

Freedom

A JOURNAL OF ANARCHIST COMMUNISM.

VOL. XX.—No. 212.

NOVEMBER, 1906.

MONTHLY; ONE PENNY

English Trade Unionism.

The Board of Trade (Labour Department) has just issued the third "Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics." This, together with the "Report on Trade Unions in 1902-4, with Comparative Statistics for 1895-1904," is full of most interesting and suggestive information. To some of us in the Labour movement, who have tried to retain our reasoning powers during the recent political craze, the figures are eloquent in their silence. For some years it has been patent to the dullest observer that the *new* trade unions, which were inspired in a crude way by the Socialist propaganda of the eighties, had been dwindling. The old militant spirit had exhausted itself, and in place of the officials striving for the economic improvement of the members, they have spent their time and energy in securing political positions for themselves. This, after all, was quite in keeping with their theoretical position. Even in their militant days, from 1889 to 1899, when they were winning strikes in every direction, and the unskilled workers of the towns often improved their economic position 30 per cent. to 50 per cent., it was political action that was talked about. Though at this time almost revolutionary in method and action, they were political in theory. So their political policy is really with them one of principle, and we must judge them from that standpoint. Probably the most pronounced of these new unions is the Gas Workers and General Labourers, of which W. Thorne, M.P., is secretary. It will be as well to take one or two of these organisations and see how they have thriven since going in actively for politics. According to the report spoken of, the Gas Workers and General Labourers Union had in 1900 a membership of just under 48,000, and an income of over £24,000 a year. From then till 1904—the latest Government returns—there has been a steady decline, and in the latter year it had but 29,361 members, with an income of only £17,725. This tendency has continued, and it is now reported to be even considerably less. However, it has two Members of Parliament—W. Thorne for South-West Ham, and J. Clynès for one of the Manchester divisions. Another of this class of union is the Navvies and General Labourers Union, with John Ward, M.P., as secretary. In 1900 there was a membership of 3,525, with an income of £2,281. Again here a steady decline has taken place, till at the end of 1904 it had only 1,988 members and an income of £1,098. It is said since 1904 to have been reduced to only a few hundred members. But John Ward is now M.P. for Stoke! To the politician this is of far greater importance than the strength of the workers in their own organisation.

One more of this type of union. The General Labourers Amalgamated Union had in 1900 a membership of 7,244, and an income of £4,590. In 1904 it had gone down to 3,552 members, and the income had dropped to £2,978. The whole tendency, in fact, with the new unions—preaching political action and few financial benefits—has been downward for the last six years. They have secured M.P.'s but lost members. A few individuals have gained political influence, but their members have lost economic power. The only union of this class which has grown in membership during this period is the London Carmens Trade Union, which has E. Leggatt, an Anarchist, as one of its organisers. It has increased from 3,654 to 5,537, and can be accounted for by the persistent *economic* activity of its officials.

This decline has not shown itself in the ranks of the skilled workers' unions which pay benefits to their members; though they have also gone into politics. The economic benefits they confer have outweighed the damage done by political action. In one, the Amalgamated Railway Servants Union, however, which has now three officials, Messrs. Bell, Hudson, and Wardle, as M.P.'s, there has been a serious decrease. In 1900

it had 62,023 members, which had gone down to 53,407 by the end of 1904. In fact, in spite of the increase in the ranks of most of the old trade unions, there has been a decrease in the aggregate of trade unionists in the United Kingdom from 1900 to 1904! According to the "Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics," referred to, while in Germany during that period there had been an increase from 1,008,065 to 1,466,625, and in the United States of America from 787,537 to 1,675,400, in the United Kingdom there was a decrease from 1,904,874 to 1,866,755! This, too, in the home of Trade Unionism. And most of this decrease was in those new unions which were founded for the purpose of pushing political action. They have succeeded in dragging the old conservative benefit trade unions into the political arena; but they have certainly failed to maintain their own position as an economic power in the matter of securing and keeping better conditions of employment for their members. They have got a number of their officials returned as M.P.'s—largely by Liberal votes—but they have not retained the *confidence* of the rank and file in their unions. And the reason is not far to seek. The older benefit trade unions among the skilled workers were conceived and managed on a business basis. They understood to some extent the *economics of labour as it exists to-day*. The glamour of political electioneering did not paralyse their outlook. Even now they are so useful to their members that in spite of the recent dangerous political experiment, they are still slowly increasing their membership. They have very few lapses compared to the purely fighting and political new unions, who have got tired of fighting and gone in almost solely for politics.

