unions.

Boozers and raffians of New Orleans, La., are on strike for an increase in wages to \$15.00 a day.

Between 500 and 600 men who struck at the Tacoma smelter have organized the Tacoma Smeltermen's Union. The union is not yet affiliated with the international.

Toledo Socialists are just now endeavoring to bring about a revival of interest and for this purpose have engaged a permanent organizer, A. M. ...

Iowa team drivers of St. Paul will ask for the following scale of wages for 1907: Drivers, for summer months, \$80; helpers, \$75; winter wages, for all men engaged in hauling log, \$60; workmen ...

The Scottish Miners' Federation at its meeting at Edinburgh recently, condemned the employment of unskilled labor in mines, and a demand was made for its prohibition.

The 300 locomotive engineers on the Michigan Central railroad and its branches have decided to demand of the authorities an increase in wages sufficient to bring their pay to the standard pay of engineers in the United States.

Of the 15,430 members of trade unions forwarding returns from the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, 338, ...

A reduction of one and a half hours per day has been secured for the Waiters' Union, Chicago, by the action of the Boston Journeymen's Union, which includes Waitmen in its jurisdiction.

Protest against the action of the council in placing all bridge-tenders under civil service after July will be made to Mayor Dunm, who will be asked to veto the item of \$77,940 appropriated by the council for the installation of the civil service.

The provisions of the new appropriation bill will be required to work from the 1st day, which is a violation of union regulations. They declare that in order to install civil service \$20,700 would have to be added to the present appropriation of \$77,940.

The labor people of Norfolk, Va., will be running a paper of their own soon. Application for a charter with this end in view has already been made. It is understood that the paper will be named ...

Though the strike of the mill hands in the Montgomery, Minn., mill has now been on for some months there seems to be no signs of settlement, and strike-breakers are still being brought in from outside towns.

The first benefits derived from the alliance of New Bedford, Fall River and Pawtucket loom fixers have fallen upon the loom fixers of the Naushon mill of Central Falls, R. I., who are out on strike. It is figured that with these benefits derived from the United Textile Workers the strikers are each getting about \$12 a week ...

Practically every labor organization in Chicago will turn out either all or a large portion of its membership, to parade Saturday evening to protest against the treaty steel. Letters to that effect are daily being received by Secretary Nockels from the officials of the unions affiliated with the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Building trades workers of New York are to be organized in a state federation that is expected to have a membership of about 200,000 men. The Consolidated Board of Business Agents of the Association of Building Trades has approved the general plans for the organization of the State body for defensive alliance against the encroachments of non-union and foreign labor.

Mechanists of Chicago are unanimously voting for a 25 cents a day increase in wages. It is expected that the local union will report the result of their vote to the district council on Friday. As soon as the results of the vote is known the council will appoint a committee to inform the bosses of the changes which the new agreement will contain.

Employees of all department stores in the loop district are hand-in-glove with the car service which if Bussie is elected mayor. The very real, however, with which the State street peddlers, who exploit thousands of daughters of the working class mercilessly, see that the peddlers should reach their employees, defests their object. The exploited clerks realize that were Bussie a friend of the working people, the peddlers who are the worst enemies of the laboring class, would not boss him so much.

GETTING WARM IN OLD MOBILE ON THE GULF

Out of 480,000 Citizens only 80,000 Cast Their Ballots--It Will Cost Same Men \$7.50 to Vote

By HENRY E. ALLEN, Special Correspondent of the Chicago Daily Socialist.

Mobile, Ala., March 25.—The cause of industrial justice is having a sort of revival in old Mobile at present. Freeman of Fairhope, Ala., is acting as a revivalist.

At a series of meetings is being held here at union labor headquarters every Saturday night, with good attendance, and beginning next Sunday outdoor meetings will also be held.

The Mobile papers are giving these meetings good publicity. The Daily Register giving two and one-half columns to the last meeting.

EMPLOYERS ORGANIZE. The Employers' Association of Mobile has just been organized to fight union labor, and this has done much to bring about more energy and greater harmony among the wage slaves.

The fear is on here that is now being so strenuously waged in northern cities. Two national officers were here last week at the solicitation of the unions and held good meetings. Both were most pronounced in favor of political action by the unions and were loudly applauded for this stand.

Some unusual conditions obtain in Alabama. Out of 480,000 votes, only 80,000 votes are cast. This is owing to the poll tax of \$1.50 levied on every voter. This tax is cumulative and amounts to \$7.50 to each voter who has not voted for five years, since the enactment of the law, which was done principally to disfranchise the colored man.

There is much dissatisfaction with the law, as it prevents the most intelligent class from voting.

RELIEF IN SIGHT. On the other hand, "the Farmers' Union" has a membership in this state alone of 80,000. It is growing rapidly all over the South, and is serving well as a stepping-stone to Socialism, for it is educational in large measure.

