

INQUIRY COLUMN.

ANSWERS.

W. CABELL.—Part of W. Cabell's inquiries will be answered in the Notes to the Manifesto of the Socialist League by Bax and Morris, which are going through the press. "Will the social family," says W. Cabell, "take the place of the present private family? I ask in turn, 'What is the present private family?' It is surely not always entirely composed of people akin to one another; only the present distinction of classes has crept into it. It is surely clear that Socialism could never assent that a family should be confined to blood-relations; for the rest there would be no hard and fast line as to what a family should be; it would be what people might choose, what they might find convenient according to the circumstances.—W. M.

RUSSELL WALLACE.—The Socialist League would be very glad to publish the works of political and social writers of the past if it had the means.—E. A.

The major part of this column stands over this month on account of the press of matter due to the Limehouse agitation.

REPORTS.

Reports and lecture lists to insure insertion must reach the office not later than the 22nd of the month. Reports should be brief and contain some point of general interest.

FARRINGTON HALL.—*Free Concerts.*—The second of these was given on Saturday, Aug. 22, and was attended by a numerous audience. A most enjoyable evening was spent, which was concluded by those present upstanding and singing the Marseillaise. *Lectures.*—On Wednesday Sept. 9, Edward Aveling lectured on "Mr. Chamberlain and Socialism"; on the 16th, Andreas Sheu took for his text, "Our Bounden Duty"; and on the 23rd Sept. C. W. Mowbray discoursed on "Co-operation for Production." Each lecture has been listened to attentively and earnestly discussed.

BLOOMSBURY.—The discussions on Thursday evenings continue to draw good audiences and the open-air addresses are also listened to by large crowds. The Branch has been greatly increased this month.—T. E. WARDLE, sec.

HAMMERSMITH.—Our Sunday evening lectures have been well attended, and the discussions generally good. On August 23rd, William Morris considered the problem, "What's to become of the Middle Classes?" showing that the pressure of competition made increasingly difficult the task of obtaining a livelihood, and daily forced large numbers of the middle class into the ranks of the workers. On August 30th, Andreas Sheu lectured upon Owen, Marx, and Blanqui, giving an interesting and eloquent sketch of each of these three types of the Revolutionist. On Sept. 6th, A. K. Donald gave an address on "The Conflict of Classes." He showed that the depression in trade was the result of permanent causes, and ridiculed Mr. Gladstone's statement that every man has a chance of rising to be a master. On the 13th Sept. J. L. Mahon lectured on "The 'Science' of Political Economy." Some of his criticisms of Professor Jevons and others of the orthodox school, were rather severely handled by G. B. Shaw, Beasley, Robertson, and others, and a very interesting discussion took place. The Branch has held three successful meetings on Sunday afternoons in Hyde Park, near the Reservoir.

HOXTON (L. E. L.)—Socialistic ideas are spreading widely in this district. The people listen gladly to the "good tidings," and our speakers are sure of an attentive and sympathetic audience. There is a marked improvement in the tone of the discussions which take place after the lectures. The increase of members is slow but steady; the sale of literature, however, considering the poorness of the neighbourhood, is surprisingly large.—T. B.

NORTH LONDON.—During the past month the Branch has been very active. Open-air meetings, well attended, have been held at the Cobden Statue and at Amphill Square in the evenings, and three very successful meetings have also been held in Regent's Park on Sunday mornings at 11.30. These will be continued. At our first meeting at Amphill Square we were interrupted by the police, but held our ground, being well supported by the crowd. The Branch has arranged for a series of lectures in the Camden Hall, King Street, Camden Town, every Wednesday evening at 8.30. The first was given by W. Morris on Sept. 9th, on "The Depression in Trade." On Sept. 16th, Edward Aveling lectured on "Wages and Capital." Both lecturers were well received, and the prospects of the movement here are decidedly hopeful.—G. T. FULLER, sec.

LEEDS.—Meetings have been regularly held at the Vicar's Croft every Sunday afternoon and evening, addressed by Sugden, Sollett, and Maguire. Socialism is making slow but sure headway among the intelligent here, and the only opposition we receive is that of ignorance. This is bound to be overcome before long, when we may expect a considerable accession of conscientious recruits. Interest in our movement is becoming general, and our taking rooms will no doubt be the medium of drawing many outside sympathisers into active propagandist work.—T. M.