Just a little dissertation on this matter may not be out of place here:—

The cause of members lapsing—a very difficult and complicated question;—can only be properly understood by examining the main facts relating to the past experience of trade unionism. Quite a variety of causes lead members to cease paying their contributions; there is no "one" explanation. One or two broad general reasons may be given which require almost an historical review to comprehend; others are bound up with internal management and policy, or again with purely personal considerations. But all of these express the degree in which any voluntary organisation obtains and keeps the *confidence* of its adherents. Certain it is some lapses will always occur.

ENGLISH LIBERTY (?)

Information has reached us of the brutal and disgusting treatment now being enforced, since the passing of the Aliens Act, against foreign visitors to this country who travel third class. It appears that before being allowed to land each person of either sex is compelled to undergo a medical examination of a kind no self-respecting person would ever submit to. A friend who on reaching England found these conditions imposed upon him immediately decided to return, after giving the officials a piece of his mind that compelled them to admit that no Englishman would submit to such treatment from a foreign nation. "And so," he adds, "I left the shores of 'free' England, rejected, although in perfect health, because I declined to be treated as she dare not treat her prostitutes. The irony of the situation was increased by the fact that on my return to France I was treated with courtesy and as a self-respecting individual should be." We need not say with what indignation we protest against this abominable treatment of *all* who wish to visit this country and who cannot afford a second-class ticket. Vice and disease can enter freely, if it can afford to pay, but healthy and honest persons who may be poor must be degraded or rejected. Now, all you praters about the inviolability of the individual, of international brotherhood and the rest—where are your protests?

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NOTES.

PHILANTHROPISTS AND TRUSTS.

If charity begins at home, it generally ends in turning us out of doors. Mr. Lever, of soap fame, began as a philanthropist, and appears to be about to finish as a Trust magnate. The good man has exploited with such humane consideration for his wage-slaves that there is quite an odour of sanctity surrounding his name—and his "works." He also in the goodness of his heart helped to found the "Garden City," that charming resort for well-to-do respectability. Now, alas, he wants to sell his soap at 15 ounces for the pound, possibly feeling he has been a little too good all his life. As things go, this must be regarded as fairly honest dealing. But he shows the cloven hoof in another direction when he says (italics ours) "we [naturally expect to carry on our work with less labour, but where any employé or representative of the amalgamation has done his duty he will not be discharged." How good, how kind! Even when he intrigues to enrich himself he cannot forget those who have done their duty, *i.e.*, submitted quietly to his generous exploitation. Still we wonder what will happen to those unfortunates who have not "done their duty." They will probably realise that when the lion of Capital lies down with the lamb of Labour it will sooner or later go hard with the lamb. Moral for the workers: *Don't be sheep.*

THE SUFFERING SUFFRAGETTE.

We have every sympathy with the women who have for conscience sake gone to prison in the struggle for what they regard as their rights. But the vote, as Blatchford truly says, doesn't matter, it will never gain the economic freedom of their economic freedom of their enslaved sisters, and we are quite convinced it is a "right," not worth fighting for, since they can never "work out their salvation" on these lines.

They are now suffering the brutalities and indignities that the "law" delights to inflict on its victims. They are learning at first hand, though in a mild form, what suffering, what degradation, what injustice is endured by the unfortunates who for one reason or another fall within its clutches. We wish we could be sure, as an outcome of all this, that a strong agitation for the humane and enlightened treatment of our prison population might be started. In this direction splendid work could be done, with the vote—when they get it—they remain mere pawns in the great game of politics.

KAFFIR v. CLARIONETTE.

The columns of the *Clarion* are being disgraced by the printing of letters from one "Puff" who writes from South Africa in reference to the Kaffir rebellion. Now, when the *Daily Mail* and such like publications publish letters on the treatment of the so-called inferior races, we know what they will say and we know what it is worth, and nobody takes any notice. But how A. M. Thompson of the *Clarion* can treat seriously such evil-minded trash as "Puff" writes is as much a mystery to us as the latter's identifying himself with Socialism. Man's inhumanity to man has had no more terrible illustration than the white man's treatment of the black, and if the coloured races were to wipe us off the face of the earth they surely would not inflict more cruelty upon us than we have upon them during the last hundred years.

The fact is, people of "Puff's" type expect the "barbarians"

to understand us and our institutions, without condescending to try even to understand these "uncivilized" children of the race. They corrupt, enslave, flog and shoot, and expect esteem and respect in return. History teaches us that there is no brute like the white brute, and "Puff" is a living illustration.