The banana business is being worked here by machinery, each boat carrying about thirty carloads. They tell me that there would be good profit in this business if the bunches were sold even as low as 15 cents each, for the banana plant in the region of the Panama Canal is practically a weed; requires no cultivation and grows rapidly and continually.

The banana business has grown into a large monopoly, like most other articles of common use.

WHO ARE REDS? In Mobile, as everywhere else, I have visited the readers, the students, in fact, of the local university. They are awake people, who are either Socialists or are headed that way.

"SOCIETY" STOCK GAMBLERS LOSE

New York, March 27.—The so-called "social pool," made up of eight or ten young New York and Newport millionaires, took their last losses in the stock market on Monday when 80,000 shares, the last of the long line of stock they held, were dumped overboard for what they would bring.

The "social pool" couldn't or would not respond to any further calls for margins, and their holdings were sold out by their brokers without further ceremony.

These young plungers went into the market heavily last summer when they bought 200,000 to 250,000 shares of the Harriman Pacific stocks on a "tip" from the insiders.

When stocks began to boom the members of the "social pool" held a celebration in Newport over the enormous profits they had on paper. The 200 goal seemed nearly reached and not a share did the "social pool" unload. Somebody evidently wanted Christmas money in December, and stocks began to fall but the "social pool" held on. Things looked very squally around January 1 and thereafter the market refused to go up and has been dropping ever since.

The "social pool" paper profit all faded weeks ago and since then they have had nothing but losses.

FIVE COLLEGES GET ROCKEFELLER COIN. New York, March 27.—The first distribution of the Rockefeller coin, the board since it received John D. Rockefeller's most recent contribution of \$2,000,000 was made at a meeting today, when conditional gifts totaling \$25,000 were made to five educational institutions. The money was divided as follows:

Yale university \$300,000 Princeton university 200,000 Bryn Mawr university 150,000 Colorado college, Colorado Springs 50,000 Michigan college, Jackson, Mich. 25,000

The board voted to give a total of \$42,500 to colored schools, the names of which were not made public lest the help of the board should tend to discourage gifts to these schools from other sources.

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HOOSIER WOMEN WRITE Expect to Educate Their Sisters Who Suffer Through Man's Ignorance.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 27.—Socialist women here have organized a club for the purpose of spreading class-conscious education among the women and enlisting them as party members. A systematic study of Socialism will be taken up.

TRADE UNION MEETINGS. Cement Construction Fibre and Sidewalk Workers' Union, Local No. 4—Special meeting Wednesday night at the shooting of a kitchen agent at 241 South Halsted Street, C. H. Malloy.

Furniture Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local No. 222, J. T. of A.—Meeting Wednesday at 75 Randolph Street. All attend. J. Reed, Secretary and Show Streets' Joint Council—Meeting Wednesday night at 107 Temple. All attend. F. W. Lee.

Following leaders of the International Association of Machinists will vote Wednesday on a one week assessment to be used in case of strike: Pines Lodge No. 84, meeting at 125 North and Latin streets; Prosperity Lodge No. 125, meeting at 111 and Ninety-second streets; Marquette Lodge No. 135, meeting at 111 and Ninety-second streets; Marquette Lodge No. 237, meeting at 33 North Clark Street.

Garage and Parcel Delivery Drivers' Union, Local No. 123, I. B. of T.—Meeting Thursday night at Adams and Halsted streets. All learn rewards offered. C. H. Malloy.

Furniture Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local No. 222, J. T. of A.—Meeting Wednesday night at 75 Randolph Street. All attend. J. Reed, Secretary and Show Streets' Joint Council—Meeting Wednesday night at 107 Temple. All attend. F. W. Lee.

Following Machinists' locals will meet Thursday evening to vote on a \$1 a week assessment to be used in case of a strike for eight hours day: Bellamy Lodge No. 208 at Thomas hall, Thirtieth Street and Fifth Avenue; Liberty Lodge No. 227 at 111 and Ninety-second streets; Liberty Lodge No. 330 at Turner hall, 1331 D. Versey.

The political barometer of the Chicago Federation of Labor registered a change yesterday. President Fitzpatrick replaced his Dunne button by a "little baltok" button. Whether this was done intentionally or whether the friendship which Dunne has shown the teamsters during their strike in 1905 has suddenly dawned upon the head of the federation, the gods alone can tell.

FEAR FIRE IN BUTTE WATER SHUT OFF WELL, ALL IS OVER! ROTHSCHILD SAFE

London, March 27.—Lord Nathan Mayer Rothschild, in an interview yesterday, attributed the present fear of a panic in England as due to the growth of Socialistic tendencies in the British parliament.

"Why all this talk of a panic?" Lord Rothschild asked. "There is no panic. There has been a certain amount of selling on account of the strikes upon property, and consequently prices have been depressed. But there is no foundation for many statements that are being made."

