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A UNIVERSAL TRUST

THE COMING OF A GIGANTIC COM-BINATION FORESHADOWED.

The Re-investment of Profits of the Trusts. Views of Editor Edwards of The Coming Nation.

The message of the early Socialists was a true message. The universal trust is coming. By abuse, persecution and imprisonment, the powers of government, backed by the conservative propertied class, have sought to discredit the warning of the Socialists. But with irresistible energy, and in exact fulfillment of Socialist predictions, mighty combinations have been effect-ed to control, within an ever-contracted circle, the earth's bounties and the people's opportunities and means of utiliz-ing them. Following immediately upon the public announcement that J. Pierpont Morgan had gained control of 25,000 miles of trunk lines and the street railway systems of seven principal cities in the country, comes the news that the Standard Oil trust has obtained complete control of the lead, leather, tobacco and whiskey interests, also the prospect of a combination of gas interests. The universal trust is moving as rapidly to a consummation as the most optimistic Socialist could desire. The Standard magnates already had control of the business of the country in oil, iron ore and sugar; they are after the steel and coffee dustries; they own much of the shipping of the lakes and most of the great tourist hotels in Florida; they are directly interested in several railroads and practically dictate freight rates to the entire transportation system of the country. The various Standard interests are yielding profits of about \$50,000,000 annually and for this their agents are constantly looking to find new investments. They can gobble two or three ordinary able-bodied trusts every year, and recent transactions show that they are improving their opportunities. Meanwhile the average American patriot is sitting around saving "The laws of our daddies are good enough for me!" and "What would we do without capitalists?" Provided the men who to-day manipulate the railroads and the Standard interests hang ogether for ten years, and keep up the process of absorbing wealth to the velocity it has recently attained, the country will be face to face with an issue, the most momentous known to civilization: Shall we now advance to a higher social order or take the plunge into permanent industrial slavery?

With fifty millions of surplus profits a year to extend his rule over the industrial domain, Mr. Rockefeller still believes in the policy of using an occasional million dollars to exploit the region of religion and education. the difference in result is very marked and interesting. While Socialists con-tend and predict that the extension of his supremacy in the industrial world is, in its purely economic aspect, the forerunner and guarantee of a national trust including all the people as its beneficiaries, and therefore to be welcomed as an evolutionary phase of industrial development, they cannot but see that his exploitations in the sphere of the college and the church constitute an attempt to lull to sleep the awakening conscience of civilization. by setting up a limit line to thought and investigation. He must of course fail of attaining his ends in suppress-ing the thinker, just as he will unques-tionably succeed in his efforts in behalf of the universal trust. But the spec tacle of the most unconscionable commercial pirate of the century acting upon the theory that the material growth of a university is of more importance than independence of though and expression on the part of its fa culty, is most deplorable. culated to open the eyes of every unprejudiced mind to the blighting influence of the cohorts of captialism and arouse every latent but potential instinct of liberty which is incorporate in every human soul. In the estimacommercial cormorants Rockefeller, the intellectual life of the nation is to be measured and repressed by a certain number of dollars. He au daciously faces the student on the threshold of the college with a "take notice" the most deadly to progress and liberty it has ever been in the pow er of a single man to impose: You are about to enter the precincts (of the Chicago or Brown university); an institution where learning is subordinate to lucre and thinking is allowed only within certain limitations, Here you will mee a president and teachers whose silence on certain subjects I have purchased. Here you will find in the class-room the rofessor who draws his salary sub-ect, not to his ability and worth, but to keeping on good terms with me! Here you will be taught not to disturb e of great financiers who the conscience of great financiers who furnish the ducats to repress the growing sentiment of Social Democracy and defend men of wealth. You will be educated here—within certain limitations; you will be allowed to think—within certain limitations; you will have freedom of speech—within certain limitations; your sympathies with

progress and the common people will have free play—within certain limita-tions. In short, if you are prepared to bow to gold, scorn Socialism, be warped by prejudice, manacled in mind, think as my purchased instructors shall tell you to think, and uphold slavery and you to think, and upade stavery and the sancity of private interests, enter; partaks of my bounty and may the blessing of Him who careth for the sparrow abide with you always!"

As a movement in the economic and political world which proposes to deal radically and practically with the labor question, the Social Democracy is not only attracting a great deal of atten-tion in America, but is actually exciting fear in some European circles. The London Standard, recognizing the new movement as "a native (American) collectivist party," says it is likely to ex-ercise "considerable influence throughout the world sooner or later." It thinks a collision between the colonists and the trusts is sure to come and that the colonists will be backed by the western farmers who are the helpless victims of the trusts. In all of which thoughtful American Socialists will see much reason. It is not improbable that in 1900 every state west of the Mississippi will be in complete sympathy with the revolutionary demands of the Social Democrats. What way of escape there is for the people, except through the triumph of the social and economic ideas of the S. D., no man can say. Therefore, on with the work in every county and state—east as well as west —and let the miserable be lifted up by abolishing the causes of their misery

GATHERING OF GIANTS representation. And while Thomas Paine was sowing

THE NEW CRUSADE COMPARED WITH REVOLUTIONARY TIMES.

The Heros of 1776 Compared With the Men of Today by "The Man Without a Soul."

I look upon the Social Democracy as gathering of the giants who have broken away from oppressive restraint and political slavery; and who, like the heroes of the American revolution, have sworn down in the secret chambers of their heart that oppression upon Amer ican soil must cease.

When those old heroes of 1776-tho giants whom King George III. had oppressed for long years-when thos giants met in convention and drew up resolutions to wipe the foul footsteps of the tyrant and oppressor from American soil, did they have one-half the grievances against the government of the British throne that we American making their cause the one great pubwage-slaves have to-day against the reign of the American plutocracy?

Were there any of King George's subects starving in 1776? Did any of them search in vain for the most menial labor, and get locked up in foul prisons for the crime of begging for bread?

The little schoolboy knows better than this. Those old giants of 1776 would have upset this corrupt government of the states long before they which inhere in a system of private reached our present condition of degra-

the seeds of the great revolutionchurches were appealing to the people to be long-suffering and forgiving, and bow their necks humbly for the heavy

yoke placed upon them.

All great reforms for the uplifting of the common people have their origin outside of church and state circles. The unsatisfied element is always found outside the railing that fences the miserable poor from God's earth.

The fat and well fed are always contented with present conditions, while the lean and hungry and starving find it against God's highest laws to be satisfied and contented.

The American revolutionists tax payers and not tax consumers—they were the robbed and plundered and outraged and despised, and only the ew who drew profit out of the British rule were opposed to rebellion.

Every man who joined the revolutionists had a grievance against the crown, and the great gathering of those unsatlic and political issue of the day. And every man who joins the Social

Democracy of America has a grievance against the destroyers of our country's prosperity, and is willing and anxious to make the fight a political and a pubfight for individual right, for industrial freedom and an equal right and share in God's green earth.

WORLD A FLOWERBED

FULL OF OBNOXIOUS HUMAN WEEDS THAT NEED ATTENTION.

If the Weeds are Not Pulled Up, the Flowers Must Perish. Weeds Described by J. R. Armstrong.

I have been getting quite round shouldered of late pulling weeds. When my work was pointed out by an overseer, I was somewhat startled by the

apparent difficulty of the task.
"There," said he, "is a bed of pinks but you see, it has been long neglected, and the burdocks, thistles and castorbeans have almost choked them to death.'

"Yes," I said, "it will be quite a feat to pull out the weeds without disturbing the frail and delicate plants."

"Put your feet down firmly," said my master, "with each big weed between them and then give a vigorous jerk and you will fetch them up without dragging half a bushel of soil along with each root."

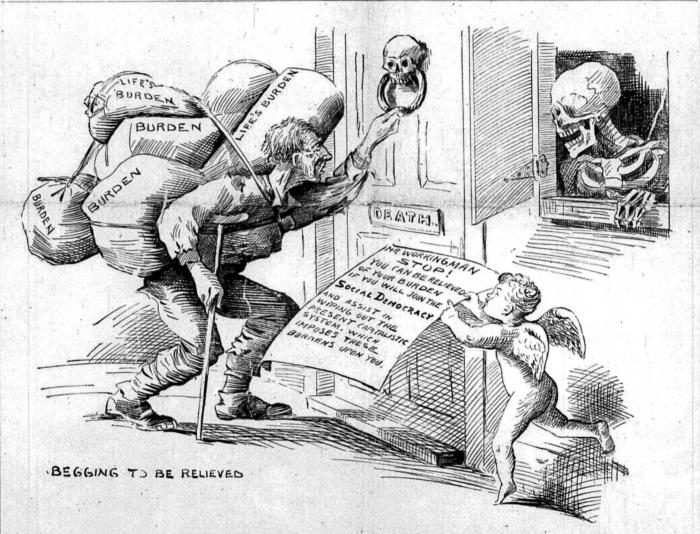
I tried the experiment and I was

Pullman absorbing the substance that ought to go to thousands of other human entities; they, too are fruitful of the nature of the weeds. Rockefeller also represents a gigantic burdock spreading out in all directions, rooting, branching and drawing up to itself the substance intended, not for burdock, but for pink. He, too, will have to be kept within bounds or there will be only room in the world for a few of his kind and the rest of us will have to become extinct. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and eternal weeding is the price humanity pays for its very life, but it has been seriously neglected of late. Burdocks are useful for medicine, so are castorbeans, but we do not want the whole earth covered with them. So with Carnegie, Rockefeller et al. They in the sphere that prudence, common-sense and experience points out, would doubtless yield a moiety of usefulness, but not in the capacity they occupy now. This world is plenty big enough for the present population without having tenement house sardine-boxes to pack people

All these human weeds must be dealt with firmly, without necessarily inflicting any pain; the anaesthetic of "popular approval" will obviate that agreeably surprised to find how easily to a certain extent. Every human being the obnoxious growth was overcome. is entitled to a fair portion of this After removing the weeds I loosened earth and if he is deprived of it, it is the soil about the sickly flowers with because some weed or weeds have taka hoe and watered them. The effect of the weeding, hoeing and watering is of my neighbors is a hard-working, And these men who have come forth to join the Social Democracy of America are just as heroic and patriotic as after flower is bursting into bloom, the small, cramped rooms. At five o'clock in the merning he is out getting ready, with dinner can in hand, to go and bend his weary back in the scorching sun for perhaps 12 hours for barely enough to keep his family from starving to death.

