



THE VOICE OF THE MILITANT WORKER

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WHOLE NO. 43.

ROLPH ET AL.

Luring Masterless Workers to San Francisco

By SELIG SCHULBERG.

The "California Development Board" is one of the agencies that is responsible for the influx of jobless workers in San Francisco. It has as its president the notorious ex-Governor of the State, J. N. Gillett, the self-same gentleman that unwarrantedly rushed the tin soldiers of the State into McCloud, where one brave, bayoneted an unarmed Italian striker. Gillett states that "The Pacific Slope needs population. We want to select the best people from all over the world and build up a citizenship that for intelligence, industry and moral worth cannot be excelled anywhere. The opportunity to do so is now at hand. The completion of the canal will bring us closer in touch with Europe commercially and in every other way. The International Exposition to be held in 1915 will invite to our State people from every nation."

It is conservatively estimated that through the direct work of the Lecture Bureau 400,000 people heard the bunk about California, and that as a result of the pernicious activities some 2,000,000 people came within the sphere of the influence. In addition, the California Development Board has equipped ten independent lecturers in the United States and two in England with slides on California, which are in constant use.

The Board has a special representative and lecturer to the International Exposition at Turin, Italy, to remain there for six months to lure Italians to California to be exploited. This representative is equipped with quantities of California literature, slides, and a special pamphlet in Italian printed by this Board. The publicity work of the Development Board is covering the entire United States and a portion of Europe.

Among the corporations guilty of the crime of luring jobless workers to California is the glut-tonish Standard Oil Co., the Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank. Quite recently Rolph, the new Mayor of San Francisco was harnessed to the job of Mayor, his "bulls" are jailing and clubbing workers, and he is anxious to beat and club more workers. Therefore the firm of Hind, Rolph & Co. lends its name to the lying advertising scheme by which jobless workers can be snared to San Francisco and California.

As every circus needs at least one clown the "anti," John P. Irish, allows his name to be used as a member of the Board.

To top all of this comes the most vulgar of San Francisco's vulgar newspapers, the Chronicle, and it in its issue of February 14th informs us that there are likely to be "riots" and the fire department is to assist the police in quelling the same.

To Quell Riots.

It is probable that firemen will not only be required to put out fires, but will be called upon at times to preserve the peace of the city. Policemen will be called from their work of chasing the evil-doers to assist the firemen. Members of other departments other than the technically trained members will be called upon in times of emergency to assist either the firemen or the police.

Are the merchants of the exchange or the editors of newspapers, or bankers or society ladies going to "riot"? Or is the family of De Young to be prevented from shooting at, or being shot at, by having firemen turn on the hose?

You who read this quite readily realize that the "beast" feels shaky and is preparing to handle "bread riots" or prevent the demonstrations of hungry men. Perhaps it's to handle the men and women that will be locked out of their jobs, that police and firemen are to train so as to cope with "riots!" We will see! If the capitalist class imagines that things will always be as they are they are sadly mistaken. We know that "rioting" will get us nothing. We further know that militant industrial and political action will land the bacon.

HAYWOOD ASKS FUNDS FOR TEXTILE STRIKERS.

The National Executive Committee has adopted the following motion made by Comrade Haywood:

"Calling attention to condition of striking textile workers of Lawrence, Mass., where 30,000 men, women and children are fighting against the master class for better living conditions, I move that immediate action be taken to raise funds and that every possible assistance be rendered the strikers."

Contributions for this purpose should be sent to the national secretary, 205 West Washington street, Chicago.

PEONIZING CALIFORNIA

Let the Unemployed Parade Their Mass Misery

INDUSTRIALISM THE PERMANENT CURE

By AUSTIN LEWIS.

Unemployment is rife on the Pacific Coast and particularly so in San Francisco.

Tens of thousands walk the streets of our city without work, in many instances without food. They are for the most part strangers in a strange land. In the words of our present Governor they must eat. Hence crime increases rapidly, the social conditions of the City grow worse in every way, and riots with consequent bloodshed will supervene, unless steps are taken to meet the condition.

This mass of unemployed is produced artificially by the employing class for the purpose of crushing labor on the Pacific Coast, and reducing the economic position of the workers to the same or even to a lower level than that of the Eastern toilers.

Everywhere all over this country and Europe the message has been sent, by flaring lying advertisements and in the columns of the prostituted press, that there is plenty of work here at high rates of wages.

Men struggling for a living elsewhere have listened to the cry and have come in their thousands. They are not to be blamed. Starving they have followed instinctively the road to better feeding-grounds even as our nomadic ancestors moved from valley to valley.

They have arrived and are now confronted with desolation and misery.

The capitalist has brought them to crush the working class. The working class must organize them to crush the capitalist; THEY WERE BROUGHT HERE BY THE CAPITALIST; HE MUST BE MADE TO KEEP THEM NOW that they are here.

The cause of the worker and the unemployed is identical. The worker of today will certainly be the unemployed of tomorrow.

Therefore it is the duty of the working class and particularly of that portion of the working class for which REVOLT speaks to organize these unemployed, to parade their massed misery and proclaim to the world the fact of their existence here and elsewhere on the Pacific Coast.

The lies of the prostitute press must be met by the actual truth, and it must be proclaimed far and wide that the Pacific Coast and particularly San Francisco is an excellent place for working men to keep away from at present.

These laborers are brought here for the express purpose of lowering the standard of living and destroying the organization of labor. It is to be lamented that the present form of labor organization is such that it can offer only very unsatisfactory resistance to capitalistic attacks of this character. It is therefore all the more the duty of the industrialists to take the forefront in the unemployed question and to supply the initiative in which the craft unions are obviously deficient. This attack of the capitalist must be met by the organization of the unemployed and by converting into a weapon of labor the instrument by which the destruction of labor was to be compassed. The presence of the unemployed must be taken advantage of by the workers. The unemployed must be organized into a force which instead of threatening the bread of the worker will threaten the continued existence of capitalism and give the capitalist state and the capitalist municipal government all the trouble possible. This is but just. Unemployment is a by-product of capitalism; without capitalism, no unemployment; it is meet, therefore, that capitalism should be made to fully realize the vices of its own offspring and to pay the bills.

It is manifestly the intention of our capitalistic masters to deluge local labor with a flood of outside laborers whose standards are lower than our own, and who are compelled because of helplessness to accept pay even below their own low standards.

The influx of Eastern unemployed is the first deliberate step in that direction. But what is happening now is merely a summer shower to the deluge which is to follow.

Southern European immigration, with the construction of the Panama Canal, will assume colossal proportions. Already the steamship lines are establishing themselves here for the purpose of importing Southern European labor at thirty-five dollars for the trip from Mediter-

anean ports. The climate and surroundings are particularly suitable to this class of immigrants; who, coming with a very low standard of living will necessarily threaten our existing standards.

A member of a Chamber of Commerce said to me a few days ago "It is not the purpose of the local business men to make a prosperous community where all will share in the prosperity. They are determined to PEONIZE CALIFORNIA." That is true. They want to make California the home of a poverty stricken, miserable population, the life of whose members will be spent in piling up profits for Eastern investors and bondholders. In this enterprise the very climatic advantages of which we are so proud are in favor of the capitalist. Wages will necessarily become low under the conditions. A working class which does not require warm housing, much fuel, large quantities of woolen clothing, and a heavy meat diet, may be driven to work for very little under the lash of necessity and competition for employment.