Lord Rothschild, however, warned the working people to be conservative. It is useless, he said, to attack capital and expect employment to be found for labor.

Approximately \$60,000 were lost to the people of Cicero, Ill., not long ago in the failure of the Lincoln bank.

This loss of the town's money has destroyed its credit and has made it practically impossible to dispose of municipal securities issued to cover the loss of local improvements.

Now property owners are up in arms against the men who are responsible for the loss of the town's money. They say this loss will mean a heavy increase in taxes.

Old party lines have been broken down for the first time in years and a new party, known as the "Citizens' Independent" has been formed which promises to give the people a "business" administration free of graft, better fire and police protection, better water and an improved lighting system.

Many republicans and democrats are said to be flocking to the new standard.

The independent ticket will probably win at the polls as the candidates are bitter in their denunciation of the Lincoln Bank, where hundreds of small investors lost their entire savings.

The Socialists of Cicero are ticketing in the field and are conducting a "not campaign." They are striving to convince the voters that as long as they have "business" administrations they will have graft.

Socialists at Mountain View, Nucle, Colo., have organized a co-operative society and the title of the Mountain View Socialist Association.

The preamble of the constitution adopted declares the object of the association to be to establish and maintain an industrial, social, and educational center along the lines of the ideal of future co-operative commonwealth. The association has 320 acres of good land, situated in the grain and fruit belt, with a good water system. An appeal is made for funds.

The following is the Socialist city ticket of Taylorville, Ill.: Mayor, Charles E. Harper; city clerk, George Hartzell; city treasurer, George Beatty. Aldermanic candidates also were nominated.

P. C. Ford, a prominent Michigan Socialist and a lecturer, died at Whitehall, Mich., from the effects of poison which he drank from a jug thought to contain cider.

Socialism has broken out at Ragleville, Ind. Odon and Ragleville Socialist locals met at "Village View," the home of Mrs. John Wadsworth, at Ragleville, last Sunday. Several new members joined the Ragleville local. A number of subscriptions were taken for the Chicago Daily Socialist, Wilshire's, and the Appeal to Reason.

Odon, Ind., local is now engaged in starting a local library. Socialists having anything to give will please write J. M. Garten, librarian, Odon, Ind.

Edward Ellis Carr of Chicago is expected to speak in at McKeesport, Pa., about April 15.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Cray of Prairie du Chien, Wis., were visitors at the office of the Chicago Daily Socialist yesterday. Mr. Cray is secretary of the newly organized Socialist local of Prairie du Chien. He says that three years ago there were only three Socialists in the town. He said that the first vote cast in Prairie du Chien, and at the last state election there were twenty-nine. For the first time in the history of the city Socialists have nominated supervisors and aldermen in two wards, the First and Second. The prospects are bright for a heavy gain in the vote this spring. The Daily Socialist has twelve subscribers in the town.

Robert L. Owen, the reputed millionaire of Muscogee, who is running for United States senator, spoke at Lexington, Va., last Sunday. He depicted the death of competition through the formation of trusts, but offered no remedy save the election of a Democrat. He did not say, however, how that would help.

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The VOICE OF THE STREET By ERNEST POOLE



"But Gretchen—why Jimmy, she sees pretty so young. And her love for you is so young, so fresh, so big in the heart, so little in the head. How can she know for all her life? How long she will live, how short and sweet in places. So many places, Jimmy, in some of these plays so quick and fine, in some so heavy—so slow. So many places ahead, and for Gretchen I want all de nuts—quick and fine! And you—are you old? Why Jimmy you see old about you?"

Jim glanced up, and then walked on a moment in silence. He spoke slowly: "I don't know how it is, but I feel old. I tell you I feel a whole lot older."

"Yes," said Fritz, eagerly, "you feel old, but so you feel shoot because you are young. Ven you feel really old den neffer you feel such a oldness. Only now you feel it—old and strong and safe and wise!"

He turned smiling and held Jim's eyes with his. "But Jimmy you are you? Shoot a big glad beauty song. Your heart—does you feel. You feel, and now you feel so true. But how will you feel to her for all your life ahead? Ach! Don't smile! And Gretchen, how will she feel for you? Wait! Don't turn away! I mean—for you—if you change, if you again be as you were on de street."

"What do you mean?" Jim's voice was sharp. Fritz looked back steadily. "Jimmy, now you are fine, you are pure, you are safe. But vot hat you be-hind? Look back, Jimmy, look back! Would she love you if she saw all vot you did on de street? Maybe so. But would she?"

Jim looked at Fritz. "What do you mean?" Jim's voice was sharp. Fritz looked back steadily. "Jimmy, now you are fine, you are pure, you are safe. But vot hat you be-hind? Look back, Jimmy, look back! Would she love you if she saw all vot you did on de street? Maybe so. But would she?"

