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# ADVANCE

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FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR

## The Political Struggle

Notes Indicating the Progress of the World's Socialist Movement.

### GERMANY.

Four Socialists were elected to the municipal council of Dessau with an increased vote.

On the second ballot the Socialists succeeded in electing Comrade Quark to the municipal council of Frankfurt on the Main. This is the first Socialist ever elected to this body.

The Socialist members of the municipal council of Offenbach have recently established a municipal drug store and arranged for the free service of competent mid-wives, while a measure has been introduced providing that the city shall purchase the coal needed by its citizens and deliver the same at cost.

### AUSTRIA.

The local Socialist organ at Trieste, the *Lavoratore*, is going to appear twice instead of once a week.

In Marburg, Steiermark, ten Socialists were elected to the council in the recent municipal election, and in Graz the Socialist members of the council were increased from one to seven, with four seats to be contested on a second ballot, of which the Socialists feel sure of gaining three.

Vienna has elected two Social Democrats to the Reichsrath, and consequently joins those capitals of Europe which have such representatives of the working class to the parliaments of their countries. The Socialists of Vienna gained 10,000 votes, the Anti-Semites lost as many. The third candidate of our party in Vienna, Comrade Adler, Editor of the *Arbeiter-Zeitung*, came very near of being elected, too.

### HOLLAND.

Herr Kerdyk, the leader of the Free Thinkers Party in the parliament, has declared that from now on he should ally himself with the Socialists in their struggle for universal suffrage.

### FRANCE.

At Carmaux Calvignac has been re-elected mayor. It will be remembered that five years ago he was sentenced to five years' deprivation of his political rights, and he had therefore to vacate his post as mayor. The Socialist who was elected in his place, however, resigned in his favor as soon as Calvignac could legally sit again.

### JAPAN.

Japan now boasts of a daily Socialist paper. It is called the *Commons* and is published in Tokio.

### UNITED STATES.

Propaganda is a new S. D. P. paper published at Central City, Col.

A Socialist paper in the French language will be started by S. D. P. in Nashua, N. H.

Dayton, O., Social Democrats will hold city convention and nominate full ticket, Jan. 19th.

Local Cincinnati has endorsed the Saginaw resolutions declaring for unity. This makes Ohio solid.

Social Democratic Women's Club of St. Louis will give its first annual festival on Sunday evening, January 27th.

Thomas Meredith, of Lewis, Ia., a Populist speaker and writer of national reputation, has come out for socialism. H. J. B. Gehr, a Democratic leader of Washington state, has done likewise.

Social Democrats of South Dakota are working hard to get the name of every man in that state who voted the ticket in the national election. Geo. W. Calle, Aberdeen, S. D., is the secretary.

Central Committee, S. D. P., in Cleveland, O., has arranged a winter series of discussions to be held each Sunday afternoon in the Labor Lyceum to be established in C. L. hall, 223 Chamberlain street.

Rev. Charles H. Vail, it is reported, was forced out of his pulpit in Jersey City because he espoused the cause of socialism, whereupon he was quickly nominated for governor by the New Jersey S. D. P. state convention, and the national committee has also selected him as an organizer. Mr. Vail has written several widely-circulated books and is a brilliant speaker.

The joint campaign committee appointed by the Chicago municipal convention of the Socialist Party has issued a call to all locals and branches of the Social Democratic Party in Illinois to send delegates to a special state convention of the S. D. P. to be held in Chicago, Feb. 9, at 8 p. m., for the purpose of bringing about a more effective union of Socialists of that state.

Subscribers, Exchanges and Advertisers, please take notice that ADVANCE has changed its quarters and address from 117 Turk street to 1236 Market street, Murphy Building, Room 134. Telephone Folsom 1301.

## Co-operation

A Higher and Freer System of Industry, said the late Leland Stanford.

He Would Probably Be Fired From His Own University If He Expressed Similar Sentiments To day

The late Senator Leland Stanford once introduced in the United States Senate a bill, providing for the establishment of co-operative associations. In an interview with a representative of the New York "Tribune," he gave his reasons therefore. From the report of this interview we make the following clippings, which state with great force many socialist arguments. There are, of course, points of difference between us; and, even where the thought is the same, we would, in many instances, prefer different words for its expression.

Nevertheless, the case of co-operation gets a forcible statement, and the clear endorsement of one who was in a position to pass judgment.

"The great advantage to labor arising out of co-operative effort has been apparent to me for many years. From my earliest acquaintance with the science of political economy, it has been evident to my mind that capital was the product of labor; and that, therefore, in its best analysis there could be no natural conflict between capital and labor, because there could be no antagonism between cause and effect—between effort and the result of effort; and, since capital is the product of labor, there could be no conflict between labor and its product. Keeping this fundamental principle in view, it is obvious that the seeming antagonism between capital and labor is the result of deceptive appearance. I have always been fully persuaded that, through co-operation, labor could become its own employer. The investment and employment of capital is dependent entirely upon the product of the labor employed by it.

"All active capital is merely capital employing labor. It is out of the product of labor so employed that capital is rewarded. Capital invested in a manner not to require the employment of labor is dead or idle capital. Money invested in land where the land is not cultivated, or in buildings which are untenanted, is as idle as if the gold and silver invested in them had never been mined; but all capital employed in manufactures, in agriculture, in commerce, in arts, in transportation, is active capital, and it is sustained and supported in activity wholly out of the result of the labor it employs. Labor and capital thus associated, then, create all the reward which inures to them.

"Civilized methods constantly increase the capacity of the earth to produce things necessary to man. Improved methods may render a single acre capable of producing an amount of human food equal to that produced by twenty acres in the past. The Malthusian theory of population, with which every student of political economy is familiar, predicted a limitation upon the numbers of the race by assuming a ratio of increase between the food product and the increase of population. It contended that population increased in a geometrical ratio, while the food product increased only in an arithmetical ratio, and that, therefore, the capacity of the earth to produce food would not keep pace with the increase of population. This theory of population advanced by Malthus failed because he did not make allowance for the great progress which has been made in inventions, nor for the improved methods of cultivation which civilization has introduced. The real truth is that the capacity of the people of the earth to produce food is much greater in proportion to their numbers than during the time of Malthus. Take an example which is very near at home. The agricultural population of California does not exceed one hundred thousand people. There are not in excess of 20,000 adults engaged in agricultural pursuits in California, and yet these 20,000 men produce an annual export surplus equal to from one million to twelve and thirteen hundred thousand tons of wheat per annum. One million tons of wheat per annum will furnish breadstuff for ten millions of people. Here, then, in California, twenty thousand people, by the assistance of labor-aiding machinery, are producing in a single year bread sufficient to feed ten millions of people a whole year. Right under our own observation, then, 20,000 men produce in a single year bread enough to feed five hundred times their own number.