Another neighbor of mine has a doll for a wife with no children, and a splendid ten-room house, well fur-nished, to live in. He never gets out of bed before nine or ten o'clock in the morning and the only work I have ever seen him do was to turn the water on the portable sprinkler in the front yard. In the hot afternoons I frequently see him snoozing in a fine hammock, under some evergreen trees or reading a book, etc. The first neighbor, like the pinks before "weeding" is stultified, suppressed and starved because he is not given an opportunity to grow physically, morally and intellectually and become perfected. The second neighbor is big, fat, lazy and useless because he has more of the good things of this life that he can utilize—in a word he is a weed and needs careful pruning. Now suppose the ten-roomed house

neighbor should exchange places with the two-roomed one and do one-half of his work what a grand improvement it would be for both. One instead of dying in middle-life with fatty degeneration of the heart and the other with starvation and over-work-both would live long, enjoy life and leave the world better than they found it. Socialism is really a system of weeding whereby the thin, stunted and over-worked may be given a proper share of this world's flower-beds and the great fat, bumptious absorptive ones kept within respectable bounds. If the flowers of generosity, kindness, intelligence, and liberty are worth preserving, certainly the weeds of private ownership monopoly, political corruption, free contract, class privilege, and competition must be torn up, root and branch and I believe the Social Democracy is in a fair way of doing it.



monopoly and gain at the expense of dation human life and happiness.

Comment on our Leader.

Eugene V. Debs has demonstrated his ability as an organizer, and his powers as a leader of men, and it is almost certain that he will found a great company of people in the west on the plans of modern socialism. While there are many obstacles to be overcome, there can be little doubt of its success, provided Mr. Debs exercises his usual good judgment as to ocation and arrangement.—Democrat, Lockport, Ill.

Laboring men will watch with all the interest possible, because of the hope held out that the co-operative commonwealth will eventually supercommonwealth will eventually super-sede the present wage system. Others will watch it from motives vastly difdisappointed if it should not become successful in accomplishing that intended by its progenitors. That it will be successful in a measure we have no be successful in a measure we have no doubt, for we cannot well conceive how it can be otherwise, for success depends upon, first, the acquiring of favorable natural resources, and second, upon the labor necessary to make them productive. On the first proposition we presume great care will be exercised in making the selection of the location where the original beginning shall be effected, and in the second instance only those who are in perfect accord and in full sympathy with the movement will be selected or assigned to the work to be performed. Upon the broper beginning of the movement will tepend much of the success.—United Mine Workers' Journal.

George Washington did not have oneagainst the rule of American monopoly: nor the one-thousandth as great as Eugene V. Debs and a hundred other knowledge that the signers of the like these flowers in many respects. men who have suffered imprisonment Declaration of Independence were the They must have a proper environment and abuse for daring to raise a hand mental giants of their time and gener- to be perfect. against the damnable industrial condi- ation; men who would not suffer ion which is dragging American labor wrong and oppression even from the bed that must be kept free from weeds down to a level with that of the bar- government they had sworn to sup-And yet we hear the whimpering cow-

ards on every hand objecting to carrying our just cause into politics. Do sincere as there fathers were? Are not these blind cowards know that they not the mental giants of the polithrough the channel of politics is the tical and industrial world? only road to peaceable reform? When I call this new movement you take a thing out of politics, you take it out of the hands of the common people. A political grievance is a public grievance, and a public grievance political grievance.

McKinley proposes to take the curency question out of politics and have commission appointed, the members have caused all our financial disturb--the same gang of robbers and

And yet I hear some poor blinded on this great patriotic measure.

Why, it was for this very reason the giants of 1776 rose up and declared themselves free from British rule. All the important measures had then been taken out of politics, and the colonies were taxed without their consent or

the Adamses. Ben Franklin, Charles leaves are turning a deeper green, the world know which side they were on. will be a paradise, Every sane American to-day will ac-

And are not these men of the Social southern part of California under the Democracy as brave and patriotic and name of Lux and Miller, ought not to

I call this new movement the gather ing of the giants-the strongest and the bravest and most sincere uniting their strength to battle with wrong and oppression and human greed. The best brains of the country are

logic, and the honest hearts are sending off sparks of burning patriotism and human sympathy.

The good and the great are in this

financial murderers who elected their gathering of the giants; the good and tool to the highest place in the gift of the great, and the great God of right and justice are all in this gathering of the giants, and history will have a long

story to tell of how right triumphed over wrong and plutocratic injustice. Come and join us, men of thought and brain. Men who love justice and therty; men who love humanity; men who love little children too well to see ir young lives ground out of their

Carrol of Carrolton, and John Han- scent is sweeter and in a very few days tenth the grievances against his king cock, who came forth to sign that other what once presented the appearance of that the most common laborer has Declaration of Independence and let the a wild tangled mass of unsightliness

The world is after all a great flower-The weed of selfishness that absorbs 1,500,000 acres of land in the be, because it deprives many human beings of the blessings of life. a sample weed of thousands of others in the University of Chicago, was comquite as bad and perhaps worse! man who takes, by the chicanery of law, more room on this earth and more to the trusts and other monopolies substance than is requisite to develor his faculties, is surely a weed and ought to be restrained if not uprooted. Look coming over to the side of right, and at the millions of the fairest of humani ty crowded into blackholes worse than that one of Calcutta mentioned in con nection with the Indian hunting pos because great ugly weeds like the upas

tree absorb too much life-spac The pinks did not need weeding any general overhauling and it must be attended to immediately or the best flow ers of humanity will perish. The growth ling of a great many human lives be-cause of his tremendous absorptiveness! Pruned and restrained withir the bounds of reason, Mark Hanns would perhaps be useful instead of de structive. So with Phil Armour and Right of Free Speech.

Editor Social Democrat: The right to exercise the power of free speech, free thought and free citizenship is fast falling out of the hands of the common people of these United States. Time after time, within the history of the last few years, the people have been denied the right to exercise the basic and fundamental rights of a citizenship, as promulgated in constitution of the United States.

My reasons for making the above assertions are as follows: Several known authority on political economy, pelled to resign because he advocated certain doctrines which were harmful which help support that aristocratic

institution. The case of Prof. Bemis had just passed out of the public mind, President Andrews was compelled to doctrines which he deemed for the best interests and welfare of his fellowcountrymen. Now, as a scandalous close to this chain of events, Eugene V. Debs has been enjoined from speaking to the miners in certain cities located in West Virginia. This state of affairs is a disgrace to the republic. It is an outrage committed in "the land of the free, and the home of the brave." As a humble citizen of the great and gran nation. I denounce the men that tried to stifle Bemis, Andrews and De

N. J. WILLIAMS. Jamestown, N. Y., July 27, 1897.

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LIST OF SOLICITORS.

"No member of this organization pointive, from any political party unthis body; and no local or state branch or otherwise, without the consent of the national executive board, except in states already under confrol of the order."-(Adopted by the National con-

The cardinal virtue of Socialism is nothing else than Common Sense

The co-operative commonwealth is the insurance of the future-the guarantee of security for life.

Social order is built upon a properly cared for stomach. Can a man be free when he is half starved?

The judges who grant injunctions to

right to live is the first and chief right of life. Society which does not organize for that end is a misnomer. It is simply disorder and

When the old French Bastile was taken by storm there were seven pris-oners in it. When the Bastile of these silver was still an issue, a New York prisoners liberated.

The twentieth century should dawn from venal alderman to ring-chosen governor. The proletariat can do this purification-if he will.

Crime, the twin sister of poverty, is rampant in these glorious days of prosperity and McKinleyism. Read the ghastly chronicle in the daily papers and you will see for yourself that the competitive system is the parent of the

The peaceful march of a few bands of miners may be stopped by sheriffs and their hirelings with Winchesters, but the march of this nation toward Sohas begun and the of the new century will witness the victory of the people.

All successful communities have been religious in character. Religion is not theology nor sectarianism. What loftier faith can there be than the religion of humanity-the salvation of the "divine fragment?" Faith in man is the worship of the true God.

Murphy O'Hea, dramatist and journalist, has written a Social Democracy play, entitled "Plutocracy, or American Degeneracy." A local production drama may be soon expected. Mr. O'Hea is author of Garry Owen, and other plays before the public.