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kept looking at the man and Joe seemed kind of mesmerized. He looked so queer we all got joking him about it—the proprietor joked most of all. He didn't like Joe at first, didn't want to take him back till he heard Joe play. Joe has some chords now that are wonderful—mighty rough and awful sad, like Joe himself. The proprietor was tickled to death. He said those chords made a stunning set-off for my songs. My songs are all the glad kind now."

"How did you fix the money part?" asked Gretchen. "Not in the same old way?"

"Well, not at first," said Jim slowly. "But since then I've kind of changed things."

"Oh—Jimmy!" "Now listen to this," Jim leaned forward. "Understand I don't say the man is square. But how could he have talked squarer here?—Listen. I told him at first I wouldn't sing unless he put me on a salary by the week. 'All right,' he said, 'do exactly as you please.' So I did. And he gave me ten dollars."

"Ladies the way I used to. I'm too old—and well, I'm not like the Hungarians—I can't do it."

"I hope you can't!" cried Gretchen, sternly. "All right—but don't blame him. He pays me all I'm worth. I said I would only sing twice a night—that's not much. You see I was bound not to hurt my voice. So I went on for about a month, and he never said a word. Then I went to him and told him how I was fixed. I needed six dollars a week for my lessons, that left me only four to live on. He said he was sorry but he couldn't pay me more than the 'market price.' Then I asked him to let me sing three songs a night for twelve dollars a week."

"All right," he said. So I tried it for a week. But it was bad; I'll tell you why. Some nights the 'Rip' is packed full, and some nights it's empty and dull. On the big nights, if you do make a hit, you've got to be a good fellow and sing when they well for you; so I did—after four or five times. Then I got thinking it over. Why not get paid for those extras? I went to him again and he laughed hard.

"All right!" he said again. And that settled it. Oh, don't look so anxious! Please!"

Jim leaned way over, still holding her eyes with his. She saw his eyes change; she could feel he was keeping back something, something that made him suddenly anxious. His voice was very low.

"I tell you I must stay free! I'm made that way. If I must sing in the 'Rip,' it's better to be free and just get paid for what I sing. But I won't burn up my voice. It won't run away with me! And I'll never gamble again! Because—you'll help me—and we'll just hold it in by ourselves. Won't we?"

Gretchen was gazing at him—or through him, far into the future. "Gretchen! Don't you see? I must learn to sing—that's to be my whole life—and to sing I must have lessons—and for lessons I must have money. In the 'Rip' I am now up to fifteen dollars a week—so now I can take five lessons instead of three. Fifteen dollars! Where else could I make it? Don't you see? There's no other way!"

"No other way." How hard she thought in the next few weeks. Never had she wanted money and worried over it as now. More and more she felt that Fritz and she in their poverty were dragging Jim down.

Once she tried again to find work, but Fritz and Jim were so stern that she did not try again. She was still weak and did her best to get strong quickly; she rested much and took short walks, and those were times for more thinking.

"So he's mighty glad to get me back!" cried Jim. "He laughed and said, 'You're a safe investment! That's open enough, isn't it? Just plain business. But he likes me besides; he likes to see me and Joe back.'"

"Why, yes," said Jim simply. And then, after a pause: "What do we know for sure about Joe? Is he bad or good? If he's doing anything bad, does it hurt him to play for me while I sing? Isn't it a good thing to keep him straight? But Joe—well, Joe's queer. He gets all by ups and downs. Two nights a week he scowled like a black devil every time he saw the proprietor, but last night he

(To be continued.)

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If The Socialists Win

If the working men of Chicago should decide on next Tuesday to vote for themselves and the candidate of their class, George Koop, and should place him, together with the Socialist candidates for aldermen in the various wards in control of the city government, it would mean more for the men and women who have produced the wealth of this city than anything that has happened in the last fifty years.

It would mean that for the first time in the history of the United States a great American city was controlled and directed for the purpose of helping the worker instead of the idlers, of increasing wages instead of profits, of helping producers rather than parasites.

EACH AND EVERY DEPARTMENT WOULD BE MANAGED AND CONTROLLED WITH THAT SINGLE OBJECT OF FURTHERING WORKING-CLASS INTERESTS.

The building department, for example, would devote its time to improving the housing conditions under which the workers must live. The present laws, if enforced, would level the entire slum district to the ground and replace the present disease infected death traps with healthy, habitable HOMES. The Socialists have already done much along this line wherever they have obtained any portion of power in the cities of Europe.

The Board of Education would make it its business to increase the number of teachers, pay them better salaries, provide better equipment, feed and clothe those children whose parents were unable to provide proper food and covering, increasing the number of playgrounds, make of the school buildings a place for neighborhood gatherings, and transform the entire school system into an agent for the social betterment.

