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The Socialist

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To Organize the Slaves of Capital to Vote Their Own Emancipation.

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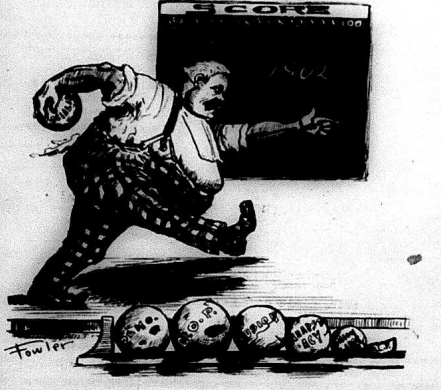
116 VIRGINIA ST., SEATTLE, WASH., DECEMBER 21, 1902



No. 124

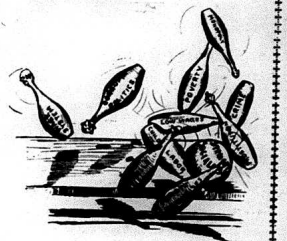
At The Political Bowling Alley.

He Aims for the Center Pin.



Herr Schneider plays the bowling balls,
 And Schneider plays to win.
 He always rolls the truest ball
 Straight for the central pin.
 There may be other pins behind
 But Schneider sees them not
 For when he slugs the center peg
 He's "Johnny on the spot."
 Roll always at the center pin
 Strike it, the others fall.
 And for your bowling always choose
 The truest, hardest ball.
 "Shoo-out" this talk of compromise.
 This game we do not win.
 Until we've knocked clean off the board
 "Wage system" — central pin.

And they all go down—the only way to do it.



Local Platforms and Socialism.

"I am in earnest. I shall not equivocate. I shall not retract a single word. I will be heard."—William Lloyd Garrison, in "The Liberator," January 1, 1831.

I.

The essentials, says Mazzini, for a program that will appeal powerfully to the people, are that it should be true, it should be clear, it should be complete, it should be brief. The ideal Socialist platform must be true, clear, complete, and brief. Now truth, especially Socialist truth, is always revolutionary and uncompromising. No Socialist program that is not revolutionary and uncompromising, can be a true program. Therefore the ideal Socialist platform must be revolutionary, uncompromising, clear. (An essential necessity of clearness in a platform is brevity.)

Now let us examine some typical Socialist platforms of today in the light of these fundamental principles. Let us ask of them, Are they revolutionary, uncompromising, clear?

THE LOS ANGELES PLATFORM.

Let us take the Union Labor platform of Los Angeles, as a type of the Labor platform outside of the Socialist Party. Is this platform revolutionary? Is it uncompromising? Is it clear? First of all, we quote the fact that this platform expressly omits all mention of the term "Socialism." Why? Through fear, through policy, through expediency? Listen again to the words of "The Liberator," the man with a platform that was revolutionary, uncompromising, clear, in its own field: "I shall not equivocate. I shall not retract a single word." The advocates of the Los Angeles policy (a policy that has not been justified by works, even though it may be sincere in its faith), these advocates tell us that it is possible to advocate Socialism in a platform without mentioning Socialism. Yet every true advocate of Socialism knows that he cannot help feeling that in order to avoid equivocation, he must, when he advocates Socialism, place so much emphasis upon the fundamentals of Socialist philosophy, whether in the field of economics or of politics, that he is simply compelled to deal with "class struggle" and "surplus value" and the "exploitation of labor" and the "social revolution" and "wage-slavery." And herein lies the fundamental flaw of a platform that omits the term "Socialism." If it embodies the philosophy of this language, then it is certainly poor policy, poor expediency, to forego the strength that comes from the clear, terse, decisive word, Socialism. On the other hand, if

you do not employ such terms as these I have just quoted, and if you nevertheless maintain that you are advocating Socialism, you are surely equivocating, you are surely seen to be compromising the fundamentals of working-class politics. You forget that in a program addressed to workmen, what "seems," is. Candor is characteristic of the working class, and they demand it always from those who profess to appeal to them and to them alone.