While Dun and Bradstreet are proclaiming that "prosperous times here," that "money is easier" and other sensational falsehoods the number of suicides is not lessened, nor the number of people who are being starved to death while the barns and elevators are bursting with grain

After all perhaps Malthus was right. There are too many (poor) people in the world. We would respectfully suggest to our bosses, the trusts, the Yerkes, De Armits, Hannas, Rocke-fellers and other coal, oil and wheat barons" that next winter when hunger, cold and destitution are at their worst that they call out the Pinkertons and the "tin soldiers" and shoot down the paupers. It will be a good way to prevent strikes and will save thousands from starving to death or committing suicide from despair.

One reason why there are not more Socialists is that there are so many moral cowards-men and women who will not dare to study the social question for fear it would lower them either familiar capitalistic sophism concern-financially or socially. As a matter of financially or socially. As a matter of fact, Socialism, on the contrary, raises and ennobles all brought within its influence.

Comrade J. W. Arnold, 81 Adams st. Rochester, N. Y., has gotten out a col-Rechester, N. Y., has gotten out a colored chart showing the economic condition of the United States—how its preferred labor claims. The circuit judge having jurisdiction in the matter granted the petition and ordered the claims paid. The trusteea upon the wall. He mails it for 25 cents.

There is little need of comrades and friends paying attention to the criticisms and diatribes of other and misguided socialists who choose to be disgruntled because their leadership is not followed.

There is no quarrel to be had out of this movement. Some men there are who speak in several languages and with a forked tongue, but they seem also to think in none.

"I know you have often been told that competition, which is at present the rule of all production, is a good thing, and stimulates the progress of the race. But the people who tell you this should call competition by its ony, shorter name of War if they wish to be honest, and you could then be free to consider whether or no war stimulates progress, otherwise than as a mad bull chasing you over your own garden may do."-William Morris.

According to the school census of "No member of this organization 1895, there were in the United States, shall accept an office, elective or ap- 20,328,147 children between 5 and 18 pointive, from any political party un-years of age. The number enrolled as til he first severs his connection with 14,201,752; thus 6,126,395 went through shall go into politics through fusion the year without entering a school-

> Think of it, over one-third of our children are not permitted to enjoy the advantages of a common school education! No wonder, American men and women are so easily enslaved. Ignorance has always been the slave of knowledge. Under Socialism such a condition of affairs would be impossi-

The American workman, if he will Republican stripe, will do well to consider the advice given to British workmen by Professor Thorold Rogers, the well-known writer on work and wages. He says: "The (English) workman oblige the mine owners should be in-dicted for malfeasance in office. has his future now very largely in his own hands. He has only to remember that progress for him lies not in revolution, or even in general strikes, but in persistent insistence; not on paternal but on fraternal legislation, the people becoming the government oppression, plus the constable and the and obtaining their rights through

Because a fake interview in a capitallatter days, the competitive system, is Socialist paper proceeds to "prove" that demolished, there will be millions of Debs is not a Socialist, and the Social Democracy not a socialistic party. The New York paper in question receives the Social Democrat and certainly on a purified country, purged of politi-cal criminals and purchasable rascals, it prefers to believe what a capitalist it prefers to believe what a capitalist paper says, because "Mr. Debs has not repudiated the interview." Mr. Debs has made it a rule never to contradict a lie concerning him published in a capitalist paper. If he did not adhere to this rule, half of his time would be taken up in writing letters to the press. By the way, since when has it been customary for Socialist papers to be-lieve the statements of the capitalist press in regard to Socialism and So-

> One of the bitterest criticisms directed by socialists against the present system refers to the use of money, in that, by such use of money, and through the influence of what Karl Marx calls "the fetichism of commodities," the exploitation of the worker is hidden from his By reducing his reward to the standard of a money payment the divorced from his worker is completely natural relations with the product of his industry, and his real relation to the capitalist who employs him is concealed. It is made to appear that the worker's wage is commensurate with the value of the labor he contributes to the productive process, and the fact that he is, by the mere exercise of his labor, contributing surplus-value for the benefit of the capitalist does not present itself to his view. The worker receives the price of his labor in money, and the fact that he may reproduce this price by the exercise of but five hours' labor, while he actually works during ten or more hours for the benefit of the capitalist, is concealed by the appearance of equivalents which the money form of value establishes beprice he receives for it. His real relation to social production, as a creator of products, does not appear. He appears to work for so much money, and the value he creates in exchange for that money does not enter into his calculations at all, because the basis for such calculation is destroyed by the operation of the money form of value, which form is but the natural expres-

The Social Democracy must get and keep together. Like the old abolition advocates, the comrades must be heard.

A Legal View of Brain Work.

The Michigan Supreme Court, has endered a decision in a labor case, the logic of which is to overthrow a very

Three men, an editor, reporter and proof reader, who were employed on a Michigan newspaper which was recentthe benefit of its creditors, advanced claims for salary due them, and petiried the case to the Supreme Court on There the decision of the lower court was reversed the high court ruling that the work done by the petitioners, being brain work, was not such as would properly come under the statute covering labor claims.

We are continually reminded by our capitalist friends that the man who works with his brain is just as truly a laborer as is the wageworker who works with his hands, and is therefore entitled to the same consideration as the wageworker in the distribution of the product of industry. This argument is advanced with the intention to establish an ethical basis for capitalist accumulation. We have it dinned into our ears to the point of monot-

But here we have a high legal oninion that the argument is essentially unsound. If brain labor is a factor of such importance in the production of wealth as the capitalists say it is, if brain workers and hand workers have equal claims on the product of their joint exertions, then they certainly ought to receive equal recognition and consideration from the laws; the law which applies to one sort of labor ought to apply to the other. But this high court says that there is an essential difference between the two sorts of labor. It says, in effect, that the brain worker has not the same claim to the product of industry as has the hand worker, and that the principle on which society acts when it assumes to protect the latter in his rights does not apply to the former at all. are not disposed to rejoice at this decision or consider it of much importance; nor is there any intention to disparage the importance and value of brain labor. We regard these men as the victims of a legal trick whereby think and act for himself, outside of the machinery of the courts has been the decrees of politicians of the Demojustly their due, and our only object in calling attention to the decision is to point out another palpable absurdity of capitalism and show how certainly the existing system is digging its own grave.

Trades, Unionism and the Social Democracy.

The trades union in its modern form, as an association of employes to protect themselves against the exactions of employers, and to secure to themselves the largest possible portion of the product of their labor, origin contemporaneously with the rise of the capitalist system of production.

Prior to the beginning of the eighteenth century, both the capitalist system and the trades union, as they now exist, were almost unknown. The manufacturing trades were carried on by men who owned both the tools with which they worked, and the whole product of their labor. The most extensive employers had but a few men in their employ, and these were mostly youths who always expected to be-come, and if they were honest and in-dustrious, usually did become in their mature years, themselves employers of labor.

But about the year 1700 the efficacy of large bodies of men working togeth-er, over the same numbers working separately began to be perceived, and the consequence was, that the most far-seeing of those engaged in such production, and who could command the use of capital, gathered together the workcourse, that the workmen no longer received the full product of their labor as formerly, but only such part of it as the employers chose to give them; and this was usually but a small portion of their product. This condition immediately gave rise to associations orkmen formed with the object of obtaining from their employers a greater amount of the workers' product, and such conditions of the time of labor and others as were most desirable. Then immediately a conflict arose be tween these unions of workmen and their employers. As the interests of these two classes were conflicting, the friction between the two was immediate. The employers resorted to the courts, and had the trades union declared an illegal conspiracy; and the members of it were made criminals, and were forced to hold their meetings in caves or other secluded

Pretty much the same state of things has continued ever since, except that the growing power of the working people, and the sympathy of those whose interest was not directly in conflict with them, softened the rigors of the law, and to some extent legalized the

But with the growth and strengthening of the capitalist system, and its extension to nearly all lines of industry a new principle became apparent. This was that with the application of machinery to production, and the consequent throwing out of employment of many of the workmen, competition for employment became so strong that wages dropped to the point of subsistence and with some exceptions have remained at that point. The point of

subsistence meant that point at which men and their families could live ac-cording to an ever-lowering standard of life. This standard has for the last thirty years continually lowered, and the most strenuous and self-sacrificing efforts of the men have been unable to resist this tendency except perhaps in local trades. Instances of this are found in the coal and iron miners, the wood-workers, and in nearly every other trade. The Social Democracy perceiving this tendency of wages to an ever-decreasing standard has con-cluded that while history has demon-strated that the trades union is a necessity as long as the capitalist system exists, yet the capitalist system itself is not only not a necessity, but an obstacle to the welfare of the workmen and of every other class of the community, not excepting the capitalists themselves. Hence the Social Democracy has determined to use its efforts to supplant the capitalist system with the co-operative system. That is say, that the system under which a few men own the land and the means of production must be abolished, and the public become the owner of these things, whereby men will no longer get but a portion of the product of their toil, but all of it. This object of the Social Democracy in no way conflicts with the efforts of the trades union. On the contrary, it aims to do what trades unionism can never do, guaran-tee to every worker not a part, but all of the product of his toil. The trades union is the economic class movement.
The Social Democracy the political movement to abolish class, and place all men on economic equality These two movements should work side by side

Debs' Great Speech.