"When you meet with a man who is poorly clad, poorly fed, living in a state of poverty, you are always beset with the painful reflection that the unused portions of the earth would offer a broad field for the application of that man's productive capacity which would yield him and his family an abundance. When you see a man without employment, and reflect that but a small area of the earth from which all the wants of man are supplied, is under cultivation, and, therefore, but a very small proportion of the earth yielding its abundance to supply the wants of men, the contemplation is necessarily saddening. The fault is with the organization of our industrial systems. So long as labor, which is sufficiently intelligent to originate its own employment, consents to a voluntary servitude of paying a premium to those who do originate its employments, so long will the many remain comparatively poor. As at present organized, the industries of the world are under the direction of employers. A man may possess industry and productive capacity and skill, but he must first make an agreement with an employer before he can make these qualities valuable to himself. Capital appears to have an ascend-

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## Are We Civilized

Emil Zola, in a Powerful Article in the New York World, Denies It.

Declares That Socialism, the Wonderful Doctrine of Salvation, is Scientifically and Practically Irrefutable.

We pride ourselves on our refinement, but we are not nearly reclaimed from barbarism. A hundred years hence our descendants will consider us and our institutions with the same contempt we vouchsafe upon the people of the middle ages or upon the refractory Chinese of today. This is not a paradox: I am past juggling for an audience.

Despite our self-satisfied bumpousness mankind is still piteously groping after real civilization, like a tangled mass of larvae tumbling and crawling out of some dark, slimy cavern toward the light that will give them wings.

Only few men have forged ahead and stand in the full sunshine of Truth. The progress of the mass is slow enough to strike with despair those of us who are past mid-life; for we now must admit to ourselves that we will see but few of the changes we have hoped and worked for.

An undeniable increase in material comfort and equipment must be accredited to the nineteenth century, but that alone does not constitute civilization. Better food, fast steamers, telephone and electric lights—all that is only the accessory part of human development. Means to happiness, certainly; but not happiness. Has the telephone diminished the hunger of the hungry?

Our brains are still befogged; our private and public life is still based upon vile, exasperating ignorance. Reason, now proclaimed by a hundred prophets in every country, has everywhere the greatest trouble to penetrate through the thick folds of insane prejudice that enwraps individuals and institutions.

The evils we suffer from, and the evils each of us perpetrates, have no doubt been lessened in a measure; but it seems to me that they have for the most part merely changed their aspects and their names.

There were times—not so many generations ago—when in every country men and women were tortured by inquisitors—religious or not. Now most countries, we think, have grown beyond that. But are not the newspapers filled with revolting cases of children tortured by their parents, of wives who are long-suffering martyrs, of students who find cruel delight in bullying some poor, ill-gifted companion? And do you know what frightful things take place—I will not say in Turkey or Siberia—but in the penitentiaries and insane asylums of the most advanced nations?

There were times, to be sure, when political and religious fanaticism fettered all development, sought to extinguish science and burned the scientists at the stake. We are certainly past that stage. Yet today Tolstoi is excommunicated by Rome. I was before him, and so were Catholics and Protestants, Darwin, Huxley, Renan and most of the harbingers of tomorrow's truth. Why, I have it direct from eminent American professors that in most of the universities of the United States they would not dare express their real convictions on religious, political or economical questions, because their resignations would surely be demanded at once. It is the same thing in England and Germany. And in France Jean Jaures, one of the geniuses of the age, was recently refused a chair in the College de France to lecture upon Socialism. Your own admirable Henry George, if I remember well, died a pauper after having been jeered at his whole life long; and the lofty German apostle Liebknecht, was an exile for years, hounded out of Germany as Victor Hugo had been out of France.

Yet with what contempt we regard that historical council that compelled Galileo to kneel and say that the earth did not move!

But on the other hand, for such devastating forces of retrogradation as Bismarck, Chamberlain and Gen. Mercier, the world seems at a loss to find adequate honors and adulation; even their most severe judges feel bound to temper their censure with admiring reserve.

It is useless to delude ourselves. You may tinker all you please, there will be no true civilization until the present social system is radically modified.

Look in this country; honestly examine yours; then search through all the others. Injustice and suffering everywhere; hideous cancers gnawing darkly at the very vitals of society. Ah, if an angry revolt does not this very day convulse the world it is because most people go about like horses with blinkers on both sides of the head—capable of seeing nothing but what is immediately under their noses.

Civilization, indeed! How ludicrous all this mutual praise and self-gratulation!

Don't you, even now, through the jinglings of your Christmas, hear the moans of the wounded on a dozen battlefields? Are not our different tribes, more feverishly than ever, getting ready for other onslaughts? Have we yet found a better way to settle our quarrels than by wholesale slaughter of men?

Civilized? Not yet! Have you read Tolstoi's books, or mine, or those of a hundred other earnest explorers of modern society? Have not the strikes that constantly take place, in your country as elsewhere, taught you anything? Can any one deny that

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## The Economic Struggle

Notes Showing the Strife Between Organized Labor and Capitalism.

### FRANCE.

The Strike at Calais still continues; the strikers are receiving substantial aid from English trade unions.

### BELGIUM.

The dock laborers' strike in Antwerp, it is reported, has ended in a victory for the employers, who by the introduction of 40,000 outside laborers have been able to continue business as usual, and ignore the strikers entirely.

### CANADA.

Miners of Nova Scotia have won their fight for 12 per cent advance.

The teachers in the public schools of British Columbia have organized a strong union, and they may soon strike. The union is affiliated with the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, and is organized on exactly the same basis as that of any other trade in the union category.

### UNITED STATES.

Nebraska local unions formed a state organization.

Bridge and structural iron workers of Pittsburg won their strike for the nine-hour day.

Washington's official chemist's opinion is that the use of labels on bread is not detrimental to health, as some of the scabby plutes claimed.

Miners of Pennsylvania are demanding an increase of wages, and a hot fight is promised in the national convention to secure an endorsement.

At Scofield, Utah, five hundred coal miners went on strike for increased wages. This is the first mining strike in the history of Utah.

The fourth annual convention of the National Building Trades Council was held during this week, at Cincinnati, Ohio. Three hundred delegates were present, representing an affiliated membership of 100,000.

A story is published by a sensational Chicago paper to the effect that the machinists, dissatisfied with the A. F. of L.'s practical repudiation of trade autonomy, will withdraw and push the organization of the proposed National Metal Trades Council. Machinists deny the statement.