The department would be used to enforce the law against the capitalists who are stealing the heritage of present and future generations of workers as well as against the petty criminals who are seeking to satisfy the pangs of hunger, or are the victims of a criminal-breeding civilization.

The health department would find its function in guarding the health of the people against the murderous ravages of profit seekers. Inspectors would proceed upon the basis that property has no rights whatever as balanced against human life. They would not fear to strike at the cause of disease, and certainly WOULD NOT PERMIT A MILK COMPANY TO POISON A CITY WITH THE GERMS OF SCARLET FEVER IN ORDER TO PROTECT A PROFITABLE BUSINESS.

The fire department would be administered on the principle that the lives of the men who fought the fire were at least as worthy of care as the property they protected, and the workers in the fire department would be given a chance to get acquainted with their families.

In every department nothing less than union wages would be paid and the employees would be encouraged to stand together in their organizations to secure the very best possible conditions of livelihood for themselves and their fellow workers in private employment.

By this time the reader who has his mind filled for him every morning out of a capitalist controlled newspaper, just as he has his stock of coal replenished by the coal trust each month, will be saying "All this is very nice, but where would the money come from with which to do these things?"

Here are some of the ways that a Socialist council would do the work. They would raise the tax rate on corporations, department stores, vacant land, franchises, banks, factories, and similar great capitalist institutions to something near the rate now charged upon the house and lot which here and there a workingman has succeeded in purchasing. THAT WOULD RAISE THREE OR FOUR TIMES AS MUCH AS ALL THE THINGS HERE PROPOSED WOULD COST.

Remember that the city administration would be conducted, not upon the principle that private property ought to be maintained, but that it ought to be taken for collective use, and that instead of seeing how little MUST be taken for public use, the constant aim would be to find out how MUCH COULD BE SECURED.

There is enough city property being used rent free by capitalists in this city, if a proper rent could be exacted, to furnish all these amounts over again. But such rents can never be effectively collected by an administration that is based upon the principle that private possession of the essentials of a city's life is something to be desired, approved and extended.

A Socialist administration, inspired by such principles, would care very little what franchises had been granted by previous administrations. There are few franchises in this city that will return a profit without constant and systematic violation of the law, and a Socialist administration would not extend police protection to lawbreakers. If the capitalists concluded to be law-abiding they would find it difficult to make money.

If you do not believe this remember the packers and embalmed beef, remember the adulterations in practically every article of food, and the thousand and one criminal practices inseparable from profit taking.

A Socialist city government would not hesitate to enter any line of productive industry where the interests of the workers might demand it. Such a government would distribute coal to its own citizens, construct municipal slaughter houses to secure pure meat, or establish its own markets to furnish pure food of all kinds, or even build factories to supply the things needed by the workers.

All of these things have been done by Socialists in other cities in Europe and have pleased the people so well that the Socialist vote is steadily and rapidly increasing in every European country.

It seems superfluous to say that a Socialist city government would not use the police to break strikes, guide scab teamsters or permit employers to herd scabs in barracks in violation of every city ordinance AS THE LAST TWO MAYORS HAVE DONE.

IF YOU THINK YOUR INTERESTS WOULD BE FURTHERED BY SUCH AN ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT VOTE THE SOCIALIST PARTY TICKET NEXT TUESDAY.

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE NOT BRAINS ENOUGH TO RULE YOURSELF, BUT WISH THE CAPITALISTS TO CONTINUE TO DO YOUR THINKING FOR YOU, AND TO RULE AND ROB YOU, THEN VOTE FOR BUSSE OR DUNNE.

AND THE CAT CAME BACK



Did He Really Want It to Stay Away?

THE INCENTIVE TO INVENT

AMBITION AND INVENTIVE GENIUS.

"Would not Socialism stifle ambition, and result in the extinguishment of all inventive genius?" asks the man who has himself created many useful inventions, while some one else has profited by them. He fears that Socialism will throttle the energies of such as he.

Why should ambition or inventive genius be stifled by the guarantee of comfort and plenty which is proposed in the co-operative commonwealth? As well assume that the great artist who produces an Angelus while living in comfort, surrounded by conditions which inspire the best that is in a human soul, would have produced a better picture had he lived in a garret, with hunger and abject poverty for his daily companions, while wife and children cried for bread.

This might be true were money the only inspiration to effort. But who ever heard of an inventor, a painter, a sculptor, or a composer of music or verse, who found his or her greatest inspiration in the hope of financial reward? Did any man or woman ever perform an act of heroism or sacrifice for money alone? If they did, the writer does not know of it.

Socialism would not stifle ambition or inventive genius. On the contrary, the conditions made possible for every man would furnish the greatest incentive to ambition and genius in the world. But it might somewhat change the bent of these desires. The brains of men would not then be employed to devise schemes for fleecing the people out of what they possessed, for the purpose of building up the wolves at the expense of the lambs, as now. Man's greatest inspiration would be found in creating something which would add to the welfare and happiness of his fellows.