The greatest audience ever assembled in Columbus to listen to an address of a private citizen met in the new auditorium on Wednesday evening to hear from Eugene V. Debs the greatest speech ever delivered in this

Fully 4,500 persons greeted the orator as he came forward to address them. Tall, slender and erect, countenance beamed with benevolence as he stepped forward and down from the upper platform designed for speakers, to the level of the footlights, both nearer his hearers and not so high above them.

He announced no topic for the most remarkable discourse upon the rights and dignity of labor, and for equality and justice among men, that has ever been made in this country.

His entire speech of two hours was a fervent appeal to justice and a high-er humanity. It combined all the learning of economists, all the sentiphilosophers, and all the ethics of moralists and divines.

Without a note or memorandum, he quoted without hesitation or confusion him a welcome that he will never forfrom Socrates, Shakespeare, Goldsmith, Lowell, Herron, Miller, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Jesus of Nazareth, and a score of other immortals whose names are in the pantheon of the world.

Not a word of abuse escaped his lips, as this great champion of the rights and dignity of labor appealed to mankind to be less greedy and more fra-ternal. Not a syllable of politics marred the lofty sentiment he sought to inculcate. Inspired by a morality and patriotism above the plane of caucus and convention, he did not descend to the lower atmosphere where strife is born and fostered. Many citizens of all degrees of intel-

ligence and prejudice were attracted to show them that Social Democracy will the meeting, filled with curiosity to lead them out of the hell of capitalism hear what a man so maligned with unjust notoriety as Mr. Debs might have to say. Not one of these but was enchanted with the magical grace of his speech and the dignity and elevation of his sentiments. Not one of these was offended by a principle he espoused, nor by a sentence he uttered. for the noble cause of Social Democ-Not one of them left the hall until the our paper, can't you? You can sell last echo of his peroration had ceased men in large and ever increasing bodies, and organized the beginnings of the factory system. This meant, of to ring in their ears. Astonishment you? If not, why not? Just try it. And inspired by courage, conviction and humanity in any age of the ,world. Eugene V. Debs is the inspired evangelist of labor; and not of labor alone, but of that broad humanity which embraces all men. While the immediate object of his speeches at this time is to create or evoke sympathy for the starving miners now striking for bread, his appeal for justice and the supremacy of the golden rule embraces the human family in its comprehensive kindle anew their faith in God and their hope in humanity. Lawyers and judges might catch glimpses of a higher law than statutes procured by bribery, and merchants and capitalists of a better motive than the mere hope of

The question of wages he regards as one of morality, and the morality that will suffer those to starve and perish who create the wealth of the world can hardly foster a civilization that will long endure. "Men," said he, "exist to lift each other up, not to drag each other down, or to go on in pursuit of selfish gain, heedless of Much as this man has been abused, when the history of this generation is written, and the tragebroken the hearts of men and women

Rosa's Notes to Prother John. The fight is on, Brother John, more desperate than ever. The wage work ers of the world are waking up and are preparing for the decisive battle.

I am pleased to learn that you are beginning to take less interest in base ball games and dog fights, and that you are determined to become a good scholar and brave soldier of Social Democracy.

The present conditions are most deplorable. Misery and despair show their grim faces everywhere. We have reached that stage of capitalist development where wage workers and middle class business men must fight for socialism or starve.

Brother John, during the last week was in a somewhat discouraging mood. I was suffering with fever, my husband out of work, my children without bread! When the last number of the Social Democrat reached me I forgot all about my trouble. Fight, fight for Socialism! I said to myself. Socialism is our only salvation!

Our Jewish Socialist comrades that held their convention recently in New York are a clear-minded, brave set of people. They know what they are fighting for. I request you, Brother John, to read the proceedings of their convention once more; you find them on page 4 of last week's Social Demo

Some would-be scientific Socialists are harping the song of class struggle all year round, but when it comes to taking part in the class struggle they are not in it. Is there a more striking feature of the class struggle than the great miners' strike? And yet Comrade Debs and the other leaders of the strike movement are being villified by the official organ of a so-called Soeialist Labor Party. Brother John, those "scientific class strugglers" are nothing but first-class scientific jugglers and juggling sectarians.

Welcome! ye old brave war-horses. It made me feel good to read in last week's Social Democrat that among the new members of our Social Democracy there are such brave and experienced comrades as Britzius of Chicago, Cahan, London, Zametkin, Winchevski, etc., of New York, Albert E. Sanderson of St. Louis and others. A movement composed of such material cannot fail.

Comrade Herbert N. Casson, in a letter to the Coming Nation, says he is can, in his judgment, be reconciled? highly pleased with the Socialist outments of the poets, all the wisdom of highly pleased with the Socialist outlook in England. He finds that the Socialists of England are a fine and warm-hearted lot of people who gave get. Indeed, the International Social Democracy is the grandest thing the world has ever seen. Proletarians of all countries, unite!—these words of Karl Marx re-echo from land to land, from sea to sea, and the ruling powers of all countries are trembling in view of the gigantic growth of the grand army of Socialists.

If I am not mistaken, it was the great German Socialist agitator Ferdinand Lassalle who said: "The working class is the rock upon which the church of the future will be built." Let the wage workers of this country understand the truth of these words and and wage slavery to Socialism and economic freedom.

John, you regret that you are not a fluent speaker. Well, this does not preracy. You can secure subscribers for vent you from doing effective work Socialist pamphlets and books, can't

ocracy are legible to every intelligent man and woman. To understand them requires not the aid of many professors and doctors of national economy.

Prosperity is near at hand. Now, ye discontented wage slaves, you have no right to grumble. Be patient and do not disturb the "business confidence." Prosperity will come, the capitalist press says so. And after all you have to look out for your future life i. e., the range. From the discourse last night, life in the kingdom of God where milk ministers of the holy gospel might and honey flows, and where you will exchange your old, dirty rags clothes for the finest silk and satin dresses, and where you will be provided with a fine pair of wings-finer than those of the proud swan. Just keep quiet and never talk about Som. Don't you know that old Jay Gould is now in the midst of hell's Without poverty the world cannot exist. Blessed be the poor!

A western capitalist paper that was instrumental in bringing McKinley to Fort Prosperity, calls Comrade Debs & blatherskite. That same paper, during the great Pullman strike, said "Gatling guns are the best diet for the striking moh." .The editor who wrote that gatling gun editorial, two years there-

York inside of three days. The same week the "Ev'ry Month" magazine for August furnishes several excellent pictures of the mammoth hotel which the Astors are building to accommodate the wealthy sojourners in New York, and which, combined with the Waldorf, represents an outlay of \$5,000,000. The provisions alone, exclusive of wines for one year, will cost over \$3,000,000. This is modern economic equality.

American wage workers, to the front! In all civilized countries your brethren are fighting the battle for economic freedom. You know your conditions. You are not "too low the grain to sow, but too low the bread to eat." Here is the banner of Social Democracy; see the brave army following it. There is the enemy-the forces of capitalism. Decide! One or the other of the armies vou must follow: either Capitalism or Socialism.

When workers have nothing, and idlers have all,
Law is a farce and a lie;
When prices rise higher and wages grow small,
Freedom means freedom to die.

Brother John, wherever you meet a wage worker, get him interested in our grand movement. Read to him the foregoing lines. Appeal to us heart

and to his intelligence.
I remain your beloved sister. ROSA PROLETAIRE.

A Point of Information.

Mr. Editor: The "New Yorker Volkszeitung" is a publication run "on the European plan," which means that it generally cares for truthfulness and de cency, as far as it goes. Eventually, however, it must bow to party dictates, and then the following appears on its editorial page:

"The capitalistic press prefers it as a special criminal charge against Debs that he stands on the Chicago platform. We quite understand it; but so long as this is the case, so long as Debs not explicitly cut loose from the Chicago platform, he can not be our man.

The Chicago platform meant here is the platform of the Democratic party. The editor of the New Yorker Volkszeitung must certainly be familiar with still another "Chicago platform," which is the Declaration of Principles of the Social Democracy of America. Could it be that he commented upon it with-out having read it? I thought that the declaration of principles of Social Democracy was in itself a repudiation of the Democratic Chicago plat-form. If that is not so, would the editor of the "N. Y. Volkszeitung" explain how the two "Chicago platforms"

New York, Aug. 6, 1897.

Charity.

Came two young children to their mother's shelf (One was quite little and the other high), and each in freedom calmly helped him-self.

(One was a prig.)

The food was free and plenty for them both, But one was rather dull and very small. So the big, smarter brother, nothing loth, He took it all.

At which the little fellow raised a yell Which tired the other's more esthetic ears.
He gave him here a crust and there a To stop his tears. He gave with pride, in manner calm and bland.

bland, Finding the other's hunger a delight; He gave with piety—his full left hand Hid from his right.

He gave and gave—O blessed charity!
How sweet and beautiful a thing it is!
How fine to see that big boy giving free
What is not his!
—Charlotte Perkins Stetson.

Debs and his associates for the pres-ent think different as regards agita-tion than do the German Socialists, but they think thoroughly Socialistic, and that is the main point. To oppose them would be to arrest the moving ball, and, as a Socialist, show gross misconception of its mission. If Debs kindles the flame of hope in the hearts of the innumerable unemployed that something practical can be done for same time the un compromising political labor party steps into action, one can think about it as he may; but it is certainly hu-manely felt and a well-thought-out plan of agitation. With the mere theorectical foundation of a labor party the masses would never have roused up as Debs has been able to ac complish it.—Volks-Anwalt, Cleveland, Ohio.

