

**SOCIALIST COLUMN**

EDITED BY LOUIS COHEN.

Through the courtesy of The Commercial this column, until further notice, will be edited by a member of the Socialist Party to present the news and views of Socialism. The Editor of The Commercial is not responsible for any views expressed in this column. Communications for this column should be addressed direct to its Editor. Questions regarding Socialism will be cheerfully answered.



**THE MINIMUM WAGE AND VICE**

After several decades of trade union agitation of the subject, the minimum wage has at last been taken up by the very people who previously bitterly denounced it as being anarchistic and un-American. Opponents used to say that the minimum wage would obviate the "sacred law" of supply and demand (everything that tends to uphold capitalism is considered sacred) and would tend to reduce wages to the minimum.

However, official investigations of the conditions of working girls in the larger cities have shown that many are driven to lives of shame through low wages, and one authority states that 80 per cent of the cases of vice under his observation were due to insufficient wages.

It is probable therefore that some sort of minimum wage legislation will be forthcoming, with the object of lessening vice, no matter what may become of the doctrine held for so many centuries that the sole cause of vice was the Fall of Man and inherent human depravity.

But what will our Progressive capitalist friends accomplish by establishing the minimum wage unless they also carry with it the establishment of a maximum price for the necessities of life? If the wages of a business or industry are advanced, the owners have only to advance prices to overcome the increase, and this has always been done after a strike that was followed by higher wages; indeed prices have usually been advanced in a much greater proportion than the advance in wages.

Reformers usually leave a question of this kind only half settled and must do so from the very nature of the reform mind, which is to treat surface sores and not delve down to fundamental causes. So long as the mass of people are exploited, there are going to be millions of people who will get starvation wages, to say nothing of periods of unemployment and sickness during which the worker must depend on charity or shift as best he can after his meager savings, (if he has any) are eaten up.

Reforms are good things if they are not considered as a finality, as they are by progressives of the Roosevelt and Wilson type. Reforms are good things only as steps in a larger program with an ultimate goal. So do the Socialists look upon them, and their ultimate goal is a system of society where the very reason for the necessity of reforms, viz: the exploitation and robbery of the many by the few, will be replaced by a social democracy. The present unscientific, hap-hazard, anarchistic form of production must go, and it ultimately will go if the minimum wage is followed to its logical conclusion.

If the minimum wage is put into operation without a limitation on prices, no practical good will result, because the corresponding rise in prices will once more make the minimum wage a starvation wage.

What the Socialists are more concerned about is to establish a maximum "wage" that will be so high as to wipe out all profit and exploitation so that the amount of "wages" will equal the value of commodities. Then for the first time will the great proportion of vice that has been attributed to be due to economic conditions be abolished, and the way will then be open to deal scientifically with the small proportion of vice that is due to hereditary causes.

**THE CIVIL WAR IN WEST VIRGINIA.**  
Free government has broken down in West Virginia. The abominable conditions of the miners in that State have driven these industrial slaves to revolt so that for a year the Cabin Creek and Paint Creek districts have been under martial law. For many years mine operators of West Virginia have considered their territory strike-

proof. The least exhibition of manhood in resisting the slavish conditions imposed upon the miners has been met by the most brutal repression by private guards (thugs) and when that means failed the authorities were always ready to send troops and declare martial law no matter whether the administration was under a Progressive Governor Glass, Cook or under a Democratic Governor Hatfield.

Recently, the authorities have grown bolder than usual, making wholesale arrests of strikers and trying them by drum-head court-martial. Not only have arrests been made in the martial-law zone, but friends of the miners' cause in Charleston and other places outside the military district have been arrested by the militia and taken to the military court at Cabin Creek for trial. This course has been upheld by the creatures of the coal operators, who constitute the Supreme Court of the State of West Virginia and the military court has the power to impose any sentence it sees fit, even the death sentence for offenses that consist in freely speaking and writing sentiments that denounce the tyranny of the coal operators and defend the cause of the striking wage slaves of the mines. There are signs, however, that the poor, defenseless millionaire coal operators of West Virginia begin to realize that they have gone too far in their fight for the cause of "the Open Shop and Industrial Freedom" and they have made settlements in some cases giving full recognition to the Miners' Union for the first time in the history of the coal industry to their regions.

Meanwhile, the Socialist editors, who are in the military prison box-cars in West Virginia will carry their cases to the Supreme Court of the United States and we shall be definitely informed whether there is any liberty left in these United States, when wage slaves in this glorious land of the free and the home of the brave are resisting tyrannous economic conditions and trying to better their lot.