How does the inventor fare today under the system of competition? There are more than 1,000 patents issued by

the patent office each week in the year, yet the number of men or women who have realized a competence for themselves from their efforts can be counted on the fingers of the two hands. Elias Howe died comparatively poor. Morse ditto. Watt, Stevenson, and Fulton were also poor men at the time of death.

The inventor of the block signal system, in use on many railroads, died in a madhouse, crazed because no corporation could be induced to try his invention, and after his death several railroads adopted it at once as the very best possible device to avoid rear end collisions on double track roads.

Mergenthaler, the inventor of the typesetting machine bearing his name, died comparatively poor in Baltimore two years ago. But his machine was not accepted as a labor-saver, until Robert Shuckers, a Chicago printer, invented what is known to printers as the wedge-shaped space, for automatically justifying the lines of matrices set up by the operator. A corporation is said to have made \$30,000,000 already out of this machine. Shuckers himself is an employe in one of the departments at Washington as a clerk, at a very ordinary salary. He failed to secure recognition from the corporation making the machine, and sold his rights for a paltry thousand dollars to another concern.

Edison, than whom no man ever achieved greater success as an inventor, is a comparatively poor man. And so it is with the inventors of the cotton gin, the power loom, the rotary pump, the compressed air drill, and many other of the most useful products of the brain of man.

Under Socialism the inventor would himself reap the full reward of his effort, and be given a place in the Hall of Fame just in proportion as his invention was of value to society.

Do you not think there would be in such a system sufficient incentive to stimulate every man or woman to their best efforts?—A. M. Dewey.

A Laugh or A Smile

By P. B.

"How is your daughter getting along as a stenographer? Is she meeting with success?"
"O, yes. Her employer proposed last week."

A poor man can look at the Easter finery of the women and enjoy it, and that is more than the rich man can do.

When they have a panic in Berlin now they blame it on the American market. The Socialists are getting quite a rest.

The French are going to forbid both the manufacture and sale of absinthe. Is it possible that Paris has learned how to drink real booze at last?

Of course, Attorney Delmas thinks Thaw is sane. Didn't Thaw show a fine sense of discrimination when he picked Delmas among all his lawyers as the leader?

"I suppose you get all of your money easily?" we say to the youth who is spending his cash freely.
"Easily?" he repeats with emphasis. "If you knew father you wouldn't say that."

It doesn't help the stock market any for James J. Hill to keep seeing those "red lights ahead."

The bachelors and spinsters of Fort Dodge, Ia., ought not to kick at that compulsory marriage law. It isn't far to the South Dakota line.

What are the poor railroads to do when even Mr. Rockefeller turns against them and informs the people that they are overcapitalized?

"Yes," said Cholly, "the chasm was yawning beneath me."
"Gracious! You don't say," interrupted the fair girl. "What had you stories?"

Wall street's family physician just now seems to be Dr. Cortelyou of Washington, D. C.

Zelaya has captured Tegucigalpa and judging from the way it looks in print it proved a mouthful.

The residence of a Chicago theatrical manager was robbed of \$3,000 worth of jewels. Not an actress, but a theatrical manager, mind you.

President Zelaya has proved himself to be a great fighter, but it won't do to say so for fear he will get stuck on his fighting qualities.

SERVED PIM RIGHT.
"And who is this poor wretch who is raising such an awful fuss?" we ask of the attendant who is escorting us through the lunatic asylum.
"O, that is Dr. Whiffles. Before he went crazy he was an insanity expert and testified in murder cases."

Goethals to succeed Engineer Stevens on the Panama canal should have sent along a chart telling the people how to pronounce it.

Senator Burton's complete speech consumed 20,000 words, but look how long he had in jail to work on it.

The bud which gets all swelled up over a little warm weather is likely to have some of its vanity chilled by the frost.

The doctrine of heaven is a soporific, a narcotic to keep people quiet whose syst. are racked by pains, and like all narcotics it is a deadly poison! Once let people realize that all the heaven they can be sure of is that which they make for themselves, and for their children here and now, and they will wake up with a feverish energy to the work of reform here and now.—Henry D. Lloyd.

Just a Few Jokes.

DESPERADO.
"So this is a typical frontier town, eh? I suppose you have citizens who have killed their men?"
"There goes one now."
"A peaceable looking chap. How many notches has he on his gun?"
"He doesn't carry a gun."
"Not carry a gun?"
"Nope; he's a doctor."—Houston Post.

"I see you have chicken for dinner."
"Yesuh," said Erastus Pinkley.
"I hope you bought the chickens."
"Well, so; but the transaction were strictly regular. Dat chicken has been roostin' on my fence for months without payin' nuffin, an' I reckoned it were 'bout time to fatchose."—Washington Star.