The white ribbon emblem of the Woman's Christian Temperance union is protected by copyright, and the fol-lowers of Eugene Debs will be restrained from using same. There is no ques-tion as to the rights of the women in the matter—but in practicing the doc-trine of humanity, brotherly love and consistent unselfishness of spirit, Mr. Debs is far ahead of the monumental hypocrites who compose the leadership of the W. C. T. U.—Chicago Federa-

ecceccoaaaaaa The Editor's Letter Box

Socialist Dayton:—We agree with you; the Middle of the Roaders will poll a very small vote; the fusionists who are after the loaves and fishes will support the Democratic ticket. We feel sorry for Coxey and his followers; they are honest, well-meaning reformers and should be with the Social Democracy. Give them a little time and they will all be with us. after ended his own life by jumping out of a window of his residence. Now, Brother John, are these capitalist press editors who have to write such things—are they not to be pitied? I think they are.

Last week it was announced that six people were starved to death in New A little time and they will all be with us. YZ St. Louis:—You ask: "Why don't the Social Democrata have the Atlacks made upon the Social Democraty by certain Socialist papers, who stoop to faise-boods and slander in their vain endeavor to kill the new party?"

I put the same question to Debs a short time ago. his answer was: "Don't waste your powder on mosquitoes, there is bigger game in sight."

Last week it was announced that six people were starved to death in New little time and they will all be with us. YZZ St. Louis:—You ask: "YOU a

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS

[Note.-The editors are not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.]

University for the Co-Operative Commonwealth.

We are still agreed that education in its popular, untrammeled, moral sense is the greatest concern of society, but the world has not yet fully awakened to the realization of the chief aim of We scarcely need be told that a person may be fully equipped with knowledge and mental discipline and still remain a criminal. A good and wise parent will inevitably seek for a better result in his child than mere knowledge, intellectual ability and power. The clear and conscious aim of school education is moral char-acter. This central thought now sal happiness idea. greatly permeates the educational world and is the only hope of a higher civilization.

The state or nation should be and is more concerned to see the growth of just and virtuous citizens than in seeing the prosperity of scholars, inventors, merchants' and business men. It is clearly to be seen that our country may have vast resources and great opportunities, but that everything in the end depends upon the moral quality of its men and women

Undermine and corrupt this and we all see there is nothing to hope for. The uncorrupttible stock of true patriots in our land is firmly rooted in this conviction, and is worth more to the country than corn fields and iron mines. If we found our theory and practice upon the central doctrine of moral education, the perpetual entice-ment and blandishment of worldly success so universal in our time can not move us.

Until recently the great hue and cry has been "give us thinkers" from the public schools, and sure enough thinkers are with us to the great sorrow of common humanity and the end is not yet as to final results. The process has been solely a mental development and one which has taught the youth of our land a system of legalized robbery of honest toiling humanity, or otherwise a system which exploits labor in all industries for the lasting benefits cialism for the United States and Can-of the highly educated thinkers and the ada. It is curlous to know how the few possessors, of the wealth of our

great minds playfully twirl the English language and convince common people that black is white when it is to their interest to do so. They secure pretended statute law in printed English and formulate jury interrogatories, all of which they can turn to their own selfish gain in the twinkling of an eye. Hence I maintain that while the distribution of reform literature and discussions economic questions by the adults of our land is a grand educational work, which can not be dispensed with for one moment, there is much need and a glorious opportunity for greater energy and forethought in planning the curriculum for true public education and a higher life.

As the public school of this country is a socialistic institution it behooves form of the Social Democracy recogevery sympathizer of true socialism nizes the class struggle, and second, to lend his or her best energies in fos- that Comrade Debs will have no lack tering the growth and development of of "wind and weather proof" helpmates an educational system which may play of transatlantic experience, "then the an important part in averting bloody erhood of man may prevail in our

There are great minds connected with state and private educational in-stitutions of our land who have taken a bold stand for humanity, but they are ignominiously driven from such a humane fortress as they have erected and the institutions perverted for everlasting greed and avarice. Hence a great educational institution centrally located and planned and operated in the interests of a co-operative com-monwealth and the brotherhood of monwealth and the man is one of the greatest needs of the Where are the true philanthropists who dare endow such an institution for common humanity, erecting a monument to themselves which would glorify them throughout I believe there are such. and let them think and ponder. I do not believe that all human kind who possess wealth are debased with utter

Who will be the first donor of a desirable site for the University of Co-Operative Commonwealth, to be lo-

cated in some one of the central states. Let a boari of directors be selected and a university fund started at once. I believe all reform papers true to their colors will lend a hand and each one open a column for such purpose.

On to Washington with true Chris-

tian scclalism! J. W. NEWBERN. Richmond, Ind.

To a Skeptical Friend.

Mr. Editor: The birth of the Social Democracy of America was heartily welcomed by the German socialist press of the country, with the exception of New Yorker Volkszeitung, the semiofficial organ of the Socialist Labor We therefore note with interest the editorial of the 4th inst., which reads in substance as follows:

During the first years of the Popu list middle class movement numerous socialists, particularly in the west, joined it, believing that the People's party could eventually develop into socialism, of which, however, not very much can be traced up to date. Now it seems the same is bound to come in among the friends of socialism are

lending their sympathies and their practical assistance, because they believe that out of the Debs movement a Social-Democratic labor party car easily develop in the United States,

"Now, whatever CAN develop out of the Debs movement remains to be seen. It is possible that Debs, after finally satisfying himself of the failure of the colonization idea, will with so much greater liveliness and energy take in hand the idea of organizing a socialist party, which already glimmers in his mind. Still at present Debs does not stand on the view-point of the class struggle, but is still laboring un-

"When, however, Debs will have adopted the two cardinal points of the Socialist program—the collective own-ership of ALL means of production as the end and the class struggle as the adherents will follow him in that, then we may talk of it again. That Debs with 'his' party will have called into being a competitor to the Socialist La-bor party, will little worry us. The Social Democracy of Germany had like-wise consisted originally of two factions, which were at times at feud with each other, until they finally realized the necessity of uniting, from which time on they grew into a mighty united party such as German Social Democracy at present is.
"But, as said before, it is as yet a

ood way towards it in this country, because Debs has not as yet obtained clear insight into the principles involved, as well as because he lacks a nucleus of unflinching, self-sacrificing champions, such as the Socialist Labor party possesses in the persons of the old wind and weather proof comrades from the Transatlantic movement Should Debs develop in this direction as well, then the matter can be talked over again. Today we reserve towards it a very skeptical attitude."

The small phalanx of German So-cialists whose mouthpiece is the "N. Y. Volkszeitung," pride themselves on being the sole agents of scientific somaterialistic philosophy of history is to be reconciled with this personal criti-cism of "Debs and his party?" It looks as if in America history has "sus-pended the rules" so that a national movement may be the creation of one man, fully dependent for its future upon his accomplishments or his shortcomings. An unbiased observer could not help seeing that the Social Democracy is but the historically necessary outgrowth of the People's party. This fact does credit to the foresight of those socialists who by joining the People's party have exhibited in the past the ability, so truly characteristic of Marxists, to see things as they move, not merely as they are.

We need not despair, however, as the skeptical reserve of our friend may be broken before we know; all we need is, to prove to the satisfaction of the "N. Y. Volkszeitung," first, that the platmatter can be talked over again." Now, revolution in order that the true broth- as to the class struggle, the declaration of principles reads:

of principles reads:

"This system, by gradually extinguishing the middle class, necessarily leaves but to the middle class, necessarily leaves but to the middle class, necessarily leaves and the small class of the class of workers and the small class of great employers and capitalists. We, therefore, hold that in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other will annihilate the middle class, the basis upon wheth this system rests, and thereby work out its own downfall."

If this is not expressive enough of the idea of the class struggle, no one and silence conscience no community is to blame but the Socialist Labor party, from whose platform it has been orrowed.

The technical lawyers unfavorably ing the right, growing in knowledge and borrowed.

comment upon the omission of the wisdom of what is for their best good; parenthetical phrases in the concluding is it too much to think that such could span be found in years to come where our clause:

"We therefore call (upon the wage workers of the United States and) upon all (other) honest citizens to organize under the banner of the (Socialist Labor Party) Social Democracy of America (into a class-conscious body), etc."

To this a jester ventured the pertinent remark that the comment im-I have written these few thoughts tive agricultural stage that the Social down and send them to you leaving it problem has not pressed for solution. plied the assumption that "the wage workers" could not be classified under "honest citizens," Were we to be as technical as our critics, we might inquire into the meaning of the "classconscious body," as applied to "the I believe you have on your side. wage workers of the United States and

all other honest citizens.' We shall not, however, split hairs over platforms, which, as we all know, are written in the hurry of conven tions, amidst five minute speeche

and "previous questions." Coming to the subject of the co-op eration of transatlantic Socialists, let us assure our esteemed critic that "Debs" has with "him" many a man whose "wind and weather proof" qualities stood the test of the police experts of the Czar.

The two prerequisites suggested our skeptical friend being fulfilled, shall we now at once "talk it over again.

I. A. HOURWICH.

A Colorado Sympathizer.