We are on the slope of the abyss. A slip and we are doomed. But there is still a chance to dig our feet into the turf and to begin the backward climb.

An industrial form of organization is the prime labor necessity. It must and will be made.

The most important and pressing need is to organize the unemployed and to formulate demands for them. There is a measure of public sympathy on our side in this matter of which we should make use, for the Californian has not yet become calloused to human suffering. Of this we should take advantage and gather behind our unemployed organization all the diverse elements of strength which the community can yield.

BAKERS HUNGERING FOR JOBS.

Wanted—500 Bakers for San Francisco, Good Wages.

By JACK ZAMFORD.

The above was the tell-tale advertisement which appeared last week in the "Chicago Record-Herald" and several New York daily papers. This is part of the constant advertising scheme that is going on in the Eastern papers, luring bakers to San Francisco. While here in San Francisco, out of the 700 members in Bakers' Union No. 24, 250 are almost constantly out of work.

Even with the extra work which the fair will naturally bring, no more than the present number of idle men could find employment. The effect of these fake advertisements can be already seen.

Daily the deluded workers arrive at the union office. We cannot refuse them, as they are generally members in good standing, and neither can we advise them to go back, as they have no money. And so they are stuck in San Francisco, waiting and hungering for a job.

Bakers' Union No. 24 does the best it can do under the circumstances.

There is on an average of 70 to 80 jobbing places a week, giving one day's work a week to an extra man. These one-day jobs we equally divide among the 250 idle members, and that is their only support. There is no doubt but the baker bosses of this city are behind the fake advertising in the Eastern papers for bakers.

The reasons are obvious. They want to flood the already overcrowded labor market, keeping those who are in work in constant fear of their jobs. Also, whenever we would attempt to better our conditions, they could effectively use these unemployed, not only to break a strike, but to destroy our organization if necessary.

This is not mere haphazard talk, it is based upon facts; and these are the facts: The culinary crafts which comprise the Cooks, Cooks' Helpers, Bakers, Waiters and Waitresses, have decided for once to act together to obtain the eight-hour day by next May. The committees of the above named unions are now in conference as to the ways and means. And all this fake advertising is simply preparing for the fray.

It is our duty to bring these facts before our fellow workers. We must constantly point out to them the necessity of concerted action through Industrial Unionism, as the weapon in the hands of the workers to stay the scheming and planning of our masters in their attempt to destroy our weapons of defense, and make us even more helpless in our struggle for economic freedom.

SMALL WAGES

Workingwomen Without and With Jobs

By CAROLINE NELSON.

A little, nervous, wrinkled woman one day stepped into the fashionable and exclusive Century Club, where snobdom rules supremely. She came to interest certain ladies in wayward girls. Three or four ladies gathered about her.

"You have no idea how many young girls are run into the police station for some offense."

"Well, we are nearly all of us interested in some charity, and do all we can to uplift the degraded," volunteered a fashionable matron.

"I know," said the little, old lady, "but the trouble is that in many cases wages are so low that the girls can't live on it, and they are tempted to go astray."

"The girls won't do housework, that is the trouble with them. I have to pay my girl \$30 a month, and send my washing out," spoke up another.

"I feel very sorry for the girls, but I don't see what can be done for them, each one should be taught to work out her own salvation by patient struggle. Most of them have no interest in their work and get as much wages as they are worth," was the verdict of still another.

"But I think the club women should help their weaker sisters to get better wages," insisted the little, old lady. "Many girls work in shops and factories for three and four dollars a week."

The little, old lady had a good heart but a poor, muddled head. The club women as a class are the wives and daughters of the fellows that gather wealth from low wages of their workers. The lower the wages the richer the field of profit, and the more silks and satins and jewelry and club parades come down the social pike. The property on Barbary Coast is owned by our "respectable" citizens, who therefore get the largest share of the blood money. Low wages drives girls to the redlight district. With fairly decent wages the recruits would fall off and so would profits all along the line. Therefore low wages for girls are twin plums for the employing class; and in addition enable the upper class women to play the "uplifter."

One of the fashionable women's clubs here in town last year went in for a mild agitation for higher wages for the girls, while the women they employed in their club received starvation wages, and do so yet. The Century Club women not long ago threw out a white woman to put a Jap in her place because they could call him—"butler." Style is the pivot around which those silly women swing. Their real bible is the fashion magazine. Like any other creature our upper class woman is the result of her environment. And the role she is made to play in our present state of civilization is the most shallow and degrading. For our ruling class women in all their social functions are nothing more nor less than so many walking figures that advertise the wealth or supposed wealth of their male members. The capitalist press understands this so well that free of charge it advertises the trappings and social stunts of these women as much as any highly paid patent medicine. These bewildered and gilded birds get an exaggerated idea of themselves. To add to the mischief ambitious middleclass women to get near the limelight, turn themselves into flatterers, and like so many magaphones extol the charm, intelligence, beauty and what not of our society dolls. By this means every working woman gets a sort of vague notion that this gilded female in our society is both willing and anxious and capable of helping her to solve the economic problem. The real fact of the matter is that it is the working woman organized that must eventually rescue this caged bird from its gilded cage, where to-day it sits and chatters and mistakes its empty platitudes for the philosophy of life. We workers pay heavily for supporting a class of parasites. However, male parasites are not so very rare in nature, but females are, and certainly this condition is bad for the character. No wonder a girl prefers to work for starvation wages rather than to be a housewife. The petty tyranny and narrow mindedness of some of those women are not calculated to solve the

An Unemployed Protest Meeting at Germania Hall, 15th & Mission Sts., Sunday, Feb. 24, 8 P.M.

problem of the working woman, but rather to increase it. Of course the real plute woman doesn't bother with any servant except the one that is trained and needs no instruction, and pays the price for the expertness. But such jobs are comparatively few and are no solution for the great mass of workers. The individual who thinks that the working woman's problem can be solved by inducing more to be house-slaves, had better think again. And the woman who thinks that the upper class woman is capable of helping the workers to solve their problems is sadly in need of information.

For about twenty minutes I stood in the Associated Charities headquarters, and during that time three women with infants in their arms came to ask for help.

"Can you tell me anything about the conditions here in the city now regarding the unemployed?" I asked an official.

"All I know is that we are swamped with appeals for help," she said.

"What do you do when anyone appeals to you?" I asked.

"We have to be very careful, you know," she said, "there are so many unworthy. We send out an investigator. Then if we find them worthy we give them an order for groceries."

"What people come to you mostly for help? Are they foreigners and old women?"

"Oh, no, there are just as many Americans and young girls and even children, as there are foreigners and old ladies who come. Men don't come here until they are desperate. There was a young man here yesterday: who had come from Chicago because he had heard that there were so much work at high pay out here. He begged to get his fare back to Chicago to go to his family."

"Do you furnish any employment?"

"We have a wood yard, but we don't pay the men any money for work done there. We give them orders for groceries. They can only work so many days then they have to make room for others. We get the old women work at house cleaning and scrubbing and we can always get work for young girls with ladies as helpers."