COMPERS BELIEVES AS MUCH.

The strongest expression in this Union Labor platform of Los Angeles, the practically single expression upon which its framers base their claim that their platform stands for Socialism, is the statement that the wage-system must eventually be abolished. Well, there are good Democrats and Republicans who will admit that the wage-system must eventually give way to something better, but they say, "You Socialists push this thing too far." Now we revolutionary, uncompromising, clear Socialists say that the Los Angeles comrades who are responsible for that platform don't push this question of the abolition of the wage-system far enough. They appear to be too willing to wait for it some time, without striking for it now and striking hard. Samuel Compers is on record as saying that the workers are going to keep on demanding more and more of their product until finally they get it all. He believes, then, in the ultimate abolition of the wage-system. So you might say that this highly revolutionary (!), uncompromising (!), clear (!) labor—Moses is also a Socialist. No one, however, is foolishly enough to maintain that the said Sam's Social platform will stand the investigation of any intelligent body of workmen.

All the "Socialism" that this Los Angeles platform contains is in the preamble of this document, if it is anywhere; but the preamble is simply smothered in the bewildering lot of immediate demands that follow. The platform itself is a string of demands, and not one of these demands is revolutionary, uncompromising, or clear. Put them all together, and the platform is far from complete and equally far from being brief. What might be said of this program that might be termed the New England idea, the Chase platform, the Boston platform or the Massachusetts platform.

II.

THE NEW ENGLAND PLATFORM.

This platform patterns to a certain extent after the national platform, and it probably defends itself upon the ground of this apparent conformity. Now, if the national platform is really national, that is, if it is used uniformly all over the country, and if it applies to conditions that are national in their scope, then it could properly contain some demands which would be out of place and unjustifiable in a local platform. For a national platform to be national, is an excellent thing; but for a local platform to be merely local, is, whenever the platform professes to be a Socialist platform, an appalling weakness. The most superficial knowledge of Socialist economies will supply the reason for this distinction.

The New England platform, I admit, may be properly called a Socialist platform, just as the Los Angeles platform is unquestionably a Labor Union platform and not a Socialist manifesto. But Comrade Chase's platform (and I say it in no spirit of antagonism to him—he has my thorough respect and sympathy) lacks in clearness, if you stand on the whole of it, and it is not revolutionary or uncompromising if you stand on the "practical" part of it, the immediate demands.

AN OPEN CONFESSSION.

First of all, what is the principle that justifies these immediate demands, especially in a local platform? Comrade Wilschire is one of the thorough-going advocates of immediate demands, and he is frank enough to give the whole situation away. He says in an article in defense of them, published in "The International Socialist Review" for July, 1902, that no Socialist expects to get these immediate demands, these demands that we are supposed to shout at the capitalist parties, mind you, but that by inserting these "practical" things, these "constructive" measures, we get (and here I quote his own language) the "votes of a whole lot of half-baked people whose votes we might just as well have as not." There's the open confession of the whole affair. Immediate-demands gain votes, they gain half-baked voters. But, are we Socialists after votes or after Socialists? Are we hunting the half-baker or the well-doer? As Wilschire himself might say, in one of his typical fits of levity, if it's the half-baker, it's not well doer.

There seems to me nothing clearer, then, than this proposition: The advocates of immediate demands expect that the putting forth of these immediate demands will secure support from those

who will not otherwise support the principles of Socialism; that is, if we can't get them to accept Socialism, let's get them to accept something else. There's a fine revolutionary, uncompromising principle of Socialist agitation. These advocates of immediate demands do not assert that such demands are demands for Socialism; hence they must be demands for something else—something that will tickle the half-baker, and titillate the palate of the unthinking. Surely the most intelligent Socialist will prefer to appeal to the most intelligent workmen, rather than to the "less intelligent." If we have to discriminate, let us discriminate in favor of the worker with sense rather than the worker who is "half-baked." Comrade Wilschire, on his own frank avowal, is placed in a dilemma from which there is no escape—especially at this stage of the propaganda work. (And I might add here that these remarks are intended to apply to present conditions in the Socialist movement in this country—not what the conditions may be in ten years from now, nor to what the conditions may be in California, nor in Poland nor Buenos Aires Hollow.)