From Figuer to Elie Reclus we have overwhelming evidence of the many admirable qualities possessed by these lower races before they came in contact with the white man. But as "Puff" is particularly ferocious towards the Kaffir, we will quote one piece of evidence in regard to this unfortunate race: let the "Puff" tribe mark it well.

"The original fine moral qualities of the Kaffirs—hospitality, honesty, and truthfulness—have been greatly contaminated by contact with vicious Europeans." ("Chambers's Encyclopædia.") Now, then, who is the enemy of his fellow man—the white man or the black?

THE CHICAGO MARTYRS.

On reading the Trial and Speeches of the Chicago Martyrs.

And think ye, oh! ye tyrants,
By the champions ye have hung,
Ye will stay the march of progress,
Ye will stifle Freedom's tongue.
Know that deathless Liberty
No human power can crush.
She springs in the breast unbidden,
Free as the song of the thrush.

She gives birth to childhood's frolic,
To the boisterous laugh of Youth,
She soars on high with the eagle,
She sits on the throne of Truth.
And the wide world is her country,
And she knows no colour nor creed,
But 'gainst every act of aggression
She ever taketh the lead.

And though ye rob and bruise her,
She will yet come by her own.
Yea, as light replaces the darkness
She assails the mightiest throne.
What availeth your Mammon worship,
Your power, your hatred, and spleen?
Our comrades will live and be honoured
When the world knows not ye have been.

Ah, no! ye have not deposed her,
Nor even is hope deferred,
For she gaineth new life as we listen,—
"Let the voice of the people be heard."
The voice, the voice of the people
Rings louder in every clime;
And the cause but awaits fruition
Through the ripening force of time.

Be warned, then, oh! ye despots,
Take history's lesson home;
Behold the fate of the tyrants
Who ruled in Greece and Rome.
See the flames encircle Bruno,
Note the cup of Socrates;
Vain, vain! your racks and dungeons,
Truth conquers all of these!

GEO. ROBERTSON.

18, Tay Street, Edinburgh.

Commemoration of the Chicago Martyrs.

We are glad to see that the meetings to commemorate the legal murder of our Chicago comrades in '87 promise to be more numerous this year than has been the case during the dreary years of reaction. We can now look back nearly twenty years since that infamous crime of the American capitalists was committed. We can see how the already incalculable list of their inhuman crimes has been added to since then, and how in the terribly unequal struggle of the oppressed against the exploiters men have given life and liberty to bring nearer the day of freedom and well-being for all. At such a time we must think of them. We must think of all, though we do not name them—since their name is legion—of all who have suffered and died.

Even as we write the struggle claims its victims, and as we turn our eyes for a moment to Russia we realise what men and women will endure for liberty—the eternal love of liberty—the love that never dies. And when all is said and done, in spite of the fiendish cruelty of governments and systems nearing their end; in spite of the lies and slanders of the press, the detestable tactics of the police and the whole

army of hirelings who prop the capitalist system—in spite, nay, even because of all this, one feels that to fight in the vanguard for human freedom is to understand the real meaning of life.

It is also of the first importance to remember that even while we are honouring the names of our martyred comrades the bloodhounds of American capitalism are demanding fresh victims in the person of Moyer, Haywood, and Pettibone, men whose devotion to the cause of the workers and their emancipation has aroused against them all the bloodthirsty hatred that the capitalist ever displays against those who are sincere in their desire to secure the economic freedom of their wage-slaves. Fortunately, organised labour is fully aroused to the danger that threatens, and for this reason we are convinced there will be no repetition of the Chicago Golgotha. Let us send our fraternal greetings to our imprisoned comrades at the same time that we pay our tribute of "the love of comrades, the life-long love of comrades," to the Chicago Martyrs.

LITERARY NOTES.

Marriage and Race Death. By Morrison I. Swift. The Morrison I. Swift Press, New York. 2s. 6d. post free.

In this volume the author attacks the foundations of capitalist society, particularly in its disastrous effects on the physical and moral welfare of the race. The subject is one of the deepest interest, and it must be admitted that so far as the exposure of the evil is concerned it is complete, and one might say almost brutal in its merciless dragging into the light of day all the shameless profligacy and degradation of a shameless and degraded system. In this sense it is a book that may set many thinking. Nevertheless it seems to us that a more scientific treatment of so vital a subject is a greater need than this volume supplies, and above all a less pessimistic view of the potentialities still inherent in the working classes for working out their own deliverance might very well be taken.