From there I rushed out on Valencia street and posted myself in front of a huge wooden building with a huge sign, bearing the legend, "Girls Wanted, Steady Work and High Pay." One girl after another came tripping out. They were evidently forewomen. At last I spied a woman that looked as though she had a thousand years' toil in her bones.

"Do you work in that factory, madam?"

"Yes," she said and looked at me suspiciously.

"Would you mind telling me something about the condition in there?"

"We work eight hours a day," she said, evidently taking me for an eight-hour law inspector.

"How much do you get for the making of a dozen overalls?"

"We get good pay. We can make as high as \$12 a week. I make that much," she said with pride. She was stuffing me. It is my experience that girls hate to confess how cheap they are. A girl in a department store getting \$5.00 a week will invariably tell you that she gets \$8.00.

"But how much do you get a dozen?" I insisted.

"We get from ninety cents to a dollar. I don't know anything about the shirts."

Next I presented myself to Miss Hagen, an official of the Garment Workers' Union.

"It is hard to tell the average wages of our girls," she said. "They get forty cents per dozen for the cheapest overalls and up to a dollar and a half for the best. Cheap shirts that workmen wear? Oh, they get from forty to fifty cents per dozen for them. No, I don't know anything about the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. They are not organized here on the Coast. The average wages of our girls are about \$8.00 per week. Some of them earn a little more, and good many much less. It is hard to get women to organize."

The secretary of the Laundry Workers' Union said: "We are organized from top to bottom, and the lowest wages we have is \$7.00 a week, from that we get all the way up to \$22.00 a week. No, we have no idle members. We had the eight-hour day enforced ourselves before the State made it a law."

"Yes," said the secretary of the Waitresses' Union, "the town is flooded with unemployed women. We have a great many members out of work. Did the eight-hour law help us? I should say not. Many of our girls were thrown out of their jobs and men taken in their places. Many girls made as high as \$18 a week before the eight-hour law, where they only get \$10 now. Oh, yes, the laundry workers were organized so that they could control the situation. We were not. Girls don't care for organization. Out of our six or seven hundred girls only a few attend the meetings, and the same officers are elected every time, while we have the best of material to develop. The trouble is the girls don't want to be known as waitresses."

In a round of the employment offices I found that hundreds of girls and women were waiting for jobs, but holding out for a certain amount of wages. Working women are heroic fighters individually, and when she learns to fight, like men through organization, she will be "more deadly than the male," and conditions are fast teaching her. When the workingclass stand united the battle is won. The parasites shall then become useful people.

MASS MEETING

Will be held in Jefferson Square Hall, Golden Gate avenue, Monday, February 19, at 8 p. m., for the benefit of the Striking Textile Workers in Lawrence, Mass.

Shall hunger and bayonets defeat our fellow-workers?

Meeting will be addressed by prominent speakers in the labor movement.

Don't forget to be there.

The Children and the Unemployed

By DOROTHY JOHNS.

Oh, you mothers of the working class, take heed, take thought!

Law or no law the children of the workers are to be used by the greed-mad employing class, and, so cunningly do they scheme, at greater profit to themselves than if the law allowed the employment of minors.

The swells of aristocratic Hillsboro, Burlingame and San Mateo are to use the defenseless little ones from an Orphan's "Home" (God save the mark!) "to trample down the clods on their polo field." (Presumably that their precious ponies may find safer footing for their aristocratic legs and dainty feet.) The society note giving us this information adds that "this is work which they formerly have hired men and horses to do," and further states that this most snide and scurvy trick is to be accomplished under the guise of, giving the unfortunate children out door sport and enjoyment and allowing them an opportunity to show their gratitude to the right worthy gentlemen, who, it is hinted, "have been most kind and generous to the Home."

Why, the contemptible cheap-skate hypocrites! If they really want to give the children a good time why don't they do it right? They know, or ought to, that children like, (and have a perfect right) TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN AMUSEMENT, and while they may really enjoy "trampling down the clods" for a few minutes, it is sure to grow tiresome. And to think of them feeling compelled to keep it up, perhaps for hours, to show their "gratitude!" Faugh! But how like "the gentry" of all ages and all climes! It is all of a piece with their whole nauseous morality that tends to make slaves and grovelings of the dispossessed and dependent.

These particular gentry are on a par with a certain prominent Chicago merchant who was very fond of having his name appear on charity lists, and was most proud of his reputation as a generous patron of homes for fallen women. One day he beamingly complied when asked to subscribe \$500 toward the building of such a home. AND THE NEXT MORNING REDUCED THE WAGES OF ALL THE SEWING WOMEN IN HIS MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT! Giving them a generous push toward the "homes" his "charity" was building.

I wonder if the gentry in our classy suburbs know, or care, how many orphans daily are made by the insanitary conditions, long hours, and miserable wages imposed on the workers who produce their wealth. And how many others are orphaned by their desperate parents committing suicide after begging vainly for even the privilege of risking health and life in the industries which produce wealth for the idle and a bare existence for the workers.

I wonder if these worthy "polo gentlemen" read, not long ago, of that teamster who shot his horses and himself because he could find no work for them to do, saying in his "good bye" to wife and babies, "kiss my poor kiddies and forgive me, Lena. I've done the best I could. It is better this way and you can get along easier without me." No doubt his Lena has got along, on the street, and the five little orphans may have found refuge in that very "Home," and are to be used to do the work denied horses and men, and learn to be grateful to their kind patrons!

Oh, it is a fine thing to teach "gratitude" to the helpless! Also a highly moral (and profitable) thing to teach the young (of the working class) that the greatest pleasure is gained by hard work.

Tho' the article did not so state, it is barely possible that these children are to be given something besides their "feed" for doing the work of horses, but it is certain that they will not be given as much as horses and men would have cost. So are the children taught another lesson—to scab!

Just think of the idle horses "eating their heads off!" And the thousands of less fortunate men going hungry, walking the streets begging for work. Think of their desperate wives killing their children and themselves to escape slow starvation, or else going on the street. Think of their daughters in the dance halls, and then think, oh mothers of the workers, if you approve of the orphans of our class being used to smooth the field of pleasure for those who toil not, yet who reap the full reward of toil.

And our own children—yours and mine and our neighbors—the public school children of San Francisco. Do you approve of their being used, by those who will profit from the Fair, to "sow poppy seed on the hill-tops and waste places around the city." WHILE TEN THOUSAND JOB-HUNGRY MEN WALK THE STREETS MENACING OUR HUSBANDS' JOBS?

Most of our men folks belong to some union. Hundreds of the jobless ones are "brothers" too. Shall we allow the children of "Union Labor San Francisco" to scab on the unemployed, even to "foster patriotism and civic pride?" What have WE to do with "Patriotism"—WE!—WHO OWN NO PART OF "OUR" COUNTRY. And why should OUR children feel "civic pride" IN A CITY WHOSE ONLY INTEREST IN THEM IS TO GRIND THEM UP (AT THE LEAST POSSIBLE COST TO ITSELF)—IN ITS FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES AND DIVES—and, to teach them to respect private property?

