

APPEAL!

COMRADES.—At the General Conference of the League a resolution was passed to the effect that the monthly *Commonweal* be transformed at an early date, and as soon as the necessary funds are collected, into a weekly paper.

Steps have been taken by the Council towards realising this resolution. A printing plant has been bought, a practical printer and compositor has been engaged, thus enabling the Socialist League to print the next monthly issue of the *Commonweal* on the premises of the League, and so all preliminary conditions are fulfilled for changing the monthly paper into a weekly one.

What we now want is FUNDS to guarantee the continuous appearance of the weekly paper when once started. To collect such funds the undersigned Committee has been chosen, and this Committee herewith opens a subscription for

A WEEKLY COMMONWEAL FUND, and now earnestly solicits from all—Socialists, and outsiders who sympathise with us—donations and subscriptions, whether they be small or large, in order that at an early date a well-supported weekly issue of the *Commonweal* may appear and spread far and wide the *Glad Tidings of Socialism*.

E. BELFORD BAX, WILLIAM MORRIS, C. THEODOR.

Farringdon Road, Sept. 1, 1885.

BRANCH REPORTS.

BLOOMSBURY ("Eagle and Child" Coffee House, 45 Old Compton Street, Soho).—The Thursday night discussions continue to be a success, and many new members have joined through them. We have also started open-air meetings, as advertised in the Lecture Diary, and these have also served to strengthen the Branch and push the sale of the *Commonweal*.—Thomas E. Wardle, Sec.

SOCIAL EVENING.—On Saturday evening, August 1, the first of a series of free evenings for the people was held at the Farringdon Hall. The room was quite full and for two hours working men, women and children seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly. Pianoforte selections were played by Ann Taylor and W. B. Adams; May Morris, Frau Walther, E. Pope, W. Wade, Andreas Scheu sang; the readers were Eleanor Marx Aveling, David Nicoll, J. L. Mahon, H. H. Sparling, Donald, Edward Aveling. The evening closed with the singing by all present of the *Marseillaise*. The next Social evenings will be held on the last Saturday in August, i.e., August 29, and on Sept. 26, at 8 p.m. Admission free.

STRATFORD.—A new open-air lecturing station has been started here with great success. At the meeting on Saturday, August 1, Kitz was arrested on a charge of causing an obstruction. On the case coming before the magistrate, however, it was dismissed. The next meeting was held at the same place and attended by a very large audience. It was addressed by Mahon, Morris and Wade, who were well received. Sixty copies of the *Commonweal* were rapidly sold and a much larger number could have been disposed of if they had been at hand. The third meeting was addressed by Sparling, and was again well attended. A Branch has been formed and a course of indoor lectures will soon be started. Those willing to assist are invited to attend the open-air meetings on Saturday evenings and give their names to some of the speakers.—J. L. M.

LEEDS.—A very successful meeting was addressed by T. Maguire at the Vicar's Croft, Sunday afternoon, August 2. There was a submitter of "bosh" and "nonsense" present, whose stupid interruptions, however, were soon silenced by the threatening attitude of our hearers. Forty copies of the *Commonweal* were sold at the close of the meeting. In the evening another meeting was held at the same place by Sollitt, when the remainder of our supply of the *Commonweal* was easily disposed of. Meetings have also been held on the 9th and 16th, when Sollitt has succeeded in keeping interested audiences together, inclement weather notwithstanding.

MANCHESTER.—Socialism is making great progress in Manchester. All parts of the town are becoming permeated with its principles, and everywhere the workers are beginning to see that it is the only doctrine worthy of their serious consideration. This being the case, our comrades here, have recognised the necessity of strengthening still further the friendly relations existing between Manchester and London. For this reason, a special meeting of the M. S. U. was held on August 5, when the following resolution was moved, and, after some little discussion, unanimously agreed to: "That the M. S. U. be now dissolved, and that a branch of the Socialist League be formed instead thereof." After being in existence for a period of three months, as an independent organisation, the members of the M. S. U. arrived at the conclusion that they could advance the cause of Socialism better by becoming allied either to the S. D. F. or to the S. L. Of the two bodies, they preferred the latter, its principles being, in their opinion more advanced. Those principles are now being preached in all parts of Manchester, our comrades believing that wherever two or three people are gathered together, there ought to be a Socialist in their midst. By this means they hope to arouse the people to a just sense of their wrongs.—Thomas Ewing.

NORTH LONDON.—During the past month we have held four open-air meetings, which have been attended by upwards of one hundred persons each. The meetings have been very enthusiastic. A few interesting questions have been asked by small capitalists, and have been answered by the speakers very satisfactorily to the audience, but not to the questioners, which has caused much amusement, and has ended in a lively discussion after the meetings have been over. Over five dozen *Commonweals* have been sold. A few strangers have attended our indoor meetings, and have afterwards joined the branch. The branch has appointed Fuller and Graham to find a hall in the neighbourhood of Camden Town, where we may hold indoor lectures and debates during the winter months.—Fuller, Secretary.