New York bakers struck for a reduction of hours from 12 to 13 hours a day to 10. Those who scabbed held a meeting at 80 Clinton street, declared they were satisfied to work long hours, formed a "union," and voted to join DeLeon's Scab Alliance. It is declared the bosses are behind the move.

Supreme Court of New York rendered a decision that practically kills another "labor law"—the law providing that all stone to be used in state or municipal work must be cut in the state.

Another new slave law is now in effect in South Carolina. The law provides that where a worker contracts to labor on a farm and leaves his job, he may be fined and imprisoned when caught, and where he is employed by another farmer the latter may be fined also.

### READERS, ATTENTION!

The benefit to be given ADVANCE on the evening of February 2nd ought to receive the attention and enlist the sympathy of every comrade. ADVANCE has labored long and faithfully in the cause. We may say without egotism that its work has been effective. It can do still better work in the future if it receives the requisite financial support. If the comrades make the benefit the rousing success it ought to be, the management will be relieved of many annoying liabilities. The result will be a better, brighter and more influential paper.

By attending the benefit you are not only aiding the paper, but assuring yourself a good time. It will be absolutely the swellest thing in the way of a Socialist gathering that has happened in San Francisco for many a day. The committee in charge of arrangements are working like beavers and promise to astonish all committees of the same character by their program. It's your opportunity to combine pleasure with propaganda. Come yourself, and bring all your acquaintances along.

The race for the ADVANCE library goes merrily on. Comrade T. Molitor, the hustling representative of the Bakers' Union of this city in the Labor Council, is at the head of the list with thirty-nine yearlies to his credit. Comrade J. J. McLean from away over in Inyo county is second. He sends in thirty trophies. Inyo county is not very thickly settled, and Comrade McLean evidently intends to have the whole population reading Socialist literature. Comrade E. Neugebauer is third with thirteen and a half. Those lower on the list still have opportunity to send in a big batch and get ahead of the leaders. Keep them rustling, Comrades. If you don't get the library, make the other fellow work for it.

**ADVANCE**

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Send money by postal order or express order. Checks or drafts sometimes give unnecessary trouble; 50 cents or less may be sent in 1 cent stamps; never send subscription in 2 cent stamps; we are overworked with them.

When asking for change of address be sure and give your former address in full, including number on label.

Write Names and Street numbers plainly.

**EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

Communications must reach the office by Wednesday preceding the issue in which they are to appear.

The fact that a signed article is published does not commit the Editor of ADVANCE to all opinions expressed therein.

Contributions and items of news concerning the labor movement are requested from our readers. Every contribution must be accompanied by the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

Short communications giving reports of organization and progress of the Socialist movement are desired from comrades in all sections. Nothing is of greater interest to readers than this feature. Our readers want it and will enjoy it. Will you not help to give them pleasure?

Join your union and take your part in the everyday class struggle between the producers and the plunderers.

The British charge De Wet with murdering a peace envoy. Well, they should not complain. They've done considerable work of that sort themselves. "Turn about is fair play."

Those who oppose Socialism because "it would destroy the home," evidently fail to see that the present system drives brothers to the four quarters of the globe in search of work; tears the parent from the child during the long working hours; makes the duties of the housewife a slave's drudgery; throws the children of the poor out on the dirty, squalid alleys, and provides for the workers only small, unsanitary and miserable "living apartments" or hovels.

Some of the "good" bourgeoisie hold up their hands in "holy horror" of "those Socialists who advocate free love." And then they turn around and buy for their daughters titled manikins, whose only attractions are long lineage of baronial murderers and ducal cattle-thieves. We believe that the only sanction for the marriage relation is the mutual love of the parties. We desire to remove the temptation, to which so many of the bourgeoisie succumb, of marrying for titles or wealth or for merely "a home." Will the bourgeoisie join issue with us on that point?

A good example of the "benefits of competition" may be seen in any great city. A couple of dozen newsboys are wasting their time trying to sell only as many papers as six could easily dispose of in the same time. Thus eighteen of them waste their time, neither playing nor studying, but in a useless expensive method of trying to earn a living. Scarcely a paper is bought on the street but six others eagerly offered by as many clamorous urchins. If these boys were co-operating at the present rate, each one of the seven could sell enough one day and take a vacation for the rest of the week. And at no time would the public be deprived of its news.

Now is the time for every comrade to put forth his efforts toward helping the Socialist press. Subscribers to ADVANCE gotten now will be good, active Socialists by the end of the year, and will get new subs, who, in their turn, will vote the Social Democratic ticket two years hence. Leaflets come irregularly. Not every comrade is fluent of speech and apt at argument. But a paper comes regularly every week. It has several points newly answered or explained. It brings news that interests and impresses the reader with the really great size of the movement and the scope of its work. In every way it is the best propagandist there is. Spread the light.

**Dr. Howard Also Goes.**

A few years ago no university in the United States had as excellent prospects as the Leland Stanford, Jr., University. With progressive, independent and brilliant professors in its faculty, a magnificent site and architectural plan and immense financial resources, the only limit to its greatness seemed to be the capacity of man for progress in science, letters and art. The free elective system for the curriculum and the excellent courses of study presented, made it a most attractive place for students. All the elements of greatness seemed to be combined in the material of the University.

It has become evident, however, that a free University with freedom of instruction is an impossibility, under the control of the capitalistic class. Independent thought seems invariably to lead to radical and anti-capitalistic conclusions. As a consequence, many of the more radical professors have been obliged to leave. Before the Ross outrage, however, the departure of the various radicals occasioned no comment, as other circumstances acting as contributing causes covered up the real and more fundamental reasons. These have now been made patent. "Saint Market Street and the Holy Standard Oil" have shown their teeth and displayed the tiger's claws. Stanford University stands branded as a place where only intellectual prostitutes to the capitalist class will teach and

only fools and knaves go to learn. Henceforth, it will be known that what any of the Stanford Faculty says will never conflict with the business interests of the ruling class in society. It will be an institution to teach contentment with the poverty, misery and slavery of capitalism.

Drs. Ross and Howard are to be congratulated on severing their connection with a college, continued association with which would only besmirch their honor. Founded on funds plundered from the people, it will advocate their continued exploitation. The noble promise has been most basely broken. Learning has been made the dishonored slave of a vulgar, ignorant, old woman and the hireling of tyrants. They will escape this shame.

Later.—Since writing the above, the resignations of Professors W. H. Hudson and C. N. Little have been handed in and accepted. Rumors are rife of similar action on the part of others. On the whole it appears that the manhood of the university intends to revolt against the destruction of academic freedom.