Shall we swallow this bait? "The children, having spent time and energy in beautifying the city will take a personal pride in its appearance, and learn not to deface or destroy property." WHOSE PROPERTY? Not ours. WE own none—except our labor power—AND THAT ALWAYS IS BEING RUTHLESSLY DESTROYED BY THE HIGHLY MORAL GENTRY WHO WOULD TEACH OUR CHILDREN TO RESPECT AND PRE-

SERVE PROPERTY! THEY are defacing all earth with the warped and twisted bodies of human beings, men, women and children, WHOSE BLOOD HAS BEEN COINED INTO GOLD. On every block of the city we are told to take "pride" in we meet the halt the blind, the maimed, the old and the helpless members of OUR class left to the mercy of the hill tops, if we are allowed to walk there after the labor of our children has increased their value to Property Owners!

True many of us may scrape and save enough to take a car-ride through the grounds, and look at the outside of the structures our men have built. We may even find time and money to walk through carrying the baby and with the youngsters tugging at our skirts, with hungry eyes on the "peanut-popcorn-chewing-gum-boy," and whining for the nickles we haven't got "to see the side shows."

And our men will be at work, as usual, trying to make up for the long wretched months "before the Fair," when they were out of work and we were living from hand to mouth—just waiting, waiting, waiting!

And some of our men will not be here at all. Men cannot stand waiting as women must. They get tired and "chuck it all," either leave or blow their brains out. We know they are doing it every day, because they can't find work! And those who will profit from the Fair know it also and are deliberately delaying work so that their profits will be further increased by the low wages which must inevitably result from the frightful competition between the hordes of desperate workers who are being enticed here and starved into a properly humble frame of mind.

And it is this vile "gentry" who would have US take pride in THEIR City and THEIR Fair! "Civic Pride!" Piffle! Again I ask, what will the Fair profit US—THE WORKING CLASS?

Let the puling moralists prate! Their teachings ever have enslaved our class—and shall we harken still!

500,000 UNEMPLOYED IN NEW YORK CITY.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—More than half a million skilled mechanics and laborers are idle and daily seeking employment in this city according to the figures compiled by the manual labor bureaus of the National Employment exchange.

Because of this condition and because it is rapidly becoming worse, the National Employment exchange has issued a warning to all mechanics and laborers to stay away from New York city.

"We want this warning to go into every hamlet in this country," said Edward W. Carpenter, manager of the exchange, "and particularly into the industrial towns and cities of the Middle West, which are pouring their thousands of unemployed into this city."

"The severe weather of the last few weeks has brought all out-door labor to an end, throwing out many thousands of men already here. Such wide publicity has been given to the construction of the new subways that many more thousands—tens of thousands—of men have left their homes in other cities to come here, believing that there would be no trouble in obtaining work."

"A wrong and dangerous impression has been given. There is only one job for every fifty or a hundred men seeking it. This includes every branch of skilled workers and laborers, as well as civil engineers and educated men. If we could spread word throughout the country that these places, even down to the diggers, have been filled long ago and that there is a waiting list, it would help to lighten the burden under which we are struggling."

"While our manual labor bureau, in Cooper Square, insists that at least 500,000 men are out of work in this city, I personally know that there are more than 300,000 idle. Of course, at the bureau they are in more intimate touch with the situation, and they are probably right. In any event, it is an appalling situation and one that demands prompt relief."

Police Commissioner Waldo said that there are more beggars in the city now than in many years, and that policemen are having much trouble with them. They are not the professional beggars, who are handled easily because they can be convicted quickly, but the mendicants are mostly able-bodied men, who are willing to work, but who can find no employment.

THE REAL THING.

Long Beach, Cal., Feb. 7, 1912.

Revolt Publishing Co., San Francisco, Cal.

Gentlemen:—Enclosed find the sum of \$1.00 for two six months' subscriptions.

I am glad to know there are a few who know the "real thing" and manage to get some of it in print. God knows it's needed now.

Yours for the cause.

C. B. PHILLIPS, (Rear) Wate Drive, Long Beach, Cal.

VALUABLE AND INDISPENSABLE.

San Diego, Cal., Feb. 3, 1912.

Revolt Publishing Co., San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Comrades:—Enclosed find check for \$2, one-half of which is to renew my subscription to REVOLT, the remainder being a contribution to the cause. I regard REVOLT as one of the most valuable publications and indispensable to the California movement.

Yours for intelligent working-class action. W. S. NEAL.

HUNGRY MEN ABOUND.

By HUGO LENZ.

San Francisco and the entire Pacific Coast is thronged with the unemployed. What to do with them and how to stop the influx, are questions agitating the minds of trade-unionists.

The Army of the Unemployed is a paradox. It is the life and at the same time, the death of the Capitalist System. Like the mythical monster of old, Capitalism is creating its own destroyer. Born of the machine process it embraces the labor power which has been displaced; liberated but not emancipated.

The City of San Francisco throbs with the sound of tired feet and aching hearts. Anyone who has walked the streets of this city looking for a master knows what anguish can be seen in the faces of the men standing upon the street corners, for only then can one see it.

These men are jobless! These men are hungry! These men are desperate!

What care they about trade agreements? What care they about the local scale of wages? What care they about the short-hour day? What they want, and want quickly, is a job!

And they will get it too and no proud nor exclusive craft union can stop them.

What are the unions of San Francisco and the Coast going to do about it? How are they going to prevent this horde (pity the word) of idle men from breaking down the barriers they have placed about their crafts? How are they going to make them realize that the eight-hour day has been won through suffering? How are they going to make them see what a respectable livelihood the minimum wage is giving us?

They can not. These men don't care about our hours! They will work ten hours if they can only work. They don't care about our minimum scale! They can LIVE on a dollar less a day. They don't care about the little homes in the Mission! They can live in a lodging house on Howard street.

The only agreement they will respect is the one with their stomachs!

The "strongest labor town in the West" will pay dearly for its reputation unless things change soon. The unions of San Francisco have by dint of hard labor and the profit of past experience, built up a colossal power. But it is not unbreakable. It is not omnipotent!

On the contrary it is weak. It has not kept step with the industrial power it is organized to oppose.

Capital, to-day, is firmly entrenched. It is fortified with privilege and justified by historical necessity. Its power is interwoven among the national and international industries until no one can say where it begins or where it ends. It is a nearly perfect Industrial oligarchy and will reach its maturity as a labor-crushing machine when the Money Trust and the Efficiency System are firmly established.

In the face of these conditions the labor unions still brandish weapons as medieval as Chinese stink-pots. The restrictive methods of the Middle Ages are still held inviolate. The apprenticeship system, which the machine has made obsolete, is still regarded as the keystone of the craft union (which it really is). High initiation and reinstatement fees and petty fines are regarded as measures to discipline the unbeliever and the unfaithful. The fallacy of the one-craft strike and the long agreement is a ray of light in a sea of darkness.

This criticism is not aimed entirely at the rank and file of the unions. If they are ignorant, it is for those who know, to teach them. But do the officers—the leaders of our unions, teach them? No! They not only do not enlighten their members upon the present impotency of the labor movement but they ruthlessly stifle every effort that is being made to spread the light of Industrial Unionism.