LEICESTER.—Socialistic ideas are progressing here. On August 9th Mr. Barclay read a paper at the Secular Hall, "An Impeachment of Capital." The essayist argued that the source of the enormous incomes of the Jay Goulds, Vanderbilts, Mackays, Rothschilds, Brasseys, Goschens, etc., was the labour of the people, the result of which was appropriated. The admissions of capitalists themselves were quoted as to the immorality of the present system. The proposed remedies—Teetotalism, Neo-Malthusianism, Profit-sharing, Co-operation, etc.—were criticised by the lecturer, who concluded by attributing the evils of Society, in the main, to our competitive system, and appealed to his audience to join the Socialist League. On the 23rd August Messrs. Barclay and Bunton called a meeting at which the Manifesto and Rules of the Socialist League were read, and a Branch formed. On Sept. 13th Dr. Aveling visited us and delivered a stirring address on "Socialism and Freethought." The Hall was crammed. The speaker gave us weighty reasons for attacking Capitalism in preference to Christianity, and concluded with a defence of Socialists from the gross misrepresentations of opponents on the question of the Revolution. Applause greeted the lecturer throughout. A quire of *Commonweal* was sold.—T. BARCLAY.

MANCHESTER.—This Branch of the League is getting firmly established. A strong committee has been formed to take in hand the business; they meet every Monday at the County Forum at 7.30. At our general meeting, also weekly, a lecture is usually given, which is followed by discussion. At these meetings we are encouraged by seeing many of our friends who have heard our out-door speakers and wish to know more about us; ten new members have joined this month. We had an extra lecture at the Forum on the 16th Sept., by Edward Carpenter. He took as his subject, "Justice before Charity; a plea for Socialism," and dealt ably with it. Some good discussion was raised by opponents and Land Nationalisers. Our open-air speakers continue to get crowds at both our regular stations on the Sunday, and there are a good number who are getting educated in the outlines of Socialism whom we hope to make members of in time.—R. U., sec.

OXFORD.—The members of this branch have met weekly, and have had good discussions on social questions. On Sept. 9, Comrade Ogden resumed his discourse upon a leading article in a daily paper, entitled "Free Land." A debate ensued in which several members took part. The progress of the Branch is slow at present, but we hope that its numbers will be greatly increased through the continued and wide spreading of socialist literature among the working classes.—F. M.

GLASGOW (Scottish Section).—The first of our winter course of Sunday evening meetings will be held on Sunday, Oct 11th, at 7 o'clock, in the Albion Hall. Addresses on the "Need of Socialism" will be delivered by members of the

League and friends. At this meeting programmes of a three months' course of lectures will be distributed and final arrangements made for opening a Reading-room and Library for the use of members. We trust that all our friends will rally round us and that our campaign may be begun with spirit and success.—J. MAJOR.

HAMILTON.—At the invitation of W. Small, secretary of the Miners' Union, J. Bruce Glasier, of the Socialist League, Glasgow, addressed a meeting of from 2,000 to 3,000 miners at the Low Quarries, on Sunday 30th August, his subject being the "Robbery of Labour." His address, which a local newspaper described as an "open advocacy of revolution," was received by the miners with marked approval, many of them testifying personally to the lecturer their entire acceptance of his doctrine.

THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING MEN'S CLUB AND THE POLICE.

On Wednesday Sept. 2, at Farringdon Hall, Farringdon Road, a public meeting was held to consider the case of the International Club against the police. The following resolutions were unanimously passed:—1. "That this meeting expresses its indignation at the miscarriage of justice in the case of the disgraceful outrage committed by the police on the International Working-men's Club, and protests against so clear a case having been hushed up in the interests of police tyranny." 2. "That the Committee of Delegates formed for the defence of the members of the club be now dissolved and that the treasurer be instructed to hand over the balance in hand to the delegate of the International Working-men's Club, to be used for the benefit of those injured by the police."

FREE SPEECH AGITATION AT LIMEHOUSE.—THE CASE OF LEWIS LYONS.

At a meeting of delegates from various bodies held at Farringdon Hall on Monday 21st Sept. it was unanimously voted: "That this meeting of the Socialist League and delegates of various associations indignantly protests against the sentence passed on Lewis Lyons for an alleged assault on the police, the charge having been deliberately trumped up and supported by wilful and corrupt perjury on the part of the constables concerned as witnesses, K 463 and 90." The Vigilance Committee were also urged to pay special attention to Lyons' case and to start a fund for the defence and support of all who may become victims in the struggle. E. Truelove has forwarded £1 for the aid of those dependent on Lyons. Other subscriptions can be forwarded to T. Humphries, Secretary, Vigilance Committee, 29 Stepney Green.