ANOTHER CHAMPION.

But Wilschire's dilemma is easy compared to that of Comrade Seymour Steadman, another champion of the fallacy of "immediate" demands. Comrade Steadman says, in reply to the very formidable objection that these immediate demands distract attention in the campaign from the fundamentals of Socialism, that if they do divert the discussion, it is only in a partial manner. (See "International Socialist Review," July, 1902. In this article Mr. Steadman puts up the strongest argument that can be made for immediate demands; and yet this argument is so weak, by reason of the inherent weakness of the position, that it is amazing that Socialists should ever fail to detect the fallacy of it at once.) Those who oppose these demands for palliatives, assert that experience proves that wherever the platform declares for them, the battle will be fought for them, and not for Socialism. But Steadman says "No, that is not our experience." Well, suppose that we admit that, for the sake of argument—though all experience contradicts it. Now, if these demands do not cause a shifting of the basis of the conflict, then it is because the campaigners do not make use of that part of the platform. Now if they don't use that portion of the platform, what is the benefit of it? If they do use it, what does it mean? It means a fight—not for Socialism, but for something else, something less, and in many

cases something absolutely contrary to Socialism. You can take your choice of this dilemma, Comrade Steadman. If we use the immediate demands, we lose by them, and if we don't use them, we lose by their absence. Let Comrade Wilschire answer by referring us once more to the "half-baker."

(In the next number, I shall conclude this discussion by considering the advantages of an absolute unequivocal fundamental Socialist platform—such as the platform of Local Seattle and the Socialist Party of Washington.)

FORWARD MARCH.

We are glad to announce for the New Year further improvements in "The Socialist."

We propose to make this paper more and more a Cartoon Paper. To this end, we expect to secure a large staff of contributing artists.

Arthur E. Fowler will continue to work with us. He has made his reputation in "The Socialist" and his cartoons are eagerly awaited each week by many thousands all over the United States.

We are now able to announce to our readers that hereafter Ryan Walker of New York will also furnish cartoons specially designed for "The Socialist."

His work appears in "Life" and in many of the big dailies. These papers get funny pictures from him. For he has his life by his pencil. But he is a Socialist, too, as many will testify who have seen his "Social Hell" series, published in "The Coming Nation." Besides Fowler and Walker, we shall soon announce other artists who will assist to make this paper indispensable to every Socialist in the English speaking world.

What better Christmas or New Year's gift can you make to any friend than a year's subscription to "The Socialist"?

Or, what better deed can you do for Socialism than to get a few subscribers for "The only Cartoon Socialist paper published in English?"

If every present subscriber to "The Socialist" will employ Christmas day itself to push for one new subscriber, we shall be greatly encouraged to make still further improvements.

Some of the best men in the capitalist system are the worst. Take Judge Gray, for example, the president of the Coal Strike Arbitration Commission. He got very mad this week because a poor girl of twelve testified she worked all night, 8:30 p. m. to 8:30 a. m. for a few cents an hour. Her father was lame from an injury in the mine. Judge

Gray denounced this father for allowing his child to work.

Another similar case made him madder still. He was told this girl's father "owned" his house and the operators said he got \$1,400 a year. The Judge then grew white in the face and stormed it was an outrage for a father to coin his child's flesh and blood into money. His indignation did not abate very much the next day when this same father was put on the stand and testified he paid four other men, two miners and two laborers, out of his income, so that he himself got only \$30 a month and was deeply in debt to the company store besides.

Judge Gray, sleek, strong, well fed, drawing almost a thousand dollars a month, to issue injunctions or to interpret laws in support of that robber class which lives off the profits made out of those same miners and their slave children? This man talking piously about "sparing money out of flesh and blood!" Where does his salary come from but from the flesh and blood of wage-slaves!