The labor movement of San Francisco will pay dearly for this standpat attitude. Here and there certain labor leaders realize that the clamor for greater solidarity and new tactics in organization, can not be hushed much longer. But all the sops they may throw the workers in the way of Federation schemes (which do not hurt their jobs) will not solve the problem until the autonomous craft union has given away to an industrial organization unhampered by jurisdictional or restrictive lines. And not until the labor movement of San Francisco is reorganized upon a basis which will not only not hinder but encourage the unemployed and migratory workers to come into the ranks and take up a class-conscious working-class cudgel, will the unemployed problem be solved for the workers at least.

Whether the craft union is flexible enough to accomplish this change or whether the rank and file will adopt an entirely new form of organization, remains to be seen. Only the bigoted and the blind can not see that our present form of organization has reached the limit of its efficiency. Its superstructure is top-heavy with an official impotency. What can be done to keep it from toppling over?

WHAT A CAPITALIST COUNTRY IS.

To the poor, to the crowds of lesser civil servants, small traders without credit, peasants without capital, the propertyless mass and the multitude of domestic servants of both sexes, falls the lot of ignorance, painful or loathsome toil, dangerous or unhealthy trades, long hours which make one disgusted with work and drive men to drink and women even lower still. To them starvation wages or insignificant profits; to them the insecurity of the morrow, the rigors of the law at the slightest fault, and if illness, old age, or unemployment comes privations and dark misery with, especially for women, its procession of sorrows and shame. That's what a country is—a monstrous social inequality, the shameful exploitation of a nation by a privileged class. GUSTAVE HERVE.

REVOLT

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UP AND AT THEM, REVOLTERS!

With this number we restore REVOLT to four pages. We expect never again to be forced to reduce REVOLT in size. If the Revolters continue to support the paper in the next few weeks as they have in past two weeks we will continue to set the pace for the weekly Socialist papers in the United States.

On our friends and enemies alike we wish to impress this one thing: REVOLT will do its allotted task even if it must be reduced in size.

Saturday, March 16th issue of REVOLT will be a special PARIS COMMUNE NUMBER. Our contributors for that issue will be announced next week. Order a bundle for distribution. The memorable events of 1871 in Paris should be known by the American working class.

In the meantime if you have not as yet paid your assessment or sent in a donation or new subscriber do so now.

DONATIONS.

Mrs. Mooney\$2.00
R. C. Greenly50
D. Milder50
Charles Goldberg 1.00
W. C. Neal, San Diego 1.00
Louis I. Fortin50
Pauline Privin 1.00
Kaspar Bauer, San Diego 1.00
Cash45
Jennie Arnold, Palo Alto50
Harry Bollock50
W. A. Pfeffer 1.00

Let the subscriptions and donations continue to roll in.

MURDER BY MOST MONSTROUS MEANS.

Murder by the most monstrous means is being resorted to by the human hyenas, identified with big business in San Francisco, who have been sending out circulars and placing newspaper advertising calling for laborers, skilled and unskilled, in varying numbers, in all parts of the country.

Some organization composed of creatures vile beyond the imaginings of Dante, encouraged by the preposterous vote cast by the exploiting masters and their soulless slaves for one Treadwell on an "open shop" platform, is at work trying, by means which would have shamed the Bender Hotel murderers, to pave the way for the establishment of that doctrine.

In the midst of horror we cannot but form our hopes relatively, out of horror. Therefore we hope that those of the workers lured here by the creatures who hope to beat down the defenses of organized labor with the bodies of the starved, having the courage of their desperation to rob rather than starve, will happen upon some members of this organization of infamy and make them pay the penalty of their evil works.

We are hearing much of dynamite, as a weapon in the class war, these days. Dynamite, assuredly, is a terrible as well as a futile thing, as it was used by individual members of a craft union. Yet, strange as it may seem to some who think that nothing could be worse, there are worse things. Among them may be counted the reptilian creatures who have encouraged, approved, financed, executed or otherwise aided the monstrous infamy of luring workmen to this city where, ordinarily, no less than one-third of the skilled laborers and two-fifths of the unskilled are idle.

Wolfish, but with slaving and slimy brains instead of fangs, they have gathered in their hellish councils, gloating over the opportunity which a widespread knowledge of the exposition-to-be has offered them. So, gloating over their exquisite dream of hungry, desperate men thronging the city, of starving wives and children everywhere, aiding the cause of the "open shop," these devils of modern commercialism have laid their plans to scatter broadcast the calls for men to come to San Francisco.

Such disgusting depravity, for the sake of a few dirty dollars, is appalling. The press agents who, paid by the hellhounds of business who devised the fiendish plan, are doing this devil's work; either are hardened against any sense of human decency or fitness, or else, if a realization of their disgrace shall dawn upon them, they at least will drown themselves in partial expiation of their crime.

As a crime it stands alone in awfulness in the history of the world—to lure men with the bait of the exposition, to come and starve, and by the desperation of their starving condition starve other men into complete submission to the utmost tyranny of the employing class.

The men that planned the outrage are swine, swine of the filthiest and most rapacious. The press agents who have accepted employment in the black campaign are wolves whom hunger for a job with pay has driven mad.

And the ghastly campaign is going on!
CLOUDESLEY JOHNS.

LAWRENCE TEXTILE WORKERS.
Newspapermen Manufacture "Thrillers" About
"Lawlessness" of the Strikers.

Ten thousand singing, cheering men and women, boys and girls, in ragged, irregular lines, marching and countermarching through snow and slush for two hours of a raw January afternoon—a procession of the nations of the world never equalled in the "greatest show on earth"—surged through the streets of Lawrence, Mass., on the afternoon of Thursday, January 18. There you saw native-born Americans, Russians and Syrians, Germans and Armenians, English and Belgians, Irish and Poles, Portuguese and Austrians and Scotch. You listened to the quavering notes of the "Marsellaise" from a trudging group of French women and you heard the strain caught up by hundreds of other marchers and melted away into the whistled chorus of rag-time from a bunch of doffer boys. Strange songs and strange shouts from strange un-at-home-looking men and women, 10,000 of them; striking because their pay envelopes had been cut "four loaves of bread."

It has been said that more languages are spoken within the mill district of Lawrence than in any other place of equal size in the world. True or not, within a mile radius of the district are spoken half a hundred different tongues.

The trouble came among the unskilled, non-English-speaking men and women "out of a clear sky," the manufacturers say, after a two-hour cut in time and wages accompanying the new "fifty-four-hour law." The reduction in time was foreseen; but only in the sense that it was foreseen by the mill owners and a small proportion of foreign working men and women to whom suggestions of the news might have sifted from the daily papers.

On January 1 the new law went into effect. Although framed in the interests of women and minors under eighteen, the mill owners, who had been opposed to the legislation from the beginning, make the fifty-four-hour ruling applicable to the men as well, for the larger per cent. of the operatives are women and children. The strike leaders say that the operatives made an attempt, several days before the law went into operation, to learn if their wages were to be cut along with their hours; but the mill owners were not inclined, apparently, to divulge the secret to all their employees until Friday, January 12, when the trouble started in the Wood and Washington mills with the opening of the docked pay envelopes. Before the afternoon was over Lawrence had a riot on its hands.