I have been watching with interest ty could eventually develop into sotlism, of which, however, not very
ch can be traced up to date. Now
seems the same is bound to come in
Debs movement, to which many
ong the friends of socialism are

it seems to me every one must think, with a sigh, What a heavenly state to No striving a life time for that which is now so necessary, but which so few succeed in obtaining. No trying to cour neighbor in clothes, house furnishings or such like show. ing to c

Dear, dear, what if there would be no object in getting up the greatest show in any direction whatever! What use would half the brains of this world be put to? What a time of ennul there would be till we get settled down to the fact that life really does hold more ennobling purposes for us than such as

But such a state is not attainable in a day or a week or a year. We will all have time to adapt ourselves to our surroundings. If such a state comes at all, it will come slowly, surely, steadily, displacing the darker, denser lines of thought by its clearer, brighter, purer rays. The truth must go on-ward, must prevail.

I saw mentioned in the first issue of your paper the objection some raise of the failure of other communities along this line. A co-operative commonwealth must have as its backbone men every inch men. It all depends on these-true ploneers, honest, thorough, capable, far seeing, thoroughly moral, of course. For my part I think they should be followers of Christ in truth Then the commonwealth will grow. No community can grow without a thoroughly grounded moral principle underlying it. 'Honest in all things, temperate in all things, a spirit love cultivated, unselfish principles brought to their highest state of development. With these, what state would not grow? And, when fairly under way, what possibilities would not be open for the highest development of man, to make him perfect in the image of his maker?

This eternal grab, grab for money study, for the brain.

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

a copy of the official paper.

fall. Then of course there is the rest.

or recreation, or amusement—whatever we may call it—which is also neces-

sary. But we must here also have a care. Those exciting sensual pleas-

ures (?) which try both body and mind

will ever prosper with. The idea of a community of simple, healthy, loving

children's children could be reared in

Where the principles instilled by the

mother would not have to be drilled

to your judgment as to whether you

I wish you every success along the

lines of right, truth and justice, which

Maintain always a clear judgment,

854 So. Gaylord st., Denver, Colo.

the 6th of August in 112 Clinton street,

New York, 40 members of the S. L. P.

previously known as the 12th Assembly Dist. of the S. L.

P., resolved to join the S. D. A. as local No. 12 of New York. These were elected as officers: President, A. Feller; vice-president, S. Guiger; secretary, Ad. Zlinkoff; treasurer, Ab. Scheinberg; organizer, N. Sovrin; delegate to the state union, S. Halstein, The contents of the state union, S.

Under the S. D. Banner.

New York, August 6, 1897. To the Editor: At a meeting held or

NANIE WEBSTER

join the

and do not be spoiled by suc

resolved to

use them or not. .

out as soon as they reach man's es

Branch of the Social Democracy to be instituted at.

Temporary Secretary.

APPLICATION FOR CHARTER

FOR A LOCAL BRANCH OF THE

Social Democracy of America

NOTE.—Five or more persons may apply for a charter. The admission fee is 25

Cut out this Application, and after filing out, send to SYLVESTER KELIHER,

cents per member and the dues 15 cents per month, for which each member receives

is the God given moral nature which which the miners are making. We will direct both in the right way and have good ground for hope that their without which direction we will surely present sufferings will not prove vain.

an atmosphere of truth and justice? Light up the minds of the people with

West Virginia miners have been

most easily enslaved by the operators,

because, like Virginia, her masses are fearfully illiterate. In this state 35 per

cent of the white people and 44 per cent of the colored people cannot read

or write. This more than equals the

present illiteracy in Italy, whose

masses have only known education for

a single generation.

Brave and carnest minds in the state

from without is futile unless comple-

mented by the education from within.

of the first principles of Socialism and

Virginia is so largely in the primi-

Descendants of the original settlers to

hold the ancestral farms in the moun-

tain nooks and valleys. The money-

god is scarce in such regions, hence

neighborly co-operation— the exchange

of labor for labor-is a common cus

forty-acre home farm is offered for \$80

and no bidder. I have seen a three acre lot mowed by machinery for 5

cents. A house servant gets 50 cen

a week. Let Social Democracian labors and prayers, remember Virginia

Her varied and almost unlimited re-

sources make her a desirable convert.

Socialism, by converting privat

property into public wealth and sub-

stituting co-operation for competition

healthy organism, and introduce con-

ditions which will permit of the fuller and best development of the individua

restore society to a thorough?

tom. Land is practically unsalable.

fourth and fifth generation still

they will educate themselves.

SECRETARY SOCIAL DEMOCRACY, 504 TRUDE BUILDING, CHICAGO.

Dear Sirs-The undersigned respectfully petion for a Charter for a Local

The S. D. in Virginia.

Cedar Creek Valley, Va., Aug. 10, 1897. Dear Comrades in Social Democracy: -Virginia Socialists are preparing a full state ticket for the fall campaign. Thus Social Democratic schools are opened for the schooling of her people. She is sui generis. Once, "the mother of presidents," she has entered the path which leads to the rejection of a privileged governing class with all its high sounding and cumbersome paraphernalia. I gladly improved the oppor-tunity the other day to attend—on an observation tour—the annual reunion of ex-confederate soldiers of the Valley of Virginia at Fisher's Hill on the north fork of the Shenandoah river, two miles from Strasburg. It was a strategic point in what is called historically, "Our Civil War"— a war as eedless as family troubles usually are.

It was a struggle for the letter rather than the spirit of human emancipation. It was a physical struggle against slavery in a tangible form. It was child's play compared with the moral struggle for a pure Social Democracy. Thou-sands of Virginians, young, middle-

The occasion was commemorative The hottest war-time lingo was uttered by the several speakers without elicitng a single note of applause. We cannot grind with the water that is past. The occasion proved to me that Virginis freed of dead issues and that her mental soil is ready for the new seed of Socialism. She has drunk the Lethean waters of time and looks backward no more. It is only her stale politicians who repeat echoes from the lead past.

I came to the state late in June, when the wheat was just ready for the harmust smother down and rob man of all individual farmers—and so, subject to that is best in him. Work is necestite schemes of the grain gamblers. sary for the development of the body; From the mountains in West Virginia Underlying this comes the clash of the moral struggle

iged and old were present.

vesting. It is now ready for the mar-ket. The crop is phenomenal; the largest since 1891, if not of any time. The results are yet in the hands of the

COLONIZATION DEPARTMENT

. CYRUS FIELD WILLARD, SECRETARY
[Note.—The editor is not responsible for the opinions of corre

Now to Work.

Social Democracy has been appointed. They consist of Col. Richard J. Hin-on of Washington, D. C., W. P. Bor and of Bay City, Mich., and Cyrus Field Wilard of Chicago.

T. wisdom of their selection can best b. demonstrated by the work the commissioners do.

The commission will have Col. Hinton'as chairman, Mr. Borland as treasurer and Mr. Willard as secretary.

All funds should be made payable to W. P. Borland, treasurer, 504 Trude Building, while all letters and communications should be addressed to C. F. Willard at the same address.

The attention of members of the local union is called to that part of sec. 10, page 18, of the constitution of the Soial Democracy which reads:

"Each local branch shall elect a col- tion. lector for the colonization fund who lector for the colonization fund who shall collect the monthly and other conscilutions and forward the same to the treasurer of the Commission on the first day of each month," etc.

The treasurer of the Commission is W.P.Borland, 504 Trude Building, Chieago. Please forward all moneys to him as soon as possible.

Those who have offered money cau now send it in. Due receipt will be

Some Fraternal Chat.

Machinery has largely conquered labor in competition.

In co-operation let us conquer the pachine. We will use, not obey it. machine. But we must look out for the hand trades and tools; look out for employments and occupations where much machinery is not needed or capital required.

Let our young people learn light trades and employments. We shall need the handicrafts in our colony. ganize them into groups and sell their wares co-operatively.

Don't try to compete with other laborers; make and sell comes.

Let the children do things on the kindergarten plan. Have some one teach not only the doing, but the why

Keep accounts. Use results above costs for propaganda and colonization funds.

In all towns and cities, all factory centers, life can be made so much easier if comrades will co-operate. Every group, large or small, needs a "house of rest," where they can meet, read papers, confer, relax in harmless games, take counsel with each other.

A dozen comrades can keep some

struggling woman who is with us, to stand up more . steadily, by using a room and paying in equity therefor. Mothers and sisters can help to make a living in the savagery called competition more endurable by organizing

co-operative rates to care for the needs of the struggling and lonely men.

There's food to be prepared, clothing needs repair, laundry work must be had, shirts want making, garments require mending; there's a hundred

hances for small co-operative work. Charge co-operative wages, rent, cost f materials used, add 5 per cent, and

put that in the propaganda funds. Men can help, too, by repairing household furniture and scores of other

things for comrades These things can be done outside of the wage-earning hours needed for subsistence. Do honest work, as all

real co-operators will. Charge only in Suggestions like these are designed

to aid education into co-operation. Let's teach a new individualism; that of altruistic help.

Above all, while still living out in

competition, make yourselves felt in every movement looking to co-opera-

million such steps taken. Don't scorn any one. Make cago. This means you who read this that they are right as far as they go. cents to \$10 or even \$100. and so induce them to co-operate in take the last amount as quickly as the ing and to what purpose.

Above all, let us co-operate every-

the power. We must co-operate to sums of money, but we need a great those they cannot control.

Let's be fair but make them fear, if and in every direction!

people and among our neighbors. Prac- to the advertisement. The unions tically as citizens and voters, the Social Democracy demands that all must be actual and personal co-operators. There may be only two in a
street, a ward or a village, out on a

ions that govern.