BRADFORD.—Continuation of the debate at Royal Oak, Shipley, arising out of Mitchell's lecture reported last month, took place Sunday, August 2. Many spoke for and against Socialism, Maguire (of Leeds) amongst the former. Mitchell replied to objections, and debate was adjourned to Sunday, August 23. The matter is exciting great interest in the district.

HAMMERSMITH.—On July 26, Beasley lectured upon "Survivals of Ancient Socialism." The very common error that Socialists are endeavouring to found an altogether unheard-of system of society, without regard to the teachings of history, was refuted by the lecturer's account of those curious survivals of the communal holding of property, which still exists in Russian service, Switzerland and other countries. The lecture was followed by a good discussion. Mahon lectured on August 2, his subject being "The Rights of Capitalists," to an attentive and critical audience, many of whom seemed to think it right, natural and proper, that the earth and the fulness thereof should be at the disposal of the capitalist class. On August 19, George Bernard Shaw (Fabian) gave an ethical discourse, entitled, "Socialism and Scoundrelism." The lecturer said that Socialism had been so frequently dealt with from the optimist point of view, that, for a change, he proposed to look at it from the pessimist position, and show that, regarding the subject from either standpoint, the revolution was natural and inevitable. Even supposing every individual in the country resolutely opposed its advent, he believed the change would come notwithstanding. The lecturer dealt with the seven deadly sins of the Roman Catholic Church, and, in his usual brilliantly paradoxical manner, showed how each one of these, in a Socialistic state of society, would lose much of its harmfulness, and in most cases even become, under altered circumstances, an absolute virtue. Thus pride becomes self-respect; avarice, prudence; envy, emulation; and so on. The audience was one of the largest we have had here, the hall being filled to overflowing. On August 16, Lawrence Grünlund answered the question, "Are the rich getting richer, and the poor poorer?" with a number of statistics which tended to prove, while some improvement had taken place in the position of skilled workmen during the last forty years, the benefit of the enormous increase in the efficiency of labour had almost entirely gone to the capitalist classes and their parasites. Our propaganda meetings have been held every Saturday as usual, Kitz, Roocke, Morris, Mahon, Donald, Cooper and others speaking. These have caused excitement, and, among other results, an improved attendance at our indoor meetings.

OLDHAM.—This branch meets every Wednesday, at 7 p.m., for enrolment of members and to explain the aims and principles of Socialism to inquirers. Meetings are held in Curzon Ground every Sunday afternoon and evening (weather permitting) for the same object. Inquirers should communicate with John Oldman, Secretary *pro tem.*, 57 Landsdowne Road, Chadderton, Oldham.

HOXTON (L.E.L.)—Successful Sunday out-door meetings have been held at Hoxton at 11.30 a.m. and 7 p.m. each Sunday, the speakers being—Mahon, Nicoll, Wade, Sparling, Donald and Mowbray, assisted by Mainwaring, Graham, Shackwitz, Pope and Allman. Over five quires of papers have been sold. Our Thursday nights meetings have been exceedingly successful this month; speakers Mowbray, Wade and Sparling. We should be glad of more speakers at those meetings, and therefore invite any who can attend to do so. The indoor lectures have been as follows:—2nd, C. W. Mowbray, "Industrial Co-operation"; 9th, W. C. Wade, "The Cry of the Children"; 16th, W. Morris, "Commercial Depression"; 23rd, D. Nicoll, "Political Economy"; 30th, E. Aveling, "Curse of Capitalism."—C. W. Mowbray.

PADDINGTON.—At the John Bright Club, Paddington Green, W., on Sunday, August 16, C. W. Mowbray delivered an admirable lecture, entitled "Productive Co-operation." The audience was very attentive and frequently applauded. Opposition followed, which was ably replied to amidst continuous applause; and a vote of thanks was unanimously passed. The Secretary of the Club—Mr. R. Cuerel—challenged the lecturer to debate the subject of "National Co-operation"; this was readily accepted, and arranged for Sunday, Sept. 27, commencing at 8.30.—H. G. A.

LECTURE DIARY: September, 1885.