Judge Gray sits on the very top bench of that government which exists for no other purpose than to defend the capitalist class in their legal robbery of the wage-class! He is a hireling bulwark of that system which compels child labor, which forced that poor Slavonian father to set his daughter to work that the family might not starve.

Mad, is he? Is Judge Gray? Mad at a victim of the system which he upholds! Why not mad at the system itself? Because he lives by that system, he could not hold his \$10,000 a year.

Mad, is he? He helps put a man in the stocks and then jeers at him for crying out with pain. He upholds laws that keep men in hog-pens and hen-coops for helping one another. He throws crusts to men and women as if to dogs and then pats at them for scrambling for the crusts.

Is this man so dense, so colossally dense, that he cannot see it is he and the class he serves, that coin money out of the flesh and blood of these little girls? Judge Gray, it is not those driven fathers who do it. It is you yourself, you are living on money coined out of the very blood of these low wages which you and your masters pay their employes, you could not get your easy berth.

Judge Gray, you are guilty either of stupendous density or stupendous hypocrisy. In either case, the blood of the innocents cryeth out against you!

(See our last page for the news account.)

The Social Revolution

By KARL KAUTSKY

PART I.—SOCIAL REFORM AND SOCIAL REVOLUTION.

Translated for "Justice," London, by J. H. Askew (Sole Translation Authorized) by the Author.

Chapter V.—The Softening Down of the Class Antagonism.

(Continued.)

circumstances, now the one, then the other.

From this double situation there arises a split in the ranks of the petty bourgeoisie. One portion of it identifies itself with the proletariat, the other with its opponents.

The fate of the petty industry is sealed and its decay is irrevocable. This shows itself not only in the reduction of small undertakings, but also in the fact that the petty bourgeoisie, although very rapidly in their numbers, some of the petty owners become directly dependent on the large capital, and turn into mere home workers, wage slaves, who instead of working for themselves, work for the employer at home. Others, especially small dealers and small publicans, remain independent, but find their only customers among the working-class, so that they are naturally more dependent on the fortunes of the workers. These sections draw more and more closely to the fighting proletariat.

Quite different is it with those sections of the petty bourgeoisie which have not yet become completely subjected to the large capital, but stand in the middle between the two. These are those who look for their customers in the petty bourgeoisie circles. They doubt their ability to raise themselves by their own efforts, and expect outside aid. They are naturally more dependent on the fortunes of the workers. These sections draw more and more closely to the fighting proletariat.

It is to this division in the ranks of the petty bourgeoisie that the decline and the ultimate disintegration of the petty bourgeoisie is due. A portion of it joins the proletariat and the other the reactionaries of petty democracy, which, though it is

different colors of anti-Semitism, Nationalism, Christian Socialism of certain sections of the Conservative and Centre parties, are nevertheless at the bottom, essentially and socially, the same.

Many of their phrases and arguments of this reactionary democracy have borrowed from the Social-Democratic mode of thinking, and some of the besting beliefs that they have formed a social transitional stage from Liberalism to Social-Democracy. To-day this view is manifestly no longer tenable. Social-Democracy has no more bitter enemy than the reactionaries of petty democracy. If it has developed on Social-Democracy to champion every kind of progress, whether it directly advances the class interests of the proletariat or not, the reactionaries of petty democracy is by its whole being driven to oppose all progress, even where it does not threaten the reactionaries of petty bourgeoisie. If Social-Democracy is the most progressive, the reactionaries of petty democracy is the most reactionary of all parties, since over and above the hatred which all reactionaries classes feel towards progress, it is yet inspired by the determination to do away with the petty bourgeoisie, everything lying outside its narrow circle of interests. This must be clear, that the petty bourgeoisie succeeds in dragging on its existence, thanks only to the mercenary exploitation of the weaker and most defenseless human labor, that of women and children, and the naturally more dependent, with the opposition of the proletariat, which is by its organization and compulsory laws to prevent such a wastage of human life.