At a public meeting convened by the members of the International Working Men's Club in the East end of London, the following resolution was unanimously carried: "This meeting of working men protests against the outrage and brutality of the police committed at the meeting in Dodd Street, Limehouse, E., on Sunday morning, and pledges itself to help the English comrades in the struggle for defending the right of free speech and meeting in open-air."

LECTURE DIARY: October, 1885.

FARRINGTON HALL (Offices of the League), 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. Lectures every Wednesday, 8.30 p.m. Admission free; discussion invited. Oct. 7th, Eleanor Marx-Aveling, "The Factory Acts." 14th, Laurence Grönlund, "C. J. Danton, the Genius of the French Revolution." 21st, G. Bernard Shaw, "Socialism and Scoundrelism." 28th, H. H. Sparling, "The Latter-day Devil."

OLDHAM BRANCH N.S.S.—Oct. 18th at 6.30 p.m., at Hall of Science, Horsedegate Street, E. H. Parkinson (Manchester Branch S. L.) will lecture on Socialism.

BRANCH MEETING ROOMS.

LONDON.

Bloomsbury.—"Eagle and Child" Coffee Tavern, 45 Old Compton Street, Soho. Every Thursday at 8.30 p.m.

Hoxton (L. E. L.)—Exchange Coffee House, Pitfield Street, opposite Hoxton Church, N. Sundays at 8 p.m.

Hammersmith.—Kelmscott House, 26 Upper Mall, W. Sundays at 8 p.m. Oct. 4th.—H. H. Sparling, "The Latter-day Devil." Oct. 11th.—Andreas Scheu, "St. Simon." Oct. 18th.—William Morris, "Depression of Trade." Oct. 25th.—G. Bernard Shaw (Fabian), a lecture.

Merton.—High Street, Merton Abbey, Surrey.

Mile End.—"Swaby's Coffee House," 103, Mile End Road. Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

North London.—Camden Hall, King Street, Camden Town, N. Wednesdays at 8.30 p.m.

PROVINCIAL.

Bradford.—3 Crab Street, Hall Lane. Meetings every Wednesday. Sympathisers invited.

Edinburgh (Scottish Section).—4 Park Street. Meets every Wednesday at 8.30.

Leeds.—54, Myrtle Street. Meets every Wednesday. Oct. 6th, M. Sollitt; 13th, E. Hunter; 20th, T. Maguire; 27th, A. Sugden.

Manchester.—City Café, Swan Street. Meets each Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. Oct. 6th.—W. Addison, "The Dream of a Socialist." Oct. 13th.—J. Oldman, "A vindication of Revolution." Oct. 20th.—J. Shaw, "A real Socialist. What is he?" Oct. 27th.—J. T. W. Ball, "Some facts of the Land Question."

Oldham.—Mrs. Wrigley's Coffee Tavern, 9, Old Market Place. Meets every Monday at 7 p.m.

OPEN AIR PROPAGANDA.

Bloomsbury.—Broad Street, Soho, near Brewery. Tuesdays at 8.30 p.m.

Hoxton (L. E. L.)—Pitfield Street, opposite Hoxton Church. Thursdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 11.30 a.m.

Hyde Park.—Sundays, 3.30 p.m.

Mile End Waste.—Sundays, 11.30 a.m.

North London.—The Cobden Statue, Hampstead Road. Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m.

Stratford.—"Argument Lamp," end of churchyard. Saturdays, 6 p.m.

Hulme.—The Viaduct, Chester Road. Sundays, 7 p.m. 4th, Parkinson, Addison;

11th, Snowdon, Ewing; 18th, Morley, Unwin; 25th, M'Donald, Prince.

Leeds.—Vicar's Croft. Every Sunday afternoon and evening.

Manchester.—New Cross, Oldham Road. Sundays, 3 p.m. 4th, Ewing, Ball; 11th, Prince, M'Donald; 18th, Addison, Unwin; 25th, Parkinson, Grundy.

Oldham.—Curzon Ground. Sundays, afternoon and evening.

MEETINGS OF THE FABIAN SOCIETY.

Oct. 2.—"Christian Socialism." Paper by Rev. C. L. Marson. Oct. 16.—Special. "Art." Address by Mr. Walter Crane. Nov. 6.—"Socialism and Political Liberty." Paper by Miss Edith Simcox. Nov. 20.—Special. "Positivism and Socialism." Address by Dr. L. H. Bridges. Dec. 18.—Special. "How can we nationalise accumulated wealth?" Address by Mrs. Annie Besant.

Notice to Workmen's Clubs and Institutes.—The Lecturers for the Socialist League will visit any part of London free of charge. Special arrangements must be made for the provinces. Early application should be made to the Lecture Secretary, at the offices of the League, 13, Farringdon Road, E.C.