Eager—"How did you create such a demand for your patent medicine?"
Quack—"Just advertising sufficiently."

Eager—"But didn't it cost almost a fortune to advertise?"
Quack—"O, no. I just got the police to order the drug stores not to sell it on Sundays."—Florida Times-Union.

The builders of many an air castle live in the garret.
Never judge a man by the letters his stenographer writes.
Dreams of heaven have never made this world a paradise.

"The evidence shows, Mrs. Mulcohey, that you threw a stone at Policeman Casey."
"It shows more than that, yer Honor. It shows that O' his him."

"He has been called to one of your modern, institutional churches, I hear."
"On the contrary. If I am correctly informed, his new charge is one of the old fashioned, destitute churches."
—Puck.

QUALIFIED.
"We want a man for our information bureau," said the manager, "but he must be one who can answer all sorts of questions and not lose his head."
"That's me," replied the applicant.
"I'm the father of eight children."

ONE ON THE AUTO.
Farmer—"What's that thing stuck up on the side of the auto?"
Ostler—"That's a spare tire, in case of the wheels going wrong."

Farmer—"Um—well, I've a-druv 'esses for nigh on fifty year, an' I never carried a spare leg for one of 'em yet."

When Mark Twain was city editor of the Virginia City Enterprise, back in the '70s he used to brighten up the columns of his paper with comic paragraphs setting forth the advantages of advertising. These paragraphs were based of all kinds of odd facts—on murders, on crop reports, on kidnappings, on the weather. One paragraph was like this:
"Germany has just discovered a buried forest in her midst, supposed to be it had advertised in the Enterprise, the chances are that it would have been returned to him that night."

"Excuse me, have you a cigar about you?"
"Sure. Here's one. A good one, too."
"Will you be kind enough to smoke it? That one you're smoking is fierce."
—Milwaukee Sentinel.

"Young Fitzleigh is a man of very engaging personality, isn't he?"
"Quite so. He has three suits for breach of promise on his hands already."
—Baltimore American.

EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

By J. J. KRAL.

The strike of the pile drivers which has tied up river and harbor improvement work in Chicago and vicinity is a striking proof of a curious anomaly in our industrial affairs. While organized labor has secured the eight-hour day in many lines of private industry, the pile drivers and others, working directly or indirectly for the federal government, have been compelled to work ten or twelve hours a day.

One would naturally expect that the government of the richest country on earth would be a shining example to private employers in its treatment of workers but quite the contrary is the case. The executive officers of the federal government from the president down do not care a continental whether men working for the government or on government contracts are employed eight or ten or sixteen hours a day, although there are not one but five eight-hour laws on the statute books, the earliest dating from 1863, the latest from 1902.

It is true we have been assured by the capitalist press that the eight-hour law "was recently extended through an executive order to cover all work for the government, whether done direct or by contract"—something that the president cannot do as he is not the congress—but the fact is that the old law is not enforced even without the imaginary extension which is not necessary.

The history of the eight-hour law would be an instructive reading for those workmen who still rely on the old parties "to do something" for the workers. It would show them that the mighty arm of the federal government suddenly becomes paralyzed when it comes to the enforcement of labor laws.

The agitation for the lessening of the hours of labor began immediately upon the close of the civil war. It was no doubt due to the interest aroused by the New England Eight-Hour League and the Labor congress of 1866 that congress passed the act of June 25, 1868, the first eight-hour law of the republic. This law forms section 3728 of the revised statutes and reads as follows:

"Eight hours shall constitute a day's work for all laborers, workmen, and mechanics who may be employed by or on behalf of the government of the United States."

A glance at this alleged law will show that it really is no law at all. Law is a rule of action, but this remarkable act of congress is no rule, it is merely an academic definition of the word "day" and might look all right in an unabridged dictionary but is altogether out of place in a statute book. There is no provision made for its enforcement, no fine imposed for its violation. It is merely a sop thrown to labor.

The statement showed they were "friends of labor," and no contractor objected, because the anemic law did not have any strength to hurt him. With characteristic frankness the supreme court declared its opinion of the meaningless law:

"We regard the statute chiefly as in the nature of a direction from a principal to his agent, that eight hours is deemed to be a proper length of time for a day's labor, and that his contracts shall be based upon that theory. It is a matter between the principal and his agent, in which a third party has no interest."

It took the great strike of 1886 to move congress to action again. The act of March 30, 1888, provided:

"And the public printer is hereby directed to rigidly enforce the provisions of the eight-hour law in the department under his charge."

The act of May 24, 1888, gave the eight-hour day to letter carriers in cities and districts connected with them; likewise provided that they should receive pay for overtime in proportion.

Under the old law no one could claim additional compensation for overtime unless he was working under a special contract to that effect. If a man worked twelve hours a day, was paid by the day, and accepted his wages, he could not afterward raise the claim that each separate eight hours consti-

tuted a day's work, although the law of 1888 expressly said so.