Thus the petty bourgeoisie, as far as it does not come over to Social-Democracy, is the most reactionary of all parties, since over and above the hatred which all reactionaries classes feel towards progress, it is yet inspired by the determination to do away with the petty bourgeoisie, everything lying outside its narrow circle of interests. This must be clear, that the petty bourgeoisie succeeds in dragging on its existence, thanks only to the mercenary exploitation of the weaker and most defenseless human labor, that of women and children, and the naturally more dependent, with the opposition of the proletariat, which is by its organization and compulsory laws to prevent such a wastage of human life.

What is the result of the petty bourgeoisie? It is the result of the petty bourgeoisie, which is by its organization and compulsory laws to prevent such a wastage of human life.

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your officers, decide upon date and place of meeting, etc. The charter application should be forwarded by the newly-elected Secretary to the State and by return mail how the ballot votes cast at the last election, and we three are desirous of writing in some manner whereby we can advance the cause some. Please let us know by return mail how the members it takes to constitute a Camp, and the constitutional requirements.

We shall meet Saturday night next to talk over the matter. Yours truly, WM. JONES.

Everson, Whatcom Co. Wash. P. S. If you can, please send us a copy of the constitution.

If every man who voted the Socialist ticket in the state of Washington would go ahead like Comrade Everson, the Socialist vote in 1904 will be trebled again.

send in your addresses. We want the address of every one who voted the Socialist ticket on Nov. 4.

We turn over this letter to the State Committee and ask them to reply.—E2

Reply by State Secretary. Section 1, Article III of the State Constitution reads: "A Local shall consist of five or more persons believing in the principles of revolutionary socialism."

The officers of a Local shall consist of an organizer, secretary and treasurer, and such other officers as may be necessary. They shall be elected the first week in January and July for the term of six months. Officers elected at any other time shall serve only for the unexpired term.

Whenever five Socialists in an unorganized district wish to form a Local, write the State Secretary for an application, hold a meeting. Each one wishing to join should sign the charter application. When done, elect

THE FAIR THE FAIR THE FAIR

COFFEE FREE

We have added to our Grocery Department a Fine Line of Coffee. On Friday, December 19th we will present every lady visiting our grocery department one half pound of our

"UNXLD" MOCHA AND JAVA BLEND ABSOLUTELY FINE

This Coffee is Superior to any 25c sold elsewhere. To introduce our 25c grade, one-half pound Free.

THE FAIR DEPARTMENT STORE

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"My Dear Sir: I saw your ad. in the Herald of Seattle and in order to order a baby carriage sent me by express. Yours truly,

—DANUBE.

Take Cedar or Virginia Street to

Chas Lampe Watchmaker and Jeweler 422 Denny Way Cor. 8th Ave. and Seattle, Wash.

Empire Laundry First Ave. and Pike St.

Prices Reasonable Satisfaction Guaranteed

Goods called for and delivered to any part of the city.

D. C. KENEY, Prop. SEATTLE, WASH.

REMEMBER THE Edgewater Grocery & Creamery Co.

In headquarters for all kinds of Fancy Groceries

We buy direct from the manufacturer therefore we can defy any competition in the city. Call and see our store and get prices.

Edgewater Grocery & Creamery Co. T. D. COLLIER, Mgr. 1100 Kilbourne Ave., Fremont.

Union Bakery and Restaurant For good things to eat.

1413 1/2 2nd Ave. TEL. MAIN 800.

I. B. CUNNINGHAM DEALER IN Coal and Wood

Cor. Third Ave. and Clay St. Tel. LAER 111. SEATTLE, WASH.

DUWAMISH DAIRY CO. Wholesale and Retail Dealers Milk and Cream

Ice Cream a Specialty. Phone Main 157. 249 Ballard Ave. SEATTLE, WASH.