There is a practical side to all this.

felt in your community.

Now to Work.

The colonization commission of the who broaches it, that helps the struggle of life, that enlarges opportunity and strengthens economic equity and secur-

ity. While doing this, don't fail to firmly but kindly show where the ameliors tions of half measures fall short of the

Social Democratic standard. Make that standard stand for Manall men and women. Don't dodge. Vote straight, and

join with all in all altruism. Above all, stand by every comrade. If one is assailed the other must defend. If one has in the competitive

disorder the power to employ, let it be a Social Democrat if possible. In building political power for the new commonwealth we shall strive to mould and make. Every settlement, farm, village, town ,city, every center.

however small and however large, must be made a forum, a tribune for agita-Likè the early English secularists un-

of clvic, personal or economic ostracism. If men will not employ, see to it that comrades do not buy of them.

If a preacher assails, don't go to his church. If an editor vilifies, ask the rival

paper for space to reply. Don't advertise or subscribe. Always insist upon your legal right

to organize, educate, agitate.

Where there is a printer in a group, a very little cash will buy paper and secure the use of type, ink and hand press sufficient to strike off short manifestoes and vigorous retorts-distribution is easy.

Avoid language that can be construed against you.

"Evolutionary is as good a word" as revolutionary." It can be made to carry as much meaning and it can't be misconstrued.

Let us as comrades and co-operators always insist that the arsenal of the law is filled with weapons forged in hopeful human struggles, as well as in greed and selfishness.

The weapons are our property and defense as well as instruments of torture used by those in possession.

For example, nowhere in the whole

range of the world's jurisprudence is Land recognized as Property, in the sense that a man's personal belongings

You may never under the Law do with Land as you please.

The miners stand on the same basis. Force the running and compel courts and legislatures to get back to primal legal principles.

Every time you fire the Law at an American you conquer or convert him. Let us do both.

The Law belongs to us as well as to those opposed, and we are not violating, but obeying it, when we Organize Educate, Agitate for changes to a reurn to justice and freedom.

Above all keep together. Let the land know in every corner that we are on the deck of the commonwealth.

The time to build has arrived. The ground is ripe; fallow with heat and sunshine; with toil and skill. Let's see to it that it grows some-

thing besides weeds. The Social Democracy along its sociological and economic lines invites

co-operation in constructive endeavors.

None of us know it all. Human growths are the outcome of

Let's use the failures 'to fertilize Let us get and keep together.

Help the colonization commission to understand and it will be better able to direct.

Finances.

Those who are desirous of joining the Colony or desire to see it succeed, will send in their money now to W. P. Borland, 504 Trude Building who go part of our way feel send in what you can afford, from 10 trying to understand where we are go- first. "Money makes the mare go" to

Above all, let us co-operate the state of th We must get and hold the balance of show you mean business. We are repower. That will lead to our having ceiving and have been promised large everybody know and respect us. deal more later on. Even if you only Politicians want power, and they fear send us 10 cents it is worth a ton of theory unapplied. Every union should appoint its collector in accordance with we must, whensoever that's possible.

Co-operate! Co-operate! On all lines collect all the monor he should try to collect all the money he can. As fast as the collectors are elected the headquarters should be notified of his name and address.

Many men are anxious to go with the first colony as shown by the reply should send in their money so they can go. Each union is invited to select name of the person selected. There can never be two earnest, union is also invited to contribute to onest men together without the abil- the colonization fund and the union contributing the largest amount in the Actually living out one's views con- next thirty days will have the right to select some suitable person, whose Co-operate, then, by living opinions claims will be regarded favorably by and by so proving them to be convic- the commission. As soon as possible let each individual member send in to the treasurer any sum he may feel he If ye are but two, sustain one anther. Act together. Make yourselves can spare. Do it as soon as you read this.

The Way to Co-operate is to Co-operate. Let us all begin at home with our

ity to convince a third man.

vinces as much as words may do.

Holstein. The secretary was instructed to apply for a charter. We appeal to all wage earners of the 2th Assembly Dist, to unite with us, Socialism is the ideal and hope of and through constant education and economic liberty and freedom on earth. AD, ZLINKOFF, Secretary.

FREEDOM IN ATLANTA

MR. COLLIER'S FUNNY IDEAS OF A RECORD OF THE WEEK'S PROP-THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS.

Socialists are Denied Permission to Hold a Peaceful Meeting by the Mayor and Chief of Police.

Our comrades in Atlanta, Ga., are made to feel that the "way of the re-former is hard." For the second time they were prevented by the mayor of the city from holding a public meeting. The Atlanta Constitution gives the following version of the controversy:

The Socialists of Atlanta have again been denied the privilege of holding a public mass-meeting. Mayor Collier vetoed the resolution adopted by the council last Monday granting the Socialists a permit to hold such a meeting last night, and the petitioners for the second time were disappointed.

The veto message was sent to City Clerk Green by the mayor yesterday, and by his refusal to approve the resolution, the Socialists were notified that they could not hold the meeting. They expressed surprise and say they have been denied a right of all citizens to peaceably assemble in mass-meeting to

discuss public questions.

Mayor Collier takes the position in his veto message that this is not a time for such meetings, and he says on account of the big strike at the Fulton cotton mills and the efforts being made to settle the strike, it would be inadvisable to hold such a meeting as was proposed, and for that reason he declined to give his assent to the speaking last night. TURNED DOWN TWO WEEKS AGO.

About two weeks ago S. M. White, J. B. Osborne, the well-known labor agitator, and several other members of the local Socialist union presented a petition to Mayor Collier and Captain J. W. English, chairman of the police commission, asking for the granting of a permit to hold a mass-meeting at the place stated. After investigation, Captain English and Mayor Collier decided that it would not be well for the Socialists to hold such a meeting, they believing that it would be for no good purpose. The petition was denied, and at the meeting of the council last Monday afternoon a big petition, asking that body to amend the laws so as to permit the assemblage of people in mass-meeting session, was presented by the Socialists.

During the meeting Alderman Woodward introduced a resolution at the re-quest of the Socialists, he says, granting them the right to hold a mass-meeting last night. The resolution precipitated quite a discussion and an effort was made to side-track it by referring the paper to a committee, but it failed. On a direct vote the resolution was adopted by the council and referred to the aldermanic board for concurrence.

THE RESOLUTION VETOED YES-

TERDAY.
At the meeting of that board Thursday afternoon the resolution was concurred in, and yesterday the paper reached Mayor Collier. The resolution

reached Mayor Collier. The resolution is as follows:

"Resolved by the city council of Atlanta, That the use of the public square fold artesian well site be granted for a peaceable assemblage of citizens on saturday evening, August 7th, who now desire to bold a meeting at said place, provided said meeting is orderly and does not interfere with traffic.

"Resolved further, That the police be instructed to preserve order at said meeting and eject any disorderly persons who may interfere with said meeting."

MAYOR COLLIER'S VETO.

Mayor Collier made the following state-

Mayor Collier made the following statement on the back of the resolution, re-urning it to council without his ap-"In view of the present excitement in the public mind growing out of the strike the operators of the Futton cotton tills and of the efforts that are being ade looking to a speedy and satisfactory adjustment of the bending troubles etween the owners and operatives of the mills. I deem it unwise to hold the teeting as proposed, at this particular me, and am therefore constrained to ithhold my assent. C. A. COLLIER."

ALDERMAN WOODWARD ON THE VETO. Alderman Woodward said yesterday that the veto of the mayor of the reso-

lution was unnecessary, and that there could be no harm in holding the proposed meeting. He says the people Encyclopedia Britannica. have a right to assemble in mass-meeting, and that if the meeting should turn out to be disorderly, the police are here for the purpose of suppressing the disturbance. He says the vetoing of the resolution will have a bad effect.

Continued from First Page.

frail bodies in dingy factories; men who believe that true patriotism means bread and shelter for God's most miserable and destitute poor; men who would leave their children a country freed from the lash of tyrants and the heel of the oppressor; men who believe that God is the ideal of truth and jus-

The giants of right and the dragons of wrong are coming forth to battlewhich side are you on?

To decry such movements as that of Debs as revolutionary and to pick out the warnings of Debs and mutiate his paragraphs so as to make it appear that he would attain his dream by the sword, will serve no good purpose. There is a reason for that movement in the encouragement we give to the growth of trusts, and if we do not regrowth of trusts, and if we do not re-move that reason, such movements will continue and spread. The failure of Debs to colonize Washington and by force of numbers turn the state over to communism, and we cannot see how it can but fail, will not be the end or the culmination of similar move-ments if we leave the impelling cause undisturbed.—The American, Philadel-phia.

SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

AGANDA AND PROGRESS.

Notes of Progress in City and Elsewhere. President Debs to go to St. Louis and New York.

The work of organizing has been pushed forward during the past week with great vigor and the usual success As a result a good number of new branches have been formed and many others are under way. The meetings in Chicago have been well attended and many new members have been added to the rolls. No. 1 is still the largest branch in point of membership. Its meetings always crowd the hall to its utmost capacity. Good speakers are in attendance and the meetings full of interest.

The meeting of No. 18 in the 7th ward last Sunday was attended, among others, by Roman G. Lewis, a well known attorney, and by Joseph Parvin, editor of the Star of Israel, a Jew ish reform paper. Both addressed the meeting and were admitted to membership.