One way to relieve habitual constipation is to take regularly a mild laxative. Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are recommended for this purpose. 25¢ a box at all drug stores.

**TO INCREASE PENNSYLVANIA ORCHARD SERVICE.**

The many persons who have an opportunity to observe directly the great benefits of the Pennsylvania State Orchard Inspection and Demonstration Service, and who have written to State Zoologist H. A. Surface, at Harrisburg, requesting personal aid in this work, will be gratified to learn that at present provisions are being made in the State Legislature for an increase of this service, through an appropriation proposed under the item on Pest Suppression and Protection of Trees, which is one of the items in the general budget for the Department of Agriculture.

It is of course, not yet certain that all items will receive favorable action, but as the entire budget is in the interest of agriculture, and there is a strong tendency to promote legislation in this needed direction, there is reason to believe that it may receive favorable action. Those persons whose trees have been reclaimed by the methods of the State's Demonstrators now acknowledge that money expended for this purpose would return to the State each year many times the cost and would be the chief factor in getting rid of many kinds of pests, as well as in placing Pennsylvania in the first and foremost ranks as the greatest fruit-producing state in the Union. This is the time for all who are interested in the passage of such measures to communicate with their legislators.

Itching piles provoke profanity but profanity won't remove them. Doan's Ointment is recommended for itching, bleeding or protruding piles. 50¢ at any drug store.

**RECENT MARRIAGES IN THE COUNTY.**

Miss Elizabeth M. Peterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Peterson, and Orion H. Ogline, son of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Ogline, both of Belmont, were married at the court house, March 24th by marriage license Clerk, Bert F. Landis.

Miss Helen Palmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Palmer, and Howard A. Mason, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Mason, both of Jenners, were married at Jenners, March 23rd, by Rev. A. J. Miller.

Miss Rebecca Fuller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Fuller and Willis H. Weaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Weaver, both of Windber, were married at Windber, March 22, by Justice of the Peace, Robert G. Colborn.

**INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

**LESSON FOR MARCH 30**

**REVIEW.**

READING LESSON—Hebrews 11:1-12. GOLDEN TEXT—"Our fathers trusted in Thee. They trusted, and Thou didst deliver them." Ps. 22:4.

The Scripture lesson before us is suggested for reading purposes only. In these verses we have rehearsed the principal events (saving Easter) of which we have been studying this past quarter, but presented from the view point of the values and victories of faith. The golden text suggests three things, first the God of the fathers; second, the trust of the fathers, and third, the deliverance of the fathers because of their trust in God. Therefore it seems to be logical for us to think of these lessons from the standpoint of faith.

The first lesson of this quarter is suggested in verse three of our reading lesson. God is the creator and works by his divine fiat, framing these visible things from those that are not; working or framing them by his "word." So God today through the "Living Word" makes himself known to all men. He is the God of all resource, and places those resources at the disposal of men, becoming to each under varied circumstances all that is needed. Verily "God is love."

**Second Great Fact.**

The second lesson presents to us the second great fact of the "beginnings," viz., that man is to have dominion over all of these created things, and that woman is to be his helpmeet. Again, there is set before us man's relation to the Creator, a relation of trust, and when that relation failed we have presented in this and the succeeding lesson, the disastrous effect of disobedience. Where trust is active there has always been deliverance. Where trust has failed, disaster has inevitably followed. The great central truth of these two lessons is the folly of doubting and disobeying God's Word.

Returning to verse four of the reading lesson attention is called to Abel (Lesson IV) as an illustration of a man whose faith in God expressed itself in the sacrifice he offered unto God. Abel's gift was one of sacrifice and not that of the labor of his own hands.

The great fact of lesson five is that Noah obeyed God by preparing for the coming judgment long before there was any external evidence of the flood. He was "moved with godly fear," he saved his house, he condemned the world, and he became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. Those who believe God's word live; those who disbelieve God's word, perish—John 5:24.

The sixth lesson, which also considers the life of Noah, presents for our consideration God's everlasting covenant.

In verses eight to twelve of the reading lesson, the writer seizes upon three supreme events in the life of Abraham when faith was manifested. If we properly present these three we shall summarize the remaining lessons of this quarter saving that of Easter, lessons seven to and including the eleventh. The first great event is of course God's call to Abram—Heb. 11:8. He must leave kindred, native land, yea, even his father's house.

The second great illustration of faith was that Abraham should obtain God's promises—Heb. 11:9-10. This he did by obeying the call to become a sojourner in a land not his own, looking for a city whose builder and maker is God.