**Where One Church Stands.**

"At a dinner of the richest business organization in this country, and probably the richest in the world, Bishop Lawrence delivered a speech in reply to the toast, The Relation of the National Prosperity of a People to Their Morality, that seemed almost like a postprandial sermon, so crowded was it with fact and deduction and suggestion. He recognized, as every sensible man has recognized, that the massing of great wealth is an established fact in our modern civilization. He called it a wise, a necessary and on the whole a beneficent condition, but like all new conditions dangerous until rightly understood. And in this connection he spoke this pregnant sentence—a sentence that ought to live and which carries with it a tremendous meaning: 'I am not so afraid of the rich man in politics as I am of the poor and weak men in politics and the rich man outside.'"—Saturday Evening Post.

Right you are, Mr. Post! It is a sentence which carries tremendous meaning. But we doubt if it bears the same message to you as to us. To us, the sentence means that the church organization which Bishop Lawrence represents takes a definite stand with the capitalists and hence of necessity against the working class. It is very significant that the "postprandial sermon" was delivered at a banquet of the "richest business organization" in the country. Such a condition shows the immense progress of the Christian Church. How insignificant, how paltry, how coarse and meagre—nay, how low and vulgar was the last supper of Jesus and his disciples compared with this sumptuous feast. And then compare also the guests: here the substantial bankers, brokers and capitalists, each of whose fortunes outrivals hopelessly that of the ancient Croesus; there a band of discontented workmen, who held about the same position in society as does today a contingent of Coxey's army. Not a Scribe nor a Pharisee nor a money-changer present—only poor men. Bishop Lawrence may, indeed, congratulate himself and his church on the progress they have made.

**The Battle Of the Trusts.**

Under the above caption the Bulletin of this city prints the following luminous editorial:

The plan of battle outlined between Andrew Carnegie and J. Pierpont Morgan is on a gigantic scale. The leaders of this contending host are well matched in respect to intellectual and financial resources. John D. Rockefeller, probably the richest man in the world in his individual holdings, is allied with Morgan, while Carnegie is rated second only to Rockefeller, among the rich men of America. Morgan has the advantage of being a railroad owner, while Carnegie has a certain advantage in practical knowledge of the business both are to engage in. The \$80,000,000 which is said to be the capital of the National Tube Company is but a fraction of the money that will be put in the business if Carnegie should disturb their monopoly. As one of the officers of the Tube Company remarked, the steel business is open to the Tube Company as the tube business is to Carnegie. A dispatch says that the Carnegie Company is now turning out such immense quantities of raw steel that it will have to engage in other lines of manufacture to provide a market for its steel.

If the Tube Company carries out its threat to engage in the steel manufacturing business the demand for Carnegie steel may fall off. But neither of the men at the head of these great manufacturing corporations has yet met his master, and if, while in search of one, a few millions of their money should be distributed, the money so lost never will be missed.

In this description we see the development of Capitalism. The accumulation of surplus wealth in the hands of individuals impels them to seek re-investment. But all fields of industry being occupied, they come into competition and conflict with others and a cut-rate war ensues. The result is, either one party conquers the other, or they quit fighting and join forces to plunder the public. This latter will be the probable result of the impending contest between Morgan and Carnegie. After spending a paltry "few millions" in an exciting and highly interesting gladiatorial industrial contest, they will combine into a trust and recoup their losses.

In view of this result we may ask, what industry will they next invade and trustify? There seems, indeed, no end to the process. Each new trust means greater profits to the magnates. Greater profits mean greater surpluses. These, in their turn, require re-investment. It is only thus that labor is kept employed. What hard times then must follow when all industries are monopolized and no room is left for re-investment!

During the present high fever of industrial activity, the opening of markets and general business revival, it seems, indeed, pessimistic and mere calamity howling to predict a business panic and severe times of unemployment and poverty for the working people. The facts, however, cannot be denied, nor the argument disproved. With inexorable certainty the course of economic development will bring us to a crisis and to a long and very intense period of depression. This may be sooner or later, as monopolization runs ahead, or lags behind the finding of markets for our surplus goods. But soon or late it is sure to come.

**The Cuban Conspiracy.**

When the cry for "Cuba Libre" broke forth from the yellow press in '97 and '98, the Socialists alone of political organizations saw clearly and spoke courageously of the underlying causes of the agitation. While not in any way opposed to the releasing of Cuba from the grasp of the semi-feudal tyranny of Spain, the Socialists ceaselessly pointed out that the agitation for United States interference proceeded from capitalist sources. Understanding the nature of the capitalist system and knowing that all important political acts of any nation are based on the material or economic interests of the dominant class, we have continually asserted that "Cuba Libre" meant only Cuba capitalized. It meant the free and unlimited investment of American capital in the island, and the consequent intensified exploitation of the Cuban working class. Subsequent facts have abundantly proved this assertion.

The matter stood in this wise. Cuba, "the Pearl of the Antilles," with immensely rich but undeveloped resources, lay almost under the shadow of the Stars and Stripes. Semi-feudal, undeveloped Spain did not produce enough capital to exploit the resources of its colonies. The backward condition of industry in the home country did not permit the Spanish capitalists to sufficiently exploit to extract enough surplus-value from the Spanish workmen to accumulate enough capital to invest extensively abroad. The American capitalists on the contrary found great surpluses coming to them which they were greatly troubled to reinvest. Cuba offered a tempting opportunity. But under Spanish rule investment was not safe enough to satisfy the investors. The capitalist ideal of a government is one that is the most pliant to business interests, or, as Marx says, acts as "a committee to guard the interests of the capitalist class." The Spanish colonial governments responsible to the Spanish capitalist class were not favorable enough to the American capitalists and consequently public opinion was stirred up against them in the United States. War was made upon them and they were overcome.

But the rallying cry was to free Cuba. And the Cuban people desired independence. It was not practicable to force matters too fast, so the government permitted Cuba under its supervision to call a constitutional convention to frame an autonomous government. Meanwhile, the opportunity was watched for to find grounds upon which to nullify the acts of the convention and secure to the United States government complete control of the island. If this can be accomplished, the American capitalists will feel entirely safe, for they know how subservient to their wishes and how considerate of their interests are the legislative and executive authorities who wield their power from Washington, D. C.

From time to time we have heard of the rush of American capital to Cuba. News has come of the "invaluable improvements" that have taken place due to American enterprise and money. That unfulfilling sign of advancing capitalization—strikes and trade-unionism—have sprung up all over the island. In the face of this can any deny that this result of the war was its real object and inspiring purpose? Especially since "Cuba Libre," the avowed object, is still an unlikely dream.