Director Burns left Monday for Mo line, Ill., where preparations have been made for a great mass meeting in the interest of the Social Democracy. The field has been well prepared at Moline and great results are expected in consequence.

Comrades Goodwin and Lloyd are still in Milwaukee. It is the purpose to have that city thoroughly organized for the spring campaign, because there the Social Democracy intends to make its political debut.

Director James Hogan left Monday for Colorado. He will endeavor to plant the seed of socialism in Colorado and the far west.

President Debs was compelled to give up his work for the striking miners on account of a slight attack of sunstroke, from which he is still suffering at the present time. He is confiend to his home in Terre Haute, but his physician expects to have him fully restored and able to take up the work of organizing for the Social Democracy within a few days. Mr. Debs will probably first go to St. Louis and then to New York

The circulation of the Social Democrat is growing at a gratifying rate; our friends are working like beavers and as a result, subscriptions are coming from all quarters of the globe and in goodly numbers. If the present ratio of increase is maintained, the plan of increasing the Social Democrat to an 8-page paper will soon be put in operation. Lend us a helping hand to make this possible.

Definitions of Socialism.

A theory of society which advocates a more precise, orderly and harmonious arrangement of the social relations of mankind than that which has hitherto prevailed .- Webster's Dictionary.

The science of reconstructing society on entirely new basis, by substituting the principle of association for that of competition in every-branch of human industry.-Worcester's Dictionary.

A theory of civil polity that aims to secure the reconstruction of society, increase of wealth, and a more equal distribution of the products of labor through the public collective ownership of land and capital (as distinguished from property) and the public collective management of all industries. Its motto is, "Every one according to his deeds."-Standard Dictionary.

The abolition of that individual action on which modern societies depend, and the substitution of a regulated system of co-operative action.-Imperial Dictionary.

The ethics of socialism are identical pr

Any theory or system of social organization which would abolish entirely, or in great part, the individual effort and competition on which modern society rests, and substitute co-operation; would introduce a more perfect and GATHERING OF GIANTS equal distribution of the products of labor, and would make land and capital as the instruments of production, the joint possession of the community. Century Dictionary.

We have investigated the matter thoroughly and believe the scheme to be practical with more than a possible chance for success. The movement ought to command the support of trades unionists everywhere, because if successful the colonization program will make thousands of unemployed workingmen self-supporting, and consequently take them off the idle market thus lessening the competition of ket, thus lessening the competition of labor and consequently enhancing its value. If, by the formation of colonies in whatever state is decided upon as the field of operation, the state can become a co-operative one and co-operation demonstrated a success, there will be an incentive for other states to follow on the same lines.—International Woodworker al Woodworker.

> MEETINGS OF LOCAL BRANCHES

[Notices of meetings will be publish-under this head for 25c per month.]

Illinois Branch No. 10 meets every Thursday at 13° N. Clark street, Chicago.

The Social Democrat

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NOTE CUT THIS OUT AND SEND TO THE SOCIAL DEMOCRAT.

DECLARATIONS OF PRINCIPLES OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY ADOPTED AT CHICAGO, JUNE 21, 1897.

We hold that all men are born free, and are endowed with certain natural rights, among which are life, liberty and happiness. In the light of experience we find that while all citizens are equal in theory, they are not so in fact. While all citizens have the same rights politically, this political equality is useless under the present system of economic inequality, which is essentially destructive of life, liberty and happiness. In spite of our political equality labor is robbed of the wealth is produces. By the development of this system it is denied the means of self-employment, and by enforced, idleness through lack of employment, is even deprived of the necessaries of life.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can be plainly traced the existence of a class that corrupts the government, alternable functions that the contract of the contract of the contract of all wealth should enjoy the fruit of their efforts. But this is rendered impossible by the modern system of production. Since the discovery and application of steam and electric powers and the general introduction of machinery in all branches of industry, the industrial operations are carried on by such grantic means that but few are now able to possess them, and thus the producer is separated from his products. While in former times the individual worker labored on his own account, with his own tools, and was the master of his products, now dozens, hundreds and thousands of men work together in Shops, mines factories, etc., co-operating according to the most efficient division of labor, but the owners of the means of products. The system, by gradually extinguishing the middle class, necessarily leaves but the owners of the means of products of our country the bares.

de by the owners of the means of production, to-wit by the owners of machines, mines, land and the means of transportation.

This system, by gradually extinguishing the middle class, necessarily leaves but two classes in our country; the large class of workers and the small class of great employers and capitalists.

Human power and natural forces are wasted by this system which makes 'profit' the offly object in business, Ignorance and misery, with all concomitant evils, are perpetuated by this system, which makes human labor a ware to be bought in the open market, and places no real value on human life.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purposes and made instruments for the enslavement of men and the starvation of women and children.

We, therefore, hold that in the natural course of social evolution, this system through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the other, will tastic combinations on the other, will another the banner of the Social Democracy of America, so that we may be ready to conquer capitalism by making use of our political liberty and by taking possession of the public power, so that we may put an end to the present barbarous struggle, by the abolition of capitalism, the restoration of the land, and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution, to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the co-operative commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth every man equal physically or menof the co-operative commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth, which, although it will not make every man equal physically or mentally, will give to every worker the free exercise and the full benefit of his faculties multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization and ultimately inaugurate the universal brotherhood of man. The Social Democracy of America will make democracy "the rule of the people," a truth, by ending the economic subjugation of the overwhelming great majority of the people, all our efforts shall be put forth to secure to the unemployed self-supporting employment, using all proper ways and means to that end. For such purpose one of the states of the Union, to be hereafter determined, shall be selected for the concentration of our supporters and the introduction of co-operative industry, and then gradually extending the sphere of our operations until the National Co-operative Commonwealth shall be established.

DEMANDS FOR RELIEF:

1. The public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trivsis and com-

1. The public ownership of all industries ontrolled by monopolies, trusts and com-

controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines.

2. The public ownership of all railroads, telegraph, telephone, all means of transportation, communication, water works, gas and electric plants, and all other public utilities.

3. The public ownership of all gold, silver, copper, lead, coal, fron and all other mines; also all oil and gas wells.

4. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

5. The inauguration of a system of public works and improvements for the employment of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose.

6. All useful inventions to be free to all, the inventor to be remunerated by the public.

7. The establishment of Postal Savings Banks. 8. The adoption of the Initiative and the Referendum, the Imperative Mandate and Proportional Representation.

Socialism does not wish to abolish private property, or accumulation of wealth; but aims to replace the present system of private capital by a system of collective capital, which would introduce a unified organization of na-tional labor.—Prof. Schaeffle.

Official Gazette of the Social Democracy

00000000000000 Sylvester Keliher, National Secretary,

In this column will be found all offi-cial notices and reports. The executive board of each local branch should see to it that all matter requiring the action of local branches should be pre-

Make all remittances payable to Sylvester Keliher, Nat'l Secretary, Chicago, Ill.

NOTICE.

TO ALL LOCAL BRANCHES: Your attention is called to the following section of the constitution: "On or before the 5th day of each month the treasurer shall remit by postal money order the monthly dues for current month to the National Council, and each local branch shall remit the full amount due for the entire membership."

No papers will be sent on credit and the monthly dues must invariably be paid in advance. The correspondence and other business at headquarters is enormous, and to save time, trouble and delay, don't fail to carefully give all information required on various reports, and your full address in each

At the close of each meeting thetreasurer shall make a report of members admitted and forward, together with the admission fee of twenty-five cents; and if admitted before the 15th of the month, fifteen cents dues for the cur-rent month. If admitted after the fifteenth only the admission fee is for

HOW TO ORGANIZE. Local branches should be organized

at every available point. Five or more reputable persons who

will subscribe to the declaration of principles can organize a local branch.

First procure a constitution and blank application for charter, secure the signatures of the proposed members, arrange meeting at some suitable place and elect an executive board of five members as provided by the Con-stitution; have the board meet and elect a chairman, vice-chairman, sec-retary, treasurer and organizer. The new officer should take charge of meeting at once, and all who have signed the application should pay the admis sion fee of 25 cents, and if organized before the 15th of the month, 15 cents monthly dues to the National Council for the current month; if after the 15th the National dues will commence

on the first of the following month.

At the close of the meeting the treasurer shall forward to National Secretary a report giving names of permanent officers, all members who have paid the required fee, and correct address in each case, so that paper can be promptly forwarded. Only of members who have paid shall be

ter or cards of membership and the Social Democrat is forwarded to everymember on the payment of 15 cents menthly dues.

All moneys for admission fees and dues should be paid to and forwarded by the treasurer

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES. The following is price list of sup-

plies furnished by the National Coun cil. Each local branch should order in such quantities as will avoid the loss of time, trouble and expense in sending out in small quantities: Applications for membership per

hundred\$.25 Transfer cards, per hundred..... Withdrawal cards, per hundred .. Letter heads, per hundred..... Envelopes, small size, per hundred. .50 Envelopes, large size, per hundred. .70 Meeting reports, per hundred 1.00 Monthly reports, per hundred 1.00 Receipt books, each Postal card receipts, per hundred. 1.50 Gavels, each No supplies will be shipped on credit.

Cash must accompany each order. Charges for supplies shipped by ex-press must be paid by local branch.

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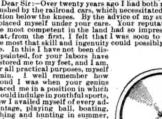
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