However, there are so many good points so trenchantly enforced in this volume that it surely will sting some of the smug respectabilities into thinking. Praise is due for the unsparring exposure of that hateful hypocrisy that mouths of the sanctity of the family and the home at the same time that it perpetuates all the abominable conditions that tear parents and children asunder or degrade them in each other's eyes.

The following extract may possibly give the best summary of the author's general point of view:—"Believing in individual man's transcendent strength, I disbelieve the theory that society must work out in any certain way, guided by evolutionary forces. We have, for example, capitalism, and some believe that we must inevitably proceed to the higher form—Socialism. I do not acknowledge the must. Society may evolve into a higher form of it and it may not. It depends on what intelligent individuals voluntarily do. Not even capitalism with its debauchery of mankind was necessary; it came through the laziness of the intelligent, who permitted and therefore caused it. Certitude that some divine, natural, or historical cosmic impulse, or what you will, is irresistibly forging society into a higher form is the fool's paradise of the simple-minded Christian Scientist. The theories of life and human power held by men go very far to determine how evolution will proceed."

The Bishops as Legislators. By Joseph Clayton. 1s. net. London, A. C. Fifield.

This is a useful volume for those interested in the history of the legislative enactments and for those—if there be any—who are still unconvinced of the stupidity of the ecclesiastical mind. As may be imagined, these fossilised old sinners have always opposed progress. How could they do otherwise? The book we are awaiting with interest is the one that shall bear the title, "The Ignorance and Folly of Man as a Legislator."

The Ethics of Corporal Punishment. By H. S. Salt. Price 1d. Humanitarian League, 50, Chancery Lane, W.C.

This is an excellent and very timely pamphlet, which we hope may be widely read, for we are sorry to say there are brutal ideas that need combatting not only amongst the Progressives (Macnamara, to wit), but also amongst some Socialists. The whole of the arguments contained in the pamphlet are perfectly humane, just, and logical; and we wish that not only every parent, but all who hold the shameful office of inflicting punishment, could read and digest its contents. The tendency we find on many sides to talk of resorting to flogging, from the magistrate who sentences an "alien" to the cracked-brained Secretary of the United States Navy, Bonaparte, in his reference to Anarchists, is becoming intolerable to decent people.

We are delighted to see that at last we have an English translation of our comrade Peter Kropotkin's *Conquest of Bread*. This beautiful work—"a real poem," as Zola called it—is of the first importance to all those who would understand the real meaning of a social revolution. At present it is published by Chapman and Hall at 10s. 6d. net, but we shall look for a very early popular edition, which we are convinced would have a very wide sale. A review of this volume will appear in our next issue.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

United States.

Comrade H. M. Kelly writes an interesting letter on the printers' strike, which has now lasted fifteen months, but unfortunately we have not space to insert it in full. It is, he says, the hardest and longest fight the "I.T.U." (International Typographical Union of North America) has experienced in its existence of fifty years. The union numbers over 47,000 members, of whom 90 per cent. are compositors and the rest formed of allied crafts. Every nationality is represented, and each has its own newspapers, publications and union, which when large enough affiliates with the parent body. The territory embraced is the United States, Canada, and "our Colonial possessions." The strike originated in this wise:—The printers on the morning and evening papers have always worked shorter hours owing to the intensity of labour, while the condition of the book and job printers has been very hard in contrast. The strike, therefore, does not affect the newspaper men, except in regard to their support of their less favoured comrades. Now (and previous to the strike) the New York newspaper printers work seven and a half hours per day, six days a week, for a minimum wage of £5 8s. per week, the *Herald* men getting as much as £6. The book and job men get four guineas, and work, like the allied trades, fifty-four hours a week. The employers' association knew a year before the strike that an eight hour day, without reduction in wages, would be asked for, and tried to intimidate the delegates to the I.T.U. convention of August, 1905, which met at Toronto, by striking a blow in advance. In July of that year printers and apprentices in San Francisco and other cities were locked out, and the employers' president attended the convention to point out the absurdity of their demands. The capitalist ambassador had a patient hearing, but by a huge majority an eight hour day was voted for in all book and jobbing offices by every member of the I.T.U. in every country under its jurisdiction, to take effect on 1st January, 1906. A month later the employers' association met at Niagara Falls. The I.T.U., true to its conservative traditions, sent president and vice-president to this convention, which refused them a hearing, in spite of the fact that the employers' official had been accorded a respectful one at the earlier convention. They were permitted, however, to address a select committee, which promptly refused to consider any argument toward an eight hour day. This last could be arrived at by a compromise, work being reduced gradually year by year till the eight hours were reached; but the employers being secretly backed by the Manufacturers' Association, which is determined to break up every trade union in America, would have no compromise. The strike was not to have begun until the New Year, but the officials of the I.T.U. at once wired to every local union to demand the signing of new contracts to take effect from January on an eight hour basis. This provoked many local strikes, and at the present date figures prove that the majority have won, and though many of the large firms are still fighting the union, the eight hour day is practically established. The wealth of the I.T.U. is shown by the fact that on November 6th, 1904, an assessment of 2s. per week per member went into effect and lasted till January, 1906, when it was superseded by one of 10 per cent. on the earnings of all members to be paid weekly. So much money came in that strike benefits of £3 a week for married men and £2 for single were paid until recently. The A.F. of Labour, to which the I.T.U. belongs, levied an assessment of a halfpenny a week for a month on all its members, which yielded a sum of £12,000 for the printers. The strike up to now has cost nearly £400,000, and owing to the decrease of those on strike the assessments have lately been reduced.