The course of this conspiracy to acquire colonial titles to various territories without our purely continental borders can be plainly traced. Already we can see the end of Cuba. News comes that the Constitutional Convention has declared for universal suffrage and that this is very distasteful to the Administration. The "deplorable condition of San Domingo" is cited as a warning example of the rule of the blacks. The danger to American capital invested in Cuba is pointed out if "a man like Gomez," erstwhile "the noble patriot," is elected president. And a hint is given that the United States may be forced to prevent any such "catastrophe." "A word to the wise is sufficient."

**Capitalist Economy.**

The following item, clipped from the S. F. Bulletin of January 11th lays bare the care taken of the health of the poor by the capitalistic economy-reform government:

"About ten o'clock this morning a shabbily dressed woman entered the Health Office and informed the secretary that her little boy was suffering from diphtheria, and she feared he would die unless help came quickly. She had been told that the health authorities supplied poor people with anti-toxine, and she knew if she could get some her child would recover.

"The secretary looked at the woman with an expression of pity, but was obliged to shake his head. There was no money with which to buy anti-toxine. The city could not afford so expensive a luxury for the poor people.

"The appeal of the woman was in vain and, after taking her address for the purpose of learning why the physician in attendance had not reported the case to the health authorities, Secretary Brown returned to his desk, while the woman went to the bedside of her dying child.

"That is only one out of many instances where poor people come here to tell about children suffering from diphtheria and to ask for a vial of anti-toxine with which to save the child's life," said Secretary Brown after the woman had gone. "But we have no funds with which to meet these demands, and the result is that the children of poor people are left to die in many instances where the anti-toxine would save them. During the month of December some eighty-four cases of diphtheria were reported, seventy-eight of measles and thirty-nine of scarletina. Of course, this is not unusual at this season of the year, but if \$500 or \$1,000 were invested in anti-toxine I venture to say that the lives of scores of poor children would be saved. I have often wondered why, in view of the city's refusal to supply the remedy, some philanthropist has not seen fit to come to the rescue. However, we shall endeavor to lay the matter before the Board of Supervisors at an early date in the hope that some action will be taken in behalf of the poor. Aside altogether from the question of sentiment, the protection afforded the community in the suppression of disease would make the investment worth the while."

The evening after this article appeared Mayor Phelan, who has quite a name as a philanthropist, gave a banquet to the heads of the various departments and numerous federal officials. At the least calculation this feast cost \$500, or enough to "save the lives of scores of poor children." What a contrast! We do not intend to suggest that Mayor Phelan

should pay from his pocket the purchasing price of anti-toxine; but we do think that, had he exhibited the same forethought for the welfare of the city's poor as he did for the entertainment of a set of people well qualified to amuse themselves, there would be fewer houses of mourning in the poor quarters of the city and fewer broken-hearted mothers weeping over the corpses of children a little anti-toxine would have saved.

"We shall endeavor to lay the matter before the Board of Supervisors at an early date in the hope that some action will be taken..." says Secretary Brown. Why, sir, can you not present the matter immediately and with the certainty of immediate action? Are the lives of the children of the poor of no account? If Omaha can offer \$25,000 for the capture of the kidnaper of one child, cannot San Francisco spend \$1,000 to save the lives of scores of children? We Socialists know why this will not be promptly done. Let every workingman remember the reason! It is because the one is the child of a millionaire, the others, the children of the poor, "Rattle their bones over the stones—they're only the paupers whom nobody owns." The city government is a committee of the local capitalists and cares but little for the welfare of the poor.

Contrast this indifference with the platform of the Social Democratic Party:

"Demand II.—Free medical attendance and hospitals—City to furnish free medical attendance at free dispensaries or homes of applicants. Proper sanitary supervision and inspection of city. Free city orphan and foundling asylums; also invalid and maternity hospitals for women."

If any reply that this is "only a platform," let it be remembered that neither of the capitalistic parties cared enough for the working class to insert any such demand. Their only pretense was to reduce taxation. And for a proof of the good faith of Socialists, let any doubter turn to the little pamphlet "Socialists in French Municipalities." There they will learn how the welfare of the people has been the first and constant consideration of the cities under socialist control.

It is time that workingmen became conscious of their position in present society and alive to their class interests. Never are the business interests of the pettiest of money-grubbers neglected by the Republican or Democratic office-holders; but "the city has no money to buy anti-toxine for the children of the poor." Put workingmen, put the candidates of the Social Democratic Party into office and the welfare and health of the workingman and of his wife and babes will be guarded with even more tender solicitude than the present representatives of the capitalist class watch over the interests of their constituencies.

**Suggestions Worth Considering.**

The following is an extract from a letter we received the other day from one of the best and hardest workers for our cause in this State, whose name and address, for several reasons, we do not mention. But we invite free discussion in ADVANCE on the suggestions the Comrade makes and which are well worthy of earnest consideration by all party members and readers of ADVANCE:

"We are working hard in this place, but it is uphill work, where the people are so backward and prejudiced as they are here. Personally, I have worked for three years now and find very slight reward for so much toil. I get discouraged sometimes, and wonder how much longer the people will wait before they awaken to the real dangers that surround them. If it were not for the fact of the international aspect, I should become completely discouraged. Keeping in touch with the world movement, I feel a thrill every victory the German, French or Belgian comrades make. This keeps me up to the mark for the local work. Moreover, I feel that every new labor saving device in machinery and business makes indirectly for international socialism. The latter forces never cease work, while some socialists do get discouraged with the slow growth of the movement in America.

What I would like to see inaugurated in America is a movement somewhat analogous to the economic acts of the comrades in Belgium. You will pardon me if I give in brief an outline of suggestions: Today we have general mistrust among the leaders of the socialist movement in America, and this minimizes to a large extent the sincere and enthusiastic work of the rank and file. I must confess that I have more or less sympathy with the malcontents in our party, for the following reasons. Today we are living under the capitalistic regime, and no matter what a man's views are, he must look out for the bread and butter for his family. pending the Co-operative Commonwealth. A man occupies the position of Editor, Organizer, Speaker, Printer, Writer, Secretary—any one of the positions incidental to the propaganda; he is thus a marked man, and if he loses his job, he, as a rule, can not get another as easily as the man not thus identified. What is the result? He will disrupt the party rather than give up his bread and butter. Now, if the economic and political work went on parallel lines without interference, each a help to the other, these questions of jobs in the party would be easily settled. Say what we will, the man who becomes active in the cause of Socialism, in any of the positions named above, is entitled to consideration at the hands of his comrades throughout America, and for that matter, internationally also. The comrades in Germany, France and Belgium take this into consideration, and so ought we in America.