The general eight-hour law dates from August 1, 1892. It will be found in volume 27, Statutes at Large, page 240. The first section of this law which is still in force, reads as follows:

"Be it enacted, etc.: That the services and employment of all laborers and mechanics who are now or may hereafter be employed by the government of the United States, by any contractor or subcontractor upon any of the public works of the United States or of the said District of Columbia, is hereby limited and restricted to eight hours in any one calendar day, and it shall be unlawful for any officer of the United States government or of the District of Columbia, or any such contractor or subcontractor whose duty it shall be to employ, direct, or control the services of such laborers or mechanics to require or permit any such laborer or mechanic to work more than eight hours in any calendar day except in case of extraordinary emergency."

Section 3 provides that any officer or agent of the government, or any contractor or subcontractor who violates the law intentionally, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding \$1,000, or imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, or be both fined and imprisoned at the discretion of the court.

Section 3 reads as follows:

"The provisions of this act shall not be so construed as to in any manner apply to or affect contractors or subcontractors, or to limit the hours of daily service of laborers or mechanics engaged upon the public works of the United States or of the District of Columbia for which contracts have been entered into prior to the passage of this act."

The wording of this section is significant. It shows the utter worthlessness of the law of 1892, since it assumes that the government contractors work their men more than eight hours a day. The law of 1892 has been on the statute book for more than fourteen years. There is no evidence, however, that the contractors or the government ever paid any attention to it. The law fell into innocuous desuetude, or in plain English, it became a dead letter.

President Roosevelt, who boasts so much of his square dealing, "discovered" the law only a short time before the federal elections of 1906, though he had been in office more than five years and had ample time to read at least the index of the Revised Statutes. Since that time we have been assured several times that he was going to enforce the eight-hour law.

It is only about two weeks ago—March 13, 1907, to be exact—that orders for the strict enforcement of the eight-hour law on all public works were issued by the president.

The ever faithful correspondent of the Associated Press informs us that a committee of union men, appointed at a recent convention of tug and dredging interests at Detroit, appealed to the president for a more thorough enforcement of the eight-hour law; that Secretary Taft objected but was compelled to accept the president's views.

"The president sided with the union men," says the correspondent. This is to make the president solid with the workers though one wonders how the president can well take sides in a matter where the law leaves him but one course.

The present strike of the pile drivers affords new proof that the law is not enforced. Every one knows that the federal government pays well, and yet the contractors insist on working their men ten or twelve hours a day though that is forbidden by law. Why is the law not enforced? Because it was not enacted by workmen, and the president is not a representative of their class. The law was designed for paper effect only. It was to throw dust in the eyes of organized labor. When a workman is president of the United States, a law enacted by socialist congressmen for the protection of the workers will be a law in fact as well as in name. What's the answer?



NO INCENTIVE TO DISHONESTY.

While it is true that representatives are now elected by the people, it is also true that the people do not select them. Representatives are selected by dishonest men who expect to use them for dishonest purposes. Under Socialism people will not only have the right to select and elect their officers for public duty; but will have the right to recall them. Also the profit system will be wiped out, which will leave no incentive for dishonesty. Honesty of purpose would be the only road to honor.

WILEY J. BALDWIN,
Fort Dodge, Kansas.

SOCIALISM REQUIRES HONESTY AND ABILITY.

Heretofore there have been only two great parties, and both are controlled by the capitalist class. Some capitalists support the Democratic party, and some support the Republican party, but they all know that no matter which party wins they cannot lose because both parties look after the interests

of the capitalist class. The people have continued to vote the tickets of these parties because there appeared to be no other alternative, at the same time realizing that there was little or no choice between them.

Today there stands the Socialist party upon the political horizon demanding the support of all those who believe in the representative government. No one can obtain a nomination on a Socialist ticket until he has given undisputed evidence of his honesty and ability. Some branches of the organization demand that no member shall run for office until he has been at least two years a member of the party. There is also a clause in the constitution which states that any candidate must place in the hands of the party organization his unadvised resignation from the office to which he aspires, and if he is elected and violates the principles for which the Socialist party stands, he can be immediately recalled or compelled to resign. This makes it apparent that under Socialism representatives could not begethewise than a competent and honest.

EDGAR W. DYNES,
Victoria, B. C.

The only practical way of solving the mystery of life and its meaning, is to make life worth living FOR ITS OWN SAKE. This can be accomplished only by a combination of social effort and individual effort. The world must make life tolerable for all its members. Those of us who are fortunate must share out good fortune; those who are miserable must learn from their suffering to save others. Society must be the guardian, nurse, teacher, of all its people from the cradle to the grave.—Henry D. Lloyd.

So far as heaven has been an exercise