SOCIALISTS OF SNOHOMISH CO. At a recent meeting of Local Arlington it was decided to send a man to more thoroughly organize the county and to solicit money to raise a fund to put a speaker in the field

WORK OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE SHOULD BE DONE BY REFERENDUM

Everson, Wash., Dec. 9, 1902. Editor Socialist: I am sure the National committee is likely to be called together in January. This means, of course, that the rank and file of this state shall go down in their jeans and fash up about \$150 to \$175 to pay for a junketing trip for our committee to St. Louis to learn the style and color of the hooties or whistles of some of his fellow members. It looks to me that if we can not run the Socialist Party now by referendum, how would we hope to run the United States government by it? We had better change our platform for we are talking through our hats. No doubt it will be said that the National committee pays the bill. So it does—with our money. It will cost \$1,500 for the committee and pay up our old debts and get on our feet. No hundred and fifty dollars will take the vote by referendum. Leave the constitution alone for another year. If necessary, we are all opposed to sending a committee this year from this neck of the woods, as please let us hear from some other comrade.

H. P. WHARTENBY.

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XMAS

GOLDMAN'S JEWELRY STORE

The Lowest Priced House in Seattle for High Grade Goods

We are ready to show you the most popular and most acceptable Christmas gifts in all that is new and up-to-date

Our Watches are the best made. The kind that will last a life time and handed down to the next generation, still keeping time. We have them in all sizes and all prices from

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901 SECOND AVENUE, COR. MARION ST.

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You said last Christmas you would buy your holiday presents earlier this year so as to get better selections. Now is the time to keep your word. Your money will go farthest at The Fair. Every department offers **TEMPTING PRICES FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

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| SHOES AND SLIPPERS.
Men's Velvet Slippers, sole leather, patent leather, trifle extra. \$1.00
Men's Leather Slippers, either patent or velvet sole. \$1.00
Men's Suede Slippers, sizes 7 to 14. 50c
Men's Alligator Slippers, sizes 7 to 14. 50c
Men's Rubber Slippers, sizes 7 to 14. 50c
Men's Felt Slippers, leather sole and rubber top. 75c
25c CASHMERE SOCKS 15c.
These are a splendid weight you have paid 25c for in better times. | \$3.50 STORM COATS \$2.00.
Coats in both blanket lined, corduroy collar, and patent leather trim. Each \$3.50. A GOOD STRONG UMBRELLA. Through frame, extra strong, high back, self-closing, natural wood handles. 75c
\$5.00 BOYS' SUITS \$3.00.
All wool, all white, broad waist, made of fancy cashmere; pants with double welt. Regularly \$5.00; excellent value \$3.00. Monday! | FOUNTAIN PENS IN EBONY. Financed with solid gold bands. These pens are sold under a rigid guarantee—they come equipped with filling tubes and we make an elegant present for the gentleman. We will give you two lines to choose from, at each \$1 and 42c.
GROCERIES.
Sweet oranges, the downy ripeness of California, the downy ripeness of the Florida, the downy ripeness of the Florida. 10c UMBRELLAS 5c. A very pretty assortment of handles with fancy decorations, personification, worth \$1.00. 25 PER CENT. REDUCTION ON ALL ALL HOLIDAY NOVELTIES. Toilet Cases, Neckties, Cuffs, Handkerchiefs, Pocket Alendars, Leather Novelties, Magnifying Glasses, Smoking Sets, Shaving Sets, and all the latest novelties at a saving of one-fourth. In ebony, pink and celluloid novelties.
\$1.00 DRESS SHIRTS 75c. These are the Monarch Brand, fancy pattern.
\$6.00 SMOKING JACKETS \$3.98. These make a splendid Xmas gift. Made in navy blue, cord, and deep enough all around. Monday, each \$3.98. | SILK SHAWLS. These shawls are imported direct from Switzerland and are works of art, being made of the finest grade of silk, especially suited for evening wear. In a broad drape. They are in the delicate shades of blue and green and white and black. We can not quote all prices, but will give you some. \$1.50 to \$15.00.
KID GLOVES. Kid gloves regularly sold for \$1.00 and \$1.25 per pair, in all sizes and colors. At the Fair, 50c.
STOCK TIES. In soft silk, delicate shades, each \$1.00. HANDKERCHIEFS. One each for a \$1.00. Linen Kerchief, trim neck with the \$1.00. In various patterns. 10c. Fine linen of Handkerchiefs. Linen Handkerchiefs in Ladies sizes at, each \$1.25. |
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THE JUDGE SUPPORTS THE SYSTEM And the System Supports Him. See Page 1.