In the Wood and Washington plants, 500 Italians started by rushing through the mills, smashing windows, and inducing fellow workers to join in the rumpus. The disturbance quickly spread through the district until 4000 striking men and women were marching through the streets of the mill district. Strikes were new to Lawrence, and the police were unable to cope with the difficulty. As a matter of fact the actual violence on the first day and throughout the following week could have been controlled by an efficient police force half the size of that in Lawrence. On Monday Mayor Scanton issued a precept calling out the militia, after a crowd of strikers had attempted to force their way into City Hall for a meeting. Aside from this fracas, the soldier's job for the remainder of the week consisted principally in patrol duty throughout the mile-long mill district. The Boston reporters did their best to manufacture daily stories about outbreaks between soldiers and strikers and they usually managed to draw good boldface lines from the head writers. The newspaper photographers were everywhere, and perhaps the best example of their art was a picture of one of their own number, being "repelled at the point of the bayonet" by a citizen soldier who was trying hard to "see red." By January 22, Col. E. Leroy Sweetser had a complete regiment of militia at his command, and some people wondered why.

The textile workers of Lawrence, aside from the comparatively few English-speaking operatives, are largely unorganized. Up to Saturday, January 20, the strikers were leaderless; but in the afternoon of that day, the second of the strike, Joseph J. Ettor of New York, a member of the Executive Council of the Industrial Workers of the World, took the leadership. The primary cause of the strike, the two hours' cut in the weekly pay envelope, was, shortly after Ettor assumed command, merged in a series of demands upon the mill owners. These demands included a 15 per cent. increase in wages, the abolishment of the premium and bonus system, and double pay for overtime work. It was around the question of wages that the trouble centered.

Under this new militant leadership, pay day brought hundreds of new discontents under the banner of the Industrial Workers of the World. Before the trouble was a week old, 10,000 men and women, boys and girls, had become actively identified with the strike, and as many more were affected, either through intimidation or the shutting down of the mills. On the afternoon of January 19 about a thousand more skilled operatives went out. Across every street leading to the mill district companies of militia, armed with clubs or guns, kept the way clear for a few hundred operatives who remained at work unmolested by the strikers.

Early in the week the police made arrests on the slightest provocation, and the fine social sense of Judge Mahoney, who has dealt out the severest sentences possible, is shown in a statement which he made in disposing of the case of Salvatore Torsesse. The judge said:

"This is an epoch in our history. Never can any of us remember when such demonstrations of lawless presumption have taken place. These men, mostly foreigners, perhaps do not mean to be offenders. They do not realize the gravity of their offenses and do not know the laws. THEREFORE THE ONLY WAY WE CAN TEACH THEM IS TO DEAL OUT THE SEVEREST SENTENCES. I am convinced

that this Torsesse is a man of influence among his people and that he took a part only out of pure sympathy."

Torsesse was fined \$100 for intimidation and \$10 for disturbance and given six months' imprisonment for rioting. If, as Judge Mahoney said, these foreigners "do not know the laws," who is responsible? What have the mill owners been doing to Americanize the 25,000 employees whom they have drawn from all quarters of Europe to run their plant? Figures collected in 1907 showed the total foreign-born population of Lawrence as 37,000. Since that date there has been a great influx of operatives from southern Europe, following the opening of new mills built by the American Woolen Company. Just how this immigration was induced has not been explained, although an immigration inspector has been sent to Lawrence to determine whether the contract labor law has been violated by the mill corporations. The responsibility which the mill owners manifest for the welfare of these employees is summed up in clean, light, and airy rooms (some of the mills have escalators and elevators). It stops there, with one exception—a day nursery where the children of the women operatives are kept while their mothers work. But even this makeshift philanthropy does not serve all those who might use it, for hours of work have been so long that the mothers get their neighbors to tend their little ones.

The Lawrence City Mission, which serves as the charity organization society of the city and whose cases are largely among the families of the operatives, is handsomely supported by the mills.

Ettor declares that the average pay of mill employees as shown by the pay rolls of 15,000 to 25,000 operatives is about \$6 a week in the busy season.

A committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers recently prepared a table of statistics from figures furnished by the manufacturers, for the familiar purpose of comparing high wages in this country with low wages paid in England and on the Continent. In the worst spinning mills the greatest percentage of the employees are spinners, doffers, sweepers and twisters. The average weekly pay of doffers and sweepers, places filled by boys and girls, is, respectively, \$4.50 and \$4. Spinners, men and women, receive from \$6 to \$7 a week, and twisters, \$7.50.

A statement made by Winthrop L. Marvin, secretary and treasurer of the national association, credits the mills of Lawrence with paying as good wages as any mills in Massachusetts. In an interview he is quoted as saying:

"The Lawrence mills are modern, with the best equipment, and being highly efficient, the operatives are well paid—that is, for textile workers. It must be understood that textile workers rank among the lowest paid of all our industrial wage-earners. Compared with other industries, the scale in textile factories seems low; but when we make a comparison of the wages in the textile industry, those of Massachusetts are high. For instance, Massachusetts textile workers receive an average of twice as much as the operatives of the same classes in England, and more than twice as much as those employed in the mills on the Continent. "Conditions in the textile industry do not attract English-speaking people. This accounts for the presence of so many Italians, Poles, Lithuanians, and Russians, among the Lawrence strikers."—Lewis E. Palmer in 'The Survey.

UNEMPLOYED INVADE SAN DIEGO.

The members of the I. W. W. and the Socialist party are engaged in testing the validity of a new street speaking ordinance of San Diego. The police have been ordered not to enforce the ordinance as trouble is feared. Warrants are said to have been issued for the arrest of the chief of police and captain of detectives in connection with the recent assault upon street speakers. The Socialists are going to take steps for the recall of the Superintendent of Police John L. Sehon. Assaults were committed upon the persons of G. W. Woodbey, negro Socialist orator, and J. R. Cothran, Secretary of the San Diego Socialist party. The jury in the case of Charles Grant, member of the I. W. W., has disagreed, the majority favoring acquittal. Grant is charged with disturbing the peace in that he did not cease speaking when ordered to do so by two plain clothes detectives. These detectives admitted that their badges of office were not where they could be seen. A new trial will have to take place or else Grant will have to be freed. The single-taxers and many other radicals are backing the attempts to hold the right to speak upon the streets. The police of San Diego have established camps outside the city and hope by policing the city limits to prevent the entrance of unemployed men. One hundred unemployed men left Los Angeles and were turned back by these authorities. San Diego fears an invasion and these men will prove a valuable asset in case a fight for free speech is to be made. As these unemployed men have been forced to leave Los Angeles, are denied admittance to San Diego, and are threatened with violence by the ranchers in the places of their encampment it is rather a puzzle to know what they are supposed to do. The employing class have produced these homeless, jobless, hungry men and they will be forced to deal with them.

The National Socialist is a "weekly newspaper of facts and constructive propaganda," and is owned and published by an association of Washington Socialists. Its aim, as exemplified by the contents of the first issue, is to provide Socialists throughout the country with ammunition for use in the daily campaign which they are waging against capitalism.

GERMANIA HALL LECTURES.

Fifteenth and Mission Streets.
Under Auspices of Industrial Socialist League.
EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT.

UNEMPLOYED LEAGUE.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 26, 1912.