"The seriousness of this question becomes more poignant as capitalism develops. To become a member of the ever-increasing army of the unemployed, is enough to dismay the stoutest heart. I desire above all things just now to see a unified movement in America. Until we do unite our forces, every petty politician can point the finger of scorn at us, with our world famous motto, and then show what our conduct is. Can't we have the question discussed in the ADVANCE, and take a lesson from the experience of our foreign comrades? I want to see all our differences settled and the party moving forward in one solid phalanx of class conscious comrades, determined to conquer the political power and inaugurate the Co-operative Commonwealth in our time."

Readers of ADVANCE, do not forget the Grand Entertainment and Ball, that is to be held on Saturday evening, February 2d, at 323 Turk street, for the benefit of your organ, the ADVANCE, and of the Socialist movement on the Pacific coast.

### IN THE **Industrial Arena**

BY A. R. ANDRE.

There are those among Social Democrats who, when anything untoward happens in the movement, console themselves with the statement: "Well, Socialism will come anyhow." With their kind permission, I submit that this is nonsense. The idea proceeds from an imperfect understanding of the Socialist doctrine of the unconscious evolution of society. Hearing that social and individual wills are determined by the social environment—that consciousness and matter are alike included in the Great Process—they jump to the conclusion that effort is unnecessary, notwithstanding the obvious evidence to the contrary. Fortunately, most of these people do not act upon the conclusion above stated, but go on agitating and organizing with all the vigor possible. They work as hard as ever they can, although they consider it so much energy wasted. There is a minority, however, which gives evidence of a belief in the theory by its conduct. They seem to think all we have to do is to worry along until the Co-operative Commonwealth is brought to us by "Evolution." They appear to regard evolution as a sort of air-ship, which is likely to drop down out of the clouds some fine day, freighted with the "Socialist System," which in its turn they think of as a moral straight-jacket, into which crooked Humanity will be fitted and all the kinks removed.

These are precisely the people who are always "damning with faint praise" the trades union organizations. They discourage strikes and boycotts, declare that if anything is gained today it will be lost tomorrow, and more or less consciously propagate the doctrine of passivity and non-resistance. In fact, an incurable intellectual and physical inertia is the source of all their acts and beliefs. It is they who give color of proof to the charge that the Socialist movement is the refuge of the defective and unfit, the mental and moral cripples of society.

It is needless to say that no such doctrine (as that ascribed in the first paragraph to the minority) was ever taught by any of the great theorists of the proletarian movement. Marx, when asked by an American who visited him, the old question which the philosophers of the ancient world used to put to each other: "What is?" replied in a single word, "Struggle." More potently than any other social theory does Socialism insist upon the worth, the dignity, the effectiveness of effort. Even if it were true that the working class makes no permanent gains under capitalism, it would still be worth while to form defensive organizations against its tyranny. And even if this hope were folly, the indomitable spirit of socialism would still cry with Kossuth: "A fool in revolt is infinitely better than a philosopher forging a learned apology for his chains."

The workers can improve their condition under the capitalist system. To deny this is simply to fly in the face of facts. The city of San Francisco furnishes dozens of examples. Every union in this town has bettered the status of its members. Abolish the labor organizations, and wages would fall twenty-five per cent. Let it be admitted that the price of labor power does respond to fluctuations in the price of other commodities, it is equally certain unions cause wages to rise higher in good times and prevent their falling as low in the bad seasons, as they otherwise would have done.

One thing more: such an improvement is an essential prerequisite to our obtaining Socialism. The more men get, the more they want. While it is true that those who have nothing to lose are most ready for revolt, it must be remembered that their revolt is always a blind one. The extreme of misery and degradation may inspire men to strike wildly at their oppressors, but their fury spent, history shows, they are likely to relapse into apathy and quiescence. Only leisure and comparative comfort can enable them to have opportunity to plan and courage to execute the long and systematic campaign which will end in the overthrow of the tyrants.

The moral and material betterment of the workers, which is a condition precedent to Socialism, will be accomplished by the trades unions. They will rescue the working class from the degrading influence of that bourgeois individualism which proclaims as its central principle of conduct: "Every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost." The subtle alchemy of co-operation in the struggle against a common foe will transmute their leaden selfishness and apathy into golden sympathy and ardor. If morality has its beginnings in the feeling of sympathy, which in its turn comes from identity of interest, who can deny that the union is an essentially ethical agency. Here, too, is the reconciliation between the doctrine that social regeneration can only proceed from individual morality, and its opposite, that individual character is determined by social environment. Out of the evil of capitalist society there comes forth good. The workers are driven to combine and from their solidarity springs a new morality to react beneficially upon society.

The end for which both Socialists and Trades Unionists strive is the same. Some unionists work unconsciously toward it. There are organizations, however, which have it as clearly in view as any Socialist party. The following extracts from the constitution of the Shoe Workers' Union will illustrate this fact: "Section 1. We live in an age of competition, which compels concentration. Capital has long realized that competition eliminates profits as surely as it reduces wages, and invariably organizes itself into trusts, for the further exploitation of the workers, by reducing wages, throwing labor out of employment, and controlling the selling price of the necessities of life.

"Experience having demonstrated that the isolated wage-worker is powerless when confronted with these gigantic combinations of capital, we therefore declare that individual liberty can best find expression through organized effort.

"To insure permanence, stability and ultimate success, we must recognize and fearlessly meet the

source or cause of the evils we intend to rectify.

"For the protracted periods of idleness on the one hand, and the prolonged hours of labor on the other, for low wages or no wages, for conditions and methods of work that are essentially destructive of morality, of health, of happiness and life, we are clearly indebted to the competitive wage system."

"We therefore declare for the ultimate abolition of the competitive wage system, and the substitution thereof of the collective ownership by the people of all means of production, distribution, transportation, communication and exchange."

"Organization being necessary as the first step towards the amelioration and final emancipation of labor, and realizing the necessity of weapons, both offensive and defensive, socially, economically and politically, we call upon all shoe workers to unite with us for the following immediate purposes:

"To thoroughly organize our craft; to regulate wages and conditions of employment; to establish uniform wages for the same class of work regardless of sex; to control apprentices; to reduce the hours of labor; to abolish convict and contract labor; to abolish child labor, prohibiting the employment of children under the age of sixteen; to promote the use of our "Union Stamp" as the sole and only guarantee of "Union Made" footwear; to support the Union Labels of all other bona fide trade unions, and to assist them in every other way to the full extent of our power."