Judge Gray: "It is an outrage, sir, for you to let that child help you, sir. I will find a law to punish you, sir."

JUDGE GRAY GETS MAD.
Scranton, Pa., Dec. 15. Several little girls employed in silk mills were called to the witness stand, and as a result Chairman Gray plainly gave his opinion of parents who send their children to work at a tender age. The first girl was only 11 years old, and she had to go to work because her father had been hurt in the mines. She said she worked from 7 a. m. till 3 p. m. for \$2 a week. In answer to Chairman Gray she said her father expects to take her out of the mills next week, to which Judge Gray replied that he should be commended.

Annie Denka, aged 13 years, said she worked at night from 6:30 o'clock until 6:30 the morning. She had to sit up all night during her work, and received 65 cents a night. When the girl said she was employed at night every member of the commission seemed to be shocked. Judge Gray appeared especially indignant. He asked her where her father worked, and she told him in the mines. The girl also told the number of persons in the family, and finally Judge Gray said he would like to see the father.

"I would like to see the fathers of those girls," he repeated. "It may be a necessity to send them to the mills, but I do not think a father has a right to coin the flesh and sin of his children into money. It is an outrage. I would like to see that father's face."

The chairman of the commission spoke with much feeling, and his views apparently received the approval of the other commissioners.

Mr. Darrow, for the miners, said he did not altogether feel the fault of the parents, but the employers are to be blamed for not paying wages enough to permit a man to keep his children out of school.

Judge Gray replied: "That may be, but there are miners who receive enough to enable them to keep their children out of the workhouse."

"I'd like to see her father," said a small Slavonian girl, age twelve, who also worked all night, gave her testimony through a thirty-year-old girl interpreter. She worked twelve hours each night, and received 2 cents an hour. She was asked whether her father owned the house she was living in, and she replied "Yes."

Chairman Gray, who was standing up and leaning over to get the girl's answer, straightened up, and, as he walked to his seat, remarked:

"Well, I'd like to see her father."

Judge Gray: "Does your father own his house?"

"Yes, sir. He is my stepfather."

"He is your stepfather? I thought Judge Gray here inquired as to the law in Pennsylvania regarding child labor, one statute was found which partially covered the case, and the chairman remarked that it seemed as though the statutes of Pennsylvania, in this part of the state, do not seem to be better than any one else."

Mr. Darrow remarked that the law cannot enforce themselves.

After hearing all the girl witnesses, the miners put a breaker on the stand. He is fourteen years old, and has a ten-year-old brother working in the breaker of the Red Ash company at Mount Carmel. The father of the boys was killed in the mines, and the fourteen-year-old boy wrote the note to the company, which was signed by the mother, stating that the younger brother was of legal age.

Scranton, Dec. 17.—The coal operators before the anthracite commission today began their response to the charges made by the miners. Ex-Darrow, an Assistant Commissioner of the department of labor, began the list of answers. He said that he desired to call a few more witnesses. Permission was granted. Darrow then called Dimko, the father of the little girl who testified to working at night to help support the family. The company was paying Dimko \$20 a month, and was deeply in debt to the company store, according to the latter's record, \$400 last year, of which \$500 was his own property.

Dimko testified that the money had been divided between two miners and two laborers. He had himself received \$20 a month last year, and was deeply in debt to the company store. He said: "You should not let your children work like this, no matter how deep they are indebted to the company."

Another father was called and testified that his daughter made \$1.50 a week. He allowed her to work because his wife was sick.

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