The fight has been a tame one, but shows the power of organised labour and solidarity. This is not lost on the Government, who are fomenting trouble in their printing office in Washington by stating that in future it will be run as an open shop, and prevailing on many of the men to stop paying assessments to their union. However, such is the spirit of solidarity and loyalty among trade unionists in the States to-day, that our correspondent hazards the opinion that neither the Government nor the employers will be able to hold out much longer against the demands of the printers still on strike.

Judge Palmer of the District Court of Denver, has lately announced that in future he intends to refuse naturalisation papers to Socialists or any person who has any sympathy for the doctrines that they preach. Apparently the growth of Socialism in his own State has startled the worthy judge, for if the *Appeal to Reason* of Kansas is a good prophet, W. D. Haywood, the imprisoned miner, is likely to be returned as Governor of Colorado at the November elections. He still lies in his Idaho cell, and has Republican, Democratic, and Independent candidates against him; but the miners to a man will vote for him, the trade union sentiment is greatly on his side, and throughout the State enthusiasm for the persecuted secretary-treasurer of the Western Federation of Miners and the Socialist ticket increases with surprising rapidity. Of the other three candidates, the Republican is stated to be an intellectual aristocrat, financially dependent on Boss Evans, the king of the corporations of the State, who advocates spiked clubs and rifle balls for strikers. The Democrat, a millionaire banker, pretends to champion the cause of the common people—before election—and after it plays into the hands of the capitalist corporations. The Independent nominee has frankly never stood for organised labour; he is judge of the Juvenile Court, and assists the infamous system of underpaid child labour by publicly recruiting the best fields of the State with the little children brought before him. But for the millionaire one might have every hope of Haywood winning the post, but there is no dirty trick to which an American millionaire politician will not stoop—so the verdict of the *Appeal* may be premature.

Chicago and New York are again trying to work up a huge corner in wheat. Not only are the agents of the former's steel magnates buying up all home wheat, but for the first time are laying their hands on foreign produce. Berlin is starting a society for preventing American millionaires from buying up the art treasures of the world—why does not the world stand up and do the same by wheat? Joseph Leiter's name does not appear upon the list. He is now interested in mines, and when in England this autumn was experimenting with English bloodhounds, a pack of which he wished to take back with him to guard his mines during strikes, and to track down assaulting workmen. Presumably the English hound objects to the smell of a Yankee millionaire, for the experiments were a failure. Two of Leiter's sisters brought £30,000 a year apiece to two English peers—and it was Joseph who a few years ago brought bread in Europe to famine prices for the poor with his little corner in wheat.

The *Emancipator*, "a journal devoted to the emancipation of the working class," and "standing for conscientious organised Labour," has made its first appearance. It is to be a fortnightly, one dollar a year, and is published at 897 Francisco Street, San Francisco.

Belgium.