#### SAN FRANCISCO'S LABOR COUNCIL.

The following business was transacted by the Labor Council at the meeting of January 11th. The Cloakmakers reported having won the Davidson fight by unionizing the factory; the Leather Workers, that the wholesale houses have adopted the increased wage rate; the Retail Clerks, that the early closing movement is making good progress. Union store cards have been sent for and will be placed in the show windows of the union stores. Council will occupy new hall in Pythian Castle, January 25th. H. I. Wisler elected to fill vacancy in President's office, and T. E. Zant elected Treasurer.

Nominations of officers for the ensuing term were made as follows: President, W. H. Goff and R. I. Wisler; Vice-President, A. Dizeau and H. Gibb; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Ed. Rosenberg and Geo. Gallagher; Financial Secretary, C. H. Parker; Treasurer, T. E. Zant; Sergeant-at-Arms, F. Barnett; Trustees: A. E. Rowe, Chas. Schuppert, J. Schilling; Executive Committee: W. Cohen, J. K. Jones, I. Less, F. Barnett, A. Iten, B. W. Smith, R. Gamble, O. Schultz, J. K. Phillpps; Organizing Committee: A. R. Andre, H. Gallagher, W. H. Hall, R. I. Wisler, B. W. Smith, G. L. Compo, Thos. Westoby, J. C. Millan; Law and Legislative Committee: A. E. Wray, W. McArthur, C. H. Parker, T. E. Zant, J. K. Jones, H. Gibb.

#### HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES.

A large number of Hotel and Restaurant Employees met at Pythian Castle, 909 Market street, Wednesday evening, for the purpose of organizing a local union of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Association. A. R. Andre, of the Labor Council, presided, opening the meeting with a short address. T. E. Zant was then introduced and spoke briefly on the advantages of Trades Unionism. Those present were then called upon to sign the roll of membership, for which purpose a recess was taken. The body then proceeded to organize by the election of officers. A resolution to apply to the International Union for a Charter and to affiliate with the San Francisco Labor Council as speedily as possible was adopted. The next meeting will be held Saturday, January 19th, at 1159 Mission street.

FRANK STRAWN HAMILTON, Secretary.

### Are We Civilized ?

at this very moment by far the largest fraction of so-called humanity is groaning under abuse and obsolete laws; that the whole strength of governments—army, police and courts—is already to back the unrighteous exactions of a small privileged class?

Have you not learned that there are every day thousands—not hundreds, thousands!—of men and women who die of want, of cold, of disease unattended to, and that, too, frequently after these miseries have given twenty, thirty, fifty years of their labor to the making of all that we enjoy?

Can you forget that children—little children precious as yours—are this minute suffering famine and absorbing the germs of all vices? Can you forget that in every hospital, prison, factory, tenement, there are crimes that cry for vengeance to Heaven?

Ah, the sadness of it all! To think that throughout the length of the century just finished great men have vainly cried these things, have pondered during long years of abnegation over these problems and vainly pointed the remedies. But they were mistrusted, misrepresented and mocked by childish crowds, proud of their numbers.

To think that even today Socialism—the wonderful doctrine of salvation—scientifically and practically irrefutable as it is—is compelled to gain converts slowly, one by one, condemned without hearing by most people, its advocates driven from every point of vantage—the church pulpit, the university hall, the editorial chair! Why, to make Socialism go down your progressive American throats Edward Bellamy (he said so himself) was compelled to sugar-coat it with the fiction of "Looking Backward!"

These are facts which must bravely be uncovered to the public's gaze. But after all I am not a pessimist. Deploring the present, I look forward into this pregnant new century with joyful confidence. Ignorance, the passive yet formidable enemy of our social liberation, the accomplice of all who profit by existing wrongs, is being attacked vigorously.

By what means will the inevitable changes be effected? Will there be a universal and violent upheaval, a period of disorder, followed by the temporary proletarian dictatorship which many social experts consider necessary to forcibly reincorporate aristocrats and plutocrats into the rank and file? That would be the great French Revolution and all its calamities re-enacted on a large stage. Yet the French Revolution, now universally approved of, was provoked by lesser evils than those which now prevail.

Or will an orderly, legal, swift evolution work

out our redemption?

My sympathies are altogether for the latter peaceful methods. But nobody can tell.

I believe that in less than ten years we will see great rents occur in the social fabric, almost simultaneously on all points. I believe that in less than twenty years, though it were idle to expect the realization of all we want in that time, profound political, economical and purely social modifications will have bettered the world considerably, brought a greater total sum of happiness, made the good things of life more evenly, therefore more equitably, divided.

I also believe that we soon will abolish the abnormal privilege of inheriting wealth; it will be abolished on the same principle that made us republicans already deny the inheritance of the sceptre. The two things are one.

In fact, it is much more absurd that a young Vanderbilt or Castellane, with a possible commercial value of \$25 a week, should inherit millions, than it would be to permit the sons of McKinley and Loubet to rule us because their fathers did.

And inasmuch as with our present mechanical and mental equipment—the accumulation of centuries of common strain, and therefore the common property of all men—humanity can now produce exactly twenty times what it can possibly consume, I firmly believe that the outrageous anomaly of human beings wanting in food, clothes and shelter will disappear early in the twentieth century.

The twentieth century will also find means to eradicate the corruption that disgraces the public life of all countries and probably reserve capital punishment for political knives alone, sending other criminals to curative establishments and the care of specialists.

The century will see other wonders; what would be the use of saying more!

But it is the duty of all good hearts and honest minds to help toward the accomplishment of these reforms, at least to lend a willing ear to argument, to apply a sincere effort to the study of these questions. And whosoever is content to scoff at the new gospel is a fool; whosoever treacherously stifles it is a criminal.

### Co-operation

ency over labor, and so long as our industries are organized upon the divisions of employer and employe, so long will capital retain that relation, but associated labor would at once become its own master.

"There is, however, no conflict between the capital invested in the plant of a manufactory and the raw material upon which the labor is expended, on the one side, and the labor itself on the other, because the plant and the material are themselves the product of labor. The real conflict, if any exists, is between two industrial systems. Labor desires that the premium paid for its employment shall be small. If it could succeed in eliminating that premium altogether, it will leave no encouragement to the employer class, and, as we have already seen, under the present system the employer class is not only indispensable, but is a great benefactor. If, however, there were no profit whatever to the employer class, then practical co-operation would be realized.

