

same effect upon wages as would a famine of money. The substitution of the abundance of labor and labor's products—the old over-production theory—for the scarcity of money, in seeking the cause of low prices and hard times, is the economic fallacy of the age. This is the *lie* that money monopoly has stuffed down the throats of the world's producers. No man in his right mind—except the plutocrat—has fewer wants than power to supply his wants; no man, except the aforesaid plutocrat, labors but that he may supply his wants. It is a saying as old as history that man's desires outrun his ability to supply them. Hence, increased labor, under normal conditions, means increased demands for labor's products. In the nature of things low prices cannot result from an oversupply of labor. Too much labor is an absurdity. And the cause of the low price of labor, and its products, in the face of the unsatisfied wants of labor's millions, must be found in the short supply of that in which they are measured—money.

This result agrees with the declarations of the best and wisest statesmen our country has produced. It agrees with the teachings of history in every case where an intelligent insight is given into the economic affairs of any people. But the American people have been afflicted with more clap-trap on this subject by the monopolistic press than on any dozen other subjects that could be named. Only one class of people have been considered worth listening to on the question of money—those who had cornered it all and were determined to let none of it get away. And except what the campaign heelers corral none of it ever will get out among the people to perform the much needed public service of reviving industry, so long as we take our financial economy from those whose fortunes grow by usury, the foreclosures of mortgages and the wrecking of industry. [This subject will be considered further in our next issue.]

Labor World Endorsed.

Duluth, Minn., May 1st, 1896.

S. G. AKIN:

After considering the necessity for the toiling masses to have a publication which they can call their own, and in which columns the cause of labor may be honestly advocated; therefore, be it

Resolved, the Plasterer's Union of Duluth unanimously endorse the Labor World as their official organ of the City of Duluth.

J. A. BLIX, Secy.

THOS. MCCALLUM, Pres.

Co-operative Societies.

D. M. A.

These societies are what the working men of this country ought to begin to adopt. The questions will be asked: Why should they adopt them? What benefits accrue from them? To what advantage would their adoption be to the working men at large?

In the first place: because by joining these co-operative, distributive societies, they receive the profits on their purchases, which would otherwise go into the hands of the corporation or individuals who are managing such business. This brings forth another question, how to conduct such a business. In the first place the working men meet together, deposit a certain number of shares each, say at \$5.00 a share, with a limit of 100 shares. Take a store and commence business on the cash principle with some of the daily commodities of life, articles which are in daily consumption, and as business increases branch out into the different lines of business which are necessary to housekeeping, etc. Having the business established the question comes, the distribution of profits which have accrued. In the first place is the interest on the capital stock, then comes depreciation of buildings, fixtures, etc., of which a certain sum is allotted; then comes dividends on the purchases at store, so much on the dollar; whatever is available. By this brief outline we can see why we should adopt them. Because we purchase our goods at our own store and receive the profits accruing from such purchase ourselves. Secondly, the benefits to be derived from such societies encourage thrift; men and women by these means commence to lay by for a future time, whereby under other circumstances they would not save the few cents which have accumulated at the end of six months in the shape of dividends on purchases are not needed; they are left in the society as capital shares. This receives interest, and so your account, which was nothing at first, gradually grows into an account of dollars. This is not the only benefit, but it learns the people to pay cash for their purchases and do away with the credit system which is a disgrace and ruination to our country. The people get into that thriftless condition; they are careless of their surroundings and so lower the standard of American citizenship. This is not all: These socie-

ties establish business principles and develop them in their members which would otherwise lie dormant, so the whole commercial and industrial world is benefitted.

The advantages to the workingmen at large would be great. From these local societies could be formed wholesale societies; from the wholesale societies could be formed manufactories. The workingmen could then receive a just share of the wealth which he creates as there would then be no chance to bull and bear the market as is done at present. The produce of the worker would come direct to the consumer through his own stores. Not only that, but by a small percentage of the profits, reading rooms, libraries, etc., could be established whereby the people would become better educated and study more their surroundings and the government of their country and try and uplift that which is now fast crumbling to ashes.

These societies are continually growing in England, where they have their wholesale houses, factories, etc.; the whole of the working classes are becoming brighter and more intelligent; their surroundings in every respect are better, and taking them on a whole, they are a better class of citizens and a class which any country should feel proud of.

This is a subject which ought to be discussed in our local trade unions and trade and labor assemblies, in our state federation of labor conventions, and get the workingmen to combine their little capital together. By this means we would do away with the great monopolies which are gradually drawing the wealth of the nation into the hands of the few and place it into the hands of the many.

Through this channel we could do away with that system which is crushing the masses lower and making the classes higher; namely, the competitive and wage system.

Union Made Cigars.

If you are a trades union man smoke cigars made by the union cigarmakers of this city; if you are a believer in the patronage of home institutions, do not buy for the profit of a stranger an article that is inferior in merit to the product of your own townsmen's labors.

Are you investing some of your money?

The Union, Zenith and Climax Building & Loan associations offer shares to investors which can be had at any time and will yield you a larger earning than any other savings institution in the city.