**Necessity of Faith.**

The third illustration, Heb. 11:11,12, was Abraham's willingness to part with his son Isaac in obedience to God's command to offer him as a sacrifice. True faith holds back nothing from God. Notice in this illustration how Sarah's name is linked with that of Abraham. How it is declared that she received power to conceive through faith and because she counted him faithful who promised, there sprang of one "so many as the stars of heaven in multitude and the sands which is by the seashore innumerable."

Thus the messages of the past quarter is the revelation of God and of the necessity of faith in him on man's part.

Some may have chosen to use the lesson of Isaac and Rebecca, rather than the suggested Easter lesson. We judged the Easter lesson of the greater value.

Therefore in the final lesson, that of Easter Sunday, we behold God's matchless grace and mercy in that he rolled away for those of loving, simple childlike faith, the stone of their difficulty.

"Cherish the hope that the world is traveling towards the dawn. Man's day begins with the morning and ends with the night, but the day of God begins with the night, and ends in the glorious dawn."—D. E. B. Meyer.

It might be well to require several written stories of about two hundred words each from different members of the class, relating these beginnings. The Creation; The First Sin; The Two Brothers; The First Immigrant; Lot's Choice; The First Easter. Surely there is an abundance of material to make review Sunday one long to be remembered.

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The Christmas Savings Club opened March 1st. Call and let us tell you all about our plan.

**CHURCH SERVICES.**

Methodist Episcopal church service, Rev. G. A. Neeld pastor—Services at 10:30 a. m. Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Epworth League at 6:45 p. m. Evening service at 7:30. Subject Sunday morning. "Politics and Religion."

Church of the Brethren—Preaching 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School, 9:30 a. m. Christian Workers Meeting at 6:30 p. m. Bible Class, Saturday evening, 7:30 p. m. Teacher Training classes meet Monday evening 7 and 8 o'clock, respectively. Sunday School Workers' Meeting, Friday evening, 30th inst., at 7:30.

Evangelical Lutheran church—Rev. J. A. Yount, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Morning service at 10:30. Luther League at 6:45 p. m. Evening service at 7:30. Lenten service every Wednesday evening at 7:30.

At Grantsville the Holy Communion will be observed on Easter Sunday morning. Preparatory service on Good Friday evening. Special Easter service by Sunday school and church on Easter Monday evening.

St. Paul, Wilhelm Reformed church, E. S. Hassler pastor. Regular services next Sunday at 10 a. m. Sunday school at 9 a. m. April 6th is Sunday school Rally Day. You are invited. Special program and commencement of school's trip to Palestine.

Evangelical church, Rev. L. B. Ritzenhouse pastor—Services will be held next Sunday as follows: Sunday school at 2:00 p. m. Preaching by the pastor at 7:30 p. m.

St. Philip and James Catholic church, Rev. J. J. Brady, pastor.—Mass next Sunday 8:30 and 10:30 a. m. Vespers and Benediction at 7:30 p. m.

At the A. M. E. Zion church Sunday School at 3:00 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 7:45 p. m.

Brethren Church—H. L. Goughnour, pastor.—Services both morning and evening in the Meyersdale church. Sunday school and Christian Endeavor at usual hours. All are invited.

**HAVE A HEALTHY SKIN.**

WONDERFUL DISCOVERY THAT QUICKLY CLEARS THE SKIN.  
Don't envy every good complexion you see, and wish for something that would give to your skin the flush and beauty of youth, but go today and secure a jar of Hokara, the cream that acts with nature in restoring skins to their normal health and beauty.

Hokara is entirely different from ordinary preparations, as it contains no grease, lead or mercury, is anti-septic and healing, and possesses curative properties that exert a remarkable and quick action on any form of skin blemish or trouble, no matter how severe.

A good way to test Hokara is to wash the face or hands thoroughly, then apply a little Hokara to the face or hands and rub until it rolls out. The amount of dead black skin and dirt that comes out will make you think your skin was never clean before.

People who have had skin troubles for thirty years have found almost instant relief and complete cure in Hokara.

Liberal jar for 25 cents. Larger sizes 50 cents and \$1.00.  
Sold on guarantee and recommended by S. E. Thorley, The City Drug Store, local agents.

Most disfiguring skin eruptions scrofula, pimples, rashes, etc., are due to impure blood. Blood-Net Blood Purifier as a cleansing blood tonic is well recommended. \$1.00 at all stores.

**DEAD LETTER LIST.**

Miss Marion Brown, (card) Rev. S. D. House, Dr. H. H. Sheets, W. E. Shadel, Hop Sing.  
Mch. 24, 1913. J. F. NAUGLE, P. M.

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Studebakers have been building wagons for sixty years and they have won the confidence of dealer and farmer by building—not the cheapest—but the best wagons.  
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