To All Labor Organizations of the Pacific Coast: There are at present in the city of Portland about 14,000 unemployed working men and women. Reports from adjacent cities indicate similar conditions. The reason for this cannot be attributed solely to business depression. It is for the most part the result of misrepresentation and lying advertisements, spread broadcast throughout the country by the "Boosters' Clubs" and commercial bodies of the coast cities, acting in concert with the railroads which gave special low rates to the Pacific Coast throughout the summer. The congested labor conditions operate favorably to the employer by reducing labor to starving conditions and thereby enabling the employer to dictate the most abject terms to the worker.

There is no indication of a cessation of this false representation to the Eastern working men and the resultant prospect is for a continuous increase in the army of the unemployed, while the employers, commercial bodies and municipalities are taking no steps to alleviate the condition of the unemployed already here. For this reason the unemployed of Portland have organized for redress of grievance and propose that all labor bodies on the Coast take steps to remedy conditions by similar organizations and demonstrations, protest and demands looking to the same end, viz., that aid and employment be given to the hungry thousands thus betrayed by the "Boosters' Clubs," real estate boomers and strike-breaking organizations of employers. It is up to all labor organizations to co-operate in this movement to the end that we shall act as a unit for the preservation of our organizations and the relief of the sufferings of the unemployed. Otherwise the consequences of the presence of this army of competition in the labor market will of necessity operate disastrously to the labor unions now seeking to maintain a living scale of wages. "A hungry stomach knows no law."

The action of the police in rounding up large bodies of workers and ordering them out of town is inhuman in that it forces them to the alternative of facing exposure along the roads amid the rigors of mid-winter, to starvation or into crime. Your protest and demands should cover this phase of the situation and promptly and effectively stop it. We urge that you take action in concert with us.

THE LEAGUE OF THE UNEMPLOYED.
W. T. Nef, Secretary.
309 Davis St.

COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

It seems that our State officialdom (State Secretary and Executive Board) have resurrected the old State constitution in order to declare the Oakland referendum, calling for a State convention of the party, unconstitutional. Where did they get a copy of the constitution? Santa Clara County has had a standing order at the State office for more than a year, asking for copies of the constitution. We have been told that there were none, and no funds to print any. Why did not they resurrect a copy a few months earlier? It might have prevented them from furthering an illegal meeting of the State Board of Control, and that, too, when there was a constitutional referendum before the fifty or more members of the Board of Control for such meeting. Some of our party members will remember that the constitution provides that the Board of Control meetings shall be held at stated times, and that the time and place of holding such meetings shall be decided by a referendum to their own membership, and shall be decided by a majority vote. The State office allowed a small minority (15) to call a hurried meeting of said board, and at a time when a legal referendum for such meeting was pending. Now, according to the ruling of the Executive Board, in the case of the present proposed convention, that meeting of the Board of Control held in Los Angeles a few months ago, was illegal and unconstitutional, and all of its acts null and void, and the money paid out of the State treasury for railroad fares for same, was money stolen from our State treasury. There have been so many flagrant violations of our State constitution by our present officials (I will not trespass on your space to mention them), we in this county supposed it had been suppressed for all time. But no, they had one up their official sleeve, to bring forth just when it would serve their own purpose, which is to force the membership to swallow an unconstitutional constitution against its will. Comrades let us have a care! Let us have a thorough housecleaning. Let us have a State Secretary and Executive Board that will abide by the will of the membership, and it is with the will of the membership at the present time with which our officials have been playing fast and loose. Let us have democratic management in party affairs.

J. ARNOTT,
Fifth District.

POLITICAL MAJORITY HELPLESS WITHOUT INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION.

But let us suppose that the Government, either out of conscious strength or calculation, make no use of its powers, and that, agreeable to the day-dream of some Socialist fantastic politicians, the effort to elect a Social Democratic majority in the Reichstag were successful—what is that majority to do? "Hic Rhodus hic salta." The moment has arrived to remodel society and the state. The majority adopts a world-historic resolution; the New Era is born—not at all! A company of soldiers chases the Social Democratic majority out of the Temple; and, should the gentlemen fail to submit quietly, then a couple of policemen will conduct them to the lock-up, where they will have leisure to meditate upon their Don Quixoticism.

WILLIAM LIEBKNECHT.

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EDUCATION, THE NEED OF THE HOUR.

The Lyceum courses that have been started by the National Office of the Socialist Party have undoubtedly been doing a GREAT work.

It is not enough for the individual member of the working class to attend a Lyceum course and applaud the speakers. Nor is it enough for him to join the party of his class and vote the Socialist ticket.

One can gain only a superficial knowledge from a lecture course. This question is too big to be covered by a dozen speakers, it requires much study and original thinking on the part of the individual himself before he becomes a GOOD worker for the cause of freedom.

A lecture course is just the "starting point," a means of getting the workers interested, this interest must be followed up by literature, or the interest may never crystallize into action of the RIGHT KIND at the right time and the right place.

The working class movement today is a remarkable one in many ways, but the most remarkable thing about it is its literature. No movement in the world's history has developed such a wonderful literature as this great movement for economic justice.

The range of subjects treated is practically unlimited. The entire history of the human race has been REWRITTEN from this new viewpoint of economic determinism and all ethical, scientific and political problems have been given a new interpretation, an interpretation that will stand the test of the closest analysis and investigation.

To pretend to understand the working man's problems without having extensively read the literature that has become a PART of those problems and has sprung out of the problems themselves, is to merely pretend, and not be able to back up the pretension, by logic and facts.

And this literature is cheap. Many of the best books and pamphlets are printed in such great quantities as to reduce the price to the minimum. Most of this literature is written by souls on fire with a desire to help the work of education, not to make money out of the movement, and this also helps to keep the literature near the "cost" price.

Besides the thousands of books and pamphlets dealing carefully with different phases of the subject, there are hundreds of papers and magazines that keep the movement up-to-date, furnish a method of close touch between the individual members, and are an essential part of the movement and deserving of consideration and support.

The workers, as a class, have not yet realized the necessity of carefully studying the problems that confront them. Only a few of them are readers, students, thinkers. Art, science, literature, philosophy—these have been for the Master Class, and the workers have been taught to find their pleasures in some other manner.

Many a worker to-day will refuse to spend five cents for a pamphlet and go right out and spend the same amount for a cigar or a glass of beer and never even think about it.

LISTEN, WORKERS! The time has come when you should smoke and drink less and READ MORE. You cannot expect to be free unless you understand the problems of your class, and you cannot understand them without you read the literature of your class. When you do this the Ass will assume all the responsibility of your acts—and not before.

ESTABLISH HEADQUARTERS

Comrades: The 22nd Assembly District Branch has opened headquarters and reading room corner Railroad Avenue and Oakdale Avenue. Open every evening from 7 to 11 p. m. Lecture and discussion every Wednesday at 8 p. m. Business meeting every Friday at 8 p. m.

SOCIALISM AND THE INTELLECTUALS.

Capitalist production has divorced two functions which once were indissolubly united; on the one side it puts the manual workers, who become more and more servants of the machine, and on the other the intellectual workers, engineers, chemists, managers, etc. But these two categories of workers, however different and contrary they may be in their education and habits, are welded together to the point that a capitalist industry cannot be carried on without manual laborers any more than without intellectual wage-workers.

MISSING OR DELAYED PAPERS. Any subscriber to REVOLT failing to receive the paper in due course (it should be delivered in San Francisco and the bay cities on Monday following the date of issue), will confer a favor upon the board of directors by sending notice of the failure. Address Revolt Publishing Co., 305 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, Cal.