The Belgian and Dutch organisers of the new Libertarian International (l'Internationale Libertaire) are arranging for an international congress to be held next summer at Amsterdam, to which delegates from Communist Anarchist groups as well as individual libertarians are to be cordially invited. Many of our comrades abroad believe the time has come for the formation of an international libertarian organisation, and desire to discuss the proposal from

every point of view at this congress. In preparation for the event a monthly *Bulletin* is to be published, the first (October) number of which has already appeared (address G. Thonar, 97, rue Laixhean, Herstal-Liège, Belgium). Comrades are invited to exchange ideas on the subject of the intended organisation and congress in this paper, which will be increased in size as funds come in. No signatures will appear, in order that the articles may be impersonal. This desire for organisation has been an undercurrent for years in the libertarian movement, which has found its energies cramped through a lack of close understanding with groups and comrades scattered throughout the world. As the *Bulletin* says, "with our brother libertarians across the frontier we have relations that are purely theoretical. We barely know that they exist; we have to refer to bourgeois journals to learn of their activity... for *Freedom*, *Freier Arbeiter*, etc., are scarcely heard of. If an Anarchist, voluntarily or not, quits his own country, he knows not at whose hospitable door to knock—he is lost in a distrustful if not hostile centre." All this is very true, and we hope with many other dormant questions will be discussed in the *Bulletin* before the congress opens.

Spain.

Permission as yet has been given only to the Modern School at Barcelona to reopen its doors—closed since June. The idea now prevails that the authorities intend to sentence Ferrer to several years' imprisonment at his forthcoming trial in January, and condemn him to indemnify the innocent victims of Moral's bomb out of the funds left him in trust for these schools. He will be released after a few months' imprisonment, to find himself penniless and the trust funds gone. In this way does Authority spell justice.

Our comrades in Portugal find their activity much diminished through want of unity. Many of them are politically inclined to Republicanism rather than to the realisation of Anarchist Communism, while their papers are continually suppressed and confiscated by a Government determined to crush libertarian propaganda. Owing to the confusion of ideas which prevails, and consequent paralysis of the movement, a group of comrades intends once again to try and clear the air by holding a meeting at which all can develop their ideas, in the hope of a solution of the present difficulties.

Germany.

The Social Democrats held their annual congress at Mannheim at the end of September. The chief points of discussion were two—the General Strike, and the relations to be established between the party and trade unions. Unluckily for the advance of the revolutionary tendency, the motion for co-operation between the two, until now not always certain, was accepted. In future they will work together for the advancement purely of their own ends, without regard to the needs of Labour *per se*. Among the Berlin unions there has been of late a strong feeling towards direct action, but they will now probably fall in line with the provincial unions and their revolutionary ideas evaporate. As "Captain Kopoernics" are to that mere machine, the German soldier, so are most leaders to the German workers. Kautsky emphatically declared that the trade union movement must be impregnated with the Social Democratic spirit, and unless there are some hard fighters among the more libertarian unions, his will must become law. As for the General Strike, shorn of every revolutionary trimming, with its wings clipped, and habited in a Social Democrat strait-waistcoat, it is to be re-christened *Political Strike of the Masses!* These Parliamentary Socialists are unable to blind their eyes to the power of this weapon against governmental reaction, but with them it must never be used in a revolutionary sense—trade unionists in Germany may wield it only when their suffrage is endangered, and then only peacefully. Bebel stated that a general strike in the event of the invasion of Russian Poland by Russian soldiers would be folly. And when later a vote was passed that the German Social Democrats would stand by the Russian revolutionists, and oppose every action of the Government towards intervention, it probably only meant that Bebel would make a virulent speech in the Reichstag, which would be answered by the Chancellor in tones equally trenchant and disdainful. Only that and nothing more!

How different were the conclusions reached at the congress held about the same time at Amiens, France. There it was resolved that trade unionists should become co-operators, but only as members of such bodies as spent part of their funds in social work tending to the betterment of wage-earners; to increase the agitation against the of mineral and other poisons in industrial professions. Practical questions of this sort were discussed. As for closer relations with the party, the delegates would have none of it, proving absolutely that the militant Socialist workers of France, unlike their German brothers, refuse to be placed under the thumb of Socialist directors or leaders.

MONTHLY ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

FREEDOM Guarantee Fund.—C. O. L. 3s., E. P. Honicke 3s., N. £1.
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Mrs. MacQueen Fund.—E. P. Honicke 3s.

CITY OF LIVERPOOL SECULAR SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held on SUNDAY, November 11th, at 3 p.m.,

Speaker, F. KITZ (London),

Subject: "ANARCHIST COMMUNISM AND STATE SOCIALISM."

At 7 p.m. a MEETING will be held to

Commemorate the Legal Murder of the Chicago Anarchists.

F. KITZ and others.

Chair to be taken by T. G. BEAVAN (Liverpool Trades Council).

MEETINGS.

The Plaistow Group hold meetings at the Green Gate, on Sundays morning and evening, and Thursday evenings.

Meetings are held in the Bull Ring, Birmingham, on Sundays at 11.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

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