Tuesday	1.—Mile End, W. Morris, "Hopes of Civilisation." —Manchester, a lecture.
Wednesday	2.—Farringdon Hall, public meeting at 8.30 p.m., "The International Club and the Police." —Leeds, M. Sollitt, "Education as it is and ought to be."
Sunday	6.—Hoxton, J. L. Mahon, "Rights of Capitalists." —Hammersmith, A. K. Donald.
Tuesday	8.—Mile End, Edward Aveling, "The Curse of Capital." —Manchester, a lecture.
Wednesday	9.—Farringdon Hall, Edward Aveling, "The Capitalistic Octopus." —Edinburgh, a lecture. —Oldham, a lecture. —Leeds, T. Maguire, "Labour and Capital."
Thursday	10.—Bloombsbury, discussion, "The Bradlaugh-Hyndman Debate."
Sunday	13.—Hoxton, H. H. Sparling, "The Latter-Day Devil." —Hammersmith, J. L. Mahon, "The Science of Political Economy."
Tuesday	15.—Mile End, J. L. Mahon, "A Socialist View of Civilisation." —Manchester, a lecture.
Wednesday	16.—Farringdon Hall, Andreas Scheu, "Our Bounden Duty." —Edinburgh, a lecture. —Oldham, a lecture. —Leeds, C. McHale, "My Views on Socialism."
Thursday	17.—Bloombsbury, discussion, "The Bradlaugh-Hyndman Debate."
Sunday	20.—Hoxton, Joseph Lane. —Hammersmith, W. Morris, "The Guilds of the Middle Ages."
Tuesday	22.—Mile End, H. H. Sparling, "The Blind Samson." —Manchester, a lecture.
Wednesday	23.—Farringdon Hall, C. W. Mowbray, "Co-operation for Production." —Edinburgh, a lecture. —Oldham, a lecture. —Leeds, J. Finn, "Socialism and Co-operation."
Thursday	24.—Bloombsbury, discussion, "The Bradlaugh-Hyndman Debate."
Sunday	27.—Hoxton, H. Charles, "Bourgeoisism." —Hammersmith, Andreas Scheu, "Love and Hunger."
Tuesday	29.—Mile End, H. Charles, "Socialism and Anarchism." —Manchester, a lecture.
Wednesday	30.—Farringdon Hall, W. Morris, "The Larger Hope." —Edinburgh, a lecture. —Oldham, a lecture. —Leeds, F. Corkwell, "Why am I a Socialist?"

Notice to Workmen's Clubs and Institutes.—The Lecturers will visit any part of London free of charge. Special arrangements must be made for the provinces.

BRANCH MEETING ROOMS.

LONDON.

Hoxton (L. E. L.)—Exchange Coffee House, Pitfield Street, opposite Hoxton Church, N. Mile End.—Swaby's Coffee House. Every Tuesday at 8 p.m.
Hammersmith.—Kelmcott House, 26 Upper Mall, W. Every Sunday at 8.
Merton.—High Street, Merton Abbey, Surrey.
Bloombsbury.—"Eagle and Child" Coffee House, 45 Old Compton Street, Soho. Every Thursday at 8.30 p.m.
North London.—"The Locomotive," James Street, Camden Town. Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

PROVINCIAL.

Leeds.—54 Myrtle Street. Meets every Wednesday.
Edinburgh (Scottish Section).—4 Park Street. Meets every Wednesday at 8.30 p.m.
Bradford.—Laycock's Temperance Hotel, Kirkgate. Meetings every Wednesday. Sympathisers invited.
Manchester.—County Forum, Market Street, Manchester. Meets each Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Oldham.—Mrs. Wright's Coffee Tavern, Old Market Place. Meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

OPEN AIR PROPAGANDA.

(Socialist literature should be on sale at all the meetings. Each speaker will always carry a supply of the COMMONWEAL.)

North London.—The Cobden Statue, Hampstead Road. Meetings every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. 1, Donald; 8, Mahon; 15, Nicoll; 22, Sparling.
Bloombsbury.—Broad Street, near Brewery. Tuesdays at 8.30 p.m.
Hoxton (L. E. L.)—Pitfield Street, opposite Hoxton Church. Every Thursday at 8 p.m. and every Sunday at 11.30 a.m. 3, Sparling; 6, Lane; 10, Mowbray; 13, Nicoll; 17, Mowbray; 20, Nicoll; 24, Wade; 27, Donald.
Hyde Park.—Every Sunday at 3.30 p.m. 6, Scheu; 13, Mahon; 20, Donald; 27, Nicoll.
Mile End Waste.—Every Sunday at 11.30 a.m. 6, Mowbray; 13, Donald; 20, Lane; 27, Mahon.
Manchester.—New Cross, Oldham Road. Every Sunday at 3 p.m. 6, Prince and McDonald; 13, Oldman and Goodwin; 20, Ewing and Parkinson; 27, Morley and Grundy.
Hulme.—The Viaduct, Chester Road. Every Sunday at 6.30 p.m. 6, Morley and Prince; 13, Ewing and Oldman; 20, Morley and McDonald; 27, Parkinson and Ewing.
Stratford.—"Argument Lamp," end of churchyard. Every Saturday at 6 p.m. 5, Mowbray; 12, Nicoll; 19, Mahon; 26, Lane.
Oldham.—Curzon Ground. Every Sunday afternoon and evening.
Soho.—Broad Street. Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. 1, Mowbray; 8, Wade; 15, Mowbray; 22, Mahon; 29, Sparling.
Leeds.—Vicar's Croft. Every Wednesday.