The Jewish Progressive Club gives lectures in Yiddish every Friday evening at 8 p. m. at Jefferson-Square Building. Admission Free. Yours comradely, D. RAPOPORT.

THE SHANK IDEA.

By PHILLIPS RUSSELL.

The scheme of Mayor Shank, of Indianapolis, to "hit the middleman" and to lower the cost of living by buying produce at wholesale and retailing it to consumers at prices less than those arbitrarily fixed by dealers has recently attracted some attention and it is said the same idea has been adopted in other cities.

Mayor Shank may be an altruist and a philanthropist, as he is touted by the newspapers to be, or he may be merely a slick politician seeking to curry favor with the working people, who are most sorely afflicted by the ever increasing cost of living.

If workers would only study their Marx a little they wouldn't be misled by the Shank show or any other similar exhibition.

Any and all schemes to reduce the cost of living can only work injury to the working class as a whole, no matter whether promulgated by capitalist philanthropists, middle-class politicians or Socialist administrations.

As far back as 1848 Marx showed that: "If all commodities are cheaper, labor, which is also a commodity, will also fall in price and the labor commodity will fall proportionately much more than the other commodities."

There is no escape from that. It is an absolutely iron law of economics; and it applies to all such ideas as cheaper coal, cheaper gas, lower water charges, less costly food and lower rent.

In "Capital" Marx repeatedly emphasizes the fact—and a hundred thousand times since it has been proven to be true—that any general fall in the cost of living is sooner or later followed by a general fall in wages.

It must be eternally kept in mind that the capitalists constantly keep wages for the workers as a class down to the point of subsistence and pay them just enough to live on and reproduce their kind.

Just now when the party is capturing so many municipalities and is preparing to take so many more, it would be well for Socialist office-holders to keep these facts in mind.

Let us suppose that a Socialist administration by a general scheme of municipalization has succeeded in securing cheaper car fares, lower rents, cheaper gas, cheaper coal, and cheaper everything else, until the cost of living for the working class has been reduced ten per cent all around. As soon as the capitalists discover that the workers can live on ten per cent less, they will reduce wages just ten per cent; unless—mind you—the workers are so thoroughly and completely organized as a class that they can resist such reduction.

Moreover, the generally better conditions thus created by a Socialist administration would attract so many workers who are worse off elsewhere that competition for jobs would soon be set up and the capitalists would have a fine recruiting army for scabs.

Any and all present-day schemes for reducing the cost of living arise from the middle class and are essentially capitalistic. Let that fact be borne in mind.

EUGENE WILDER ENTERS CONTEST.

Palo Alto, Feb. 13, 1912.

Revolt Publishing Co. Dear Comrades:—Please find enclosed \$1.00 for which send a bundle of the Unemployed Edition of REVOLT for our meeting here next Sunday evening. About the REVOLT contest, one of our young comrades here will enter it. His name is Eugene Wilder, and I think he will do some good work. We cannot afford to lose REVOLT at this critical time.

Yours for Revolution, JENNIE ARNOTT. P. S.—I also enclose 50 cents as my monthly assessment for January.

ATTENTION COMRADES!

Revolt Subscription Contest.

The object of this contest is to increase the usefulness of REVOLT. To put REVOLT on a safe basis we must have more readers. Those that are interested in the necessary work that "The Voice of the Militant Worker" is accomplishing are determined, and they have resolved that REVOLT will not suspend. The burden of publishing a paper by wage slaves, that toil for a master every day, is a heavy one and we want you to share the joy of bearing it. Some of our kind friends have enabled us to give suitable prizes to those who send in the most subscribers between now and May the 1st.

In future issues of REVOLT the prizes will be described and those entering the contest should enroll now.

FIRST PRIZE—Nine beautiful volumes of Library of Original Sources, valued at \$54.00.

SECOND PRIZE—"Capital," by Karl Marx—3 volumes.

THIRD PRIZE—History of Great American Fortunes, by Gustavus Meyers—3 volumes.

Enter this contest now. Win a good Socialist Library.

1 Ten-year subscription counted as..... 200 points

1 Five-year subscription counted as..... 75 points

1 Yearly subscription counted as..... 10 points

1 Six-month subscription counted as..... 5 points

Write immediately to Contest Editor, REVOLT, 1384 Sutter St., City.

CONTESTANTS.

The following have entered the contest: Mrs. R. E. Herman, Harry Rathner, Rollar Allen, George E. Bosch, Jr., G. Petersen, Jack Zamford.

WORKERS WILL ACT EFFECTIVELY.

Dear REVOLT:

The enclosed was inspired in a leisure hour, during my prolonged chase after the elusive job. In explanation would say that I am not blind to the necessity of the structural requirement, i. e., the industrial organization of the proletariat, as a means for its emancipation. But I am convinced that not until the great masses realize that they have absolutely nothing to lose and everything to gain; in other words, that they are on the brink of despair, will they make the determined stand which must deliver them. You will agree with me that hope in the shape of the proverbial "half a loaf" and the "little by little" of the crafty and perfidious trade-unionist, has been the undoing of entire bodies of our class. It is a well established fact that society does not develop consciously any more so than any other organism, i. e., society does not change its social structure by premeditation. The inventions of machinery are made as economic necessities, not with a view to bring about the coming revolution. Nevertheless this is the inevitable result. It is not to be expected that the entire working class will recognize the correctness of the teachings of the scientific Socialists, but the industrial development will leave no other channel of escape and so it will be driven by despair to act intelligently, that is effectively, if not consciously. You will be able to judge yourselves the demerits or merits of these lines and publish or condemn them. I would like to subscribe to REVOLT, but have only just landed a job as the only cock of the walk.

Yours for the proletarian revolution. G. ESCHERICH.

"WE ARE NOT YET DEAD."

Stevinson, 1912.

Dear Comrade in Revolt: More than pleased to receive REVOLT. Trust mass meeting will result in keeping the paper to the front. This reminds me of a similar situation in the Philippine Islands. After we broke the spirit of the natives, or at least thought we did, the natives produced a play in Tagalog entitled "Hinde ako patry," meaning in English "We are not yet dead," and I hope that this will be the case with REVOLT.

In the last issue of the California Social Democrat I see that Haywood, Bohn's Industrial Socialism, causes international comment. Comrade Keentsky gives a very guarded opinion which after all says very little. Of course our "political actionists" are trying everything in order to minimize the theories of the rank and file. However, no matter, all pronouncements which come from above should be taken with a grain of salt. READER.

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It is a well known fact that a surplus of labor in the market gives great satisfaction to employers of labor. With such a surplus to act as a sort of check upon the avarice and greed of the workingman, which is apt to express itself in a demand for higher wages, the price of labor power can be kept within bounds quite satisfactory to the purchaser thereof. In order to be at all times assured of the presence of such a surplus it is quite proper for the employing class to use any artifice that ingenuity may suggest to attract workers to any given locality. Lying inducements may be freely held out, and even though they be made more alluring by being made through religious channels and voiced by religious enthusiasts, no moral or ethical code of the employing class and its retainers and hangers-on has in any manner been violated.—Western Clarion.

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