"When, therefore, men ask for higher wages, and demand that the margin of profit to the employer shall be less, they are really demanding a nearer approach to the realization of co-operation. The country blacksmith who employs no journeyman is never conscious of any conflict between the capital invested in his anvil, hammer and bellows, and the labor he performs with them, because, in fact, there is none. If he takes in a partner, and the two join their labor into co-operative relation, there is still no point at which a conflict may arise between the money invested in the tools and the labor which is performed with them; and if, further in pursuance of the principal of co-operation, he takes in five or six partners, there is still complete absence of all conflict between labor and capital. But if he, being a single proprietor, employs three or four journeymen, and out of the product of their labor pays them wages, and, as a reward for giving them employment and directing their labor, retains to himself the premium, which they, in fact, also create and which justly belongs to him, the line of difference between the wages and the premium may become a disputed one; but it should be clearly perceived that the dispute is not between capital and labor, but between the partial and actual realization of co-operation. The partnership relation was an actual realization of co-operation; the employing relation is a partial realization of co-operative effort. As intelligence has increased and been more widely diffused among men, greater discontent has been observable, and men say the conflict between capital and labor is intensifying, when the real truth is, that by the increase of intelligence men are becoming more nearly capable of co-operation. In a still higher state of intelligence this premium will be eliminated altogether, because labor can and will become its own employer through co-operative association.

"In addition to the many advantages which co-operation confers upon the material prosperity of the laboring classes, there are great and significant benefits to ensue to the character of men. The employe is regarded by the employer merely in the light of his value as an operative. His productive capacity alone is taken into account. His character for honesty, truthfulness, good moral habits, are largely disregarded unless they interfere with the extent and quality of his services. But when men are about to enter partnership in the way of co-operation, the whole range of character comes under careful scrutiny. Each individual member of a co-operative society being the employer of his own labor, works with that interest which is inseparable from the new position he enjoys. Each has an interest in the other; each is interested in the other; each is interested in the other's health, in his sobriety, in his intelligence, in his general competency, and each is a guard upon the other's conduct. There would be no idling in a co-operative workshop. Each workman being an employer, has a spur to his own industry, and also has a pecuniary reason for being watchful of the industry of his fellow-workmen. The character of men invariably arises with the assumption of higher responsibilities, and with the accession of men to the higher plane of becoming their own employers, there is to be a corresponding accession of more ambitious and in-

terested activity and higher character.

"Intelligent concurrence in the proper direction of effort is equal in dignity to the intelligence which directs. By far too little importance has been attached to this great truth. However high the intelligence which directs, its measure of success is forever dependent upon the concurrence of the association. Co-operative organization will, therefore, find itself amenable to these laws of intelligent direction and intelligent concurrence. They will find it necessary to define the functions of office, and to commit the discharge of these functions to those best qualified to perform them. Thus organized, co-operative association is equipped with the full round of competency. In such relation the members enter a new and higher realm of activity. It is by their concurrence that they are directed, and this concurrence becomes itself the directing force. Each associate becomes in a sense the director of his own labor, and each member begins at the very outset to acquire competency in a higher and broader realm.

"The value of all this to the character of citizenship should be apparent, without illustration. To comprehend it in all its breadth, however, let us assume that in all time all labor had been thus self-directing. If instead of the proposition before us to change the industrial system from the employed relation, and place it under self-direction, the co-operative form of industrial organization had existed from all time, and we were now for the first time proposing to reorganize the employment of labor, and place it under non-concurrent direction, I apprehend the proposer of such a change would be regarded in the light of an enslaver of his race. He would be amenable to the charge that his effort was in the direction of reducing the laboring men to an automaton, and that vague apprehension with which all untried experiments are beset would leave but small distinction in the minds of workmen between the submission of all labor to the uncontrolled direction of an employer and actual slavery. We may safely assume that such a change would be impossible—that men are not likely to voluntarily surrender the independence of character which co-operation would establish for any lower degree of servitude. In fact, co-operation is merely an extension to the industrial life of our people of our great political system of self-government. That government itself is founded upon the great doctrine of the consent of the governed, and has its cornerstone in the memorable principle that men are endowed with inalienable rights. This great principle has a clearly defined place in co-operative organization. The right of each individual in any relation to secure to himself the full benefits of his intelligence, his capacity, his industry and skill are among the inalienable inheritances of humanity."

### On the Way To Socialism.

A needle machine turns out 15,000,000 needles a week.

A furniture trust controlling all big factories organized in Canada.

A London man has invented a lever that prevents the incessant vibration of the shutter in the biograph, and consequently pictures move smoothly.

Stove manufacturers of Canada formed a \$6,000,000 trust and will concentrate their business in Hamilton and Toronto and close down plants in smaller towns.

At last the boot and shoe manufacturers, hemmed in on all sides by trusts controlling material they use, are forming a trust. Sixteen large firms will combine and it is the intention to wipe out all middlemen and sell products direct to customers through retail stores to be established.

A process has been developed and installed in Chicago that prints billheads, statements, etc., in two colors, ruled and finished on good paper at the rate of 10,000 to 20,000 an hour. It is said that this new invention will materially cheapen the cost of such class of printing and incidentally throw a large number of pressmen out of employment.

### Signs of "Prosperity"

San Francisco, Jan. 13, 1901.

Editor Advance:

In reference to prosperity and the overflowing lunch-basket that has been dinned in our ears for the past year, no doubt a large portion of our population believe what they are told concerning their prosperous condition, notwithstanding that they may be as poor as church mice. But for those that are willing to learn how some of their brethren live, I will relate something that occurred to me. A lady customer stepped into the store and asked to be shown some article. "But you must be very quick about it!" She appeared to be very nervous and fagged out. I asked her why she hurried so. In a few words she told me she had not the time to explain particulars; but she informed me that she was employed by a benevolent society to investigate the truthfulness and worth of the applicants. This work, she added, was very hard, as she had to be about night and day. She handed me a circular, remarking that it would explain her duties more fully, and with a bound she was out of my sight to look up some more unfortunates. Just fancy a woman working herself to death in hunting up cases that are subject to the charity of their exploiters.

Following is the principal part of the circular in question, issued by the S. F. Benevolent Association: Assisted during year 1900—persons: with groceries, 7,932; with rent, 1,372; with medicines, 511; with employment orders, 96; sundry aid, including lodgings, meals, passage paid, etc., etc., 6,100; total number assisted, 16,011.

The great total of the above persons assisted during the past year represents the amount of only one society. If the totals of all the other numerous benevolent associations were added to the number of the one mentioned in this article, what a large army they would make!

Yours fraternally,

A. J. Morris.

