To what extent it may be necessary or desirable for people under social order to live in common, we may differ much according to our tendencies towards social life. For my part, I can't see why we should think, or say, or do anything to bring about a society of that sort. It is true that many of the irreligious and rich men build for themselves in Baywater and elsewhere, I console myself with visions of the noble communal hall of the future, unsparring of materials, graced in workmanship, permanent, in the right place, at the right time, and the past embodied in the best art which free and many people could produce; such an abode of man as no private enterprise could come anywhere near for beauty and fitness, because only collective might be in the line of life; but this is a quite different point. I would give birth to its beauty, or have the skill and leisure to carry them out. I for my part should think it much the reverse of a hardship if I had to read my books and meet my friends in such a place; do. I think it much better off dealing with vulgar householders crowded with upholstery that I despise, in all respects degrading to the mind and enervating to the body to live in simply, because I call life leisure to reconsider the whole subject; and just make it here, that my home is where I meet people with whom I sympathize, whom I love. Well, that is my opinion as a middle-class man. Whether a working-class man would think his family possession of his worst little house was a better thing than this, I leave for him to have spoken I must leave to his opinion, and to the imaginations of the middle class, who perhaps may sometimes conceive the fact that the said workman is cramped for space and comfort—say on washing day. Here I learnt to hate the matter of the most domestic and most possible objection. I have spoken of machinery being used freely for releasing people from the more mechanical and repulsive part of necessary labor, and I know that the effects of the artistic turn of mind, machinery is particularly distasteful, and they will be apt to say you will never get your surroundings pleasant so long as you are surrounded by machinery. I don't quite admit that, just as I do not allow machinery to be masters and masters as of old; so injures the beauty of life nowadays. In other words, it is the token of the terrible crime we have fallen into of using our control of the powers of nature, the purpose of our possession, and I, for my part, I am an original remark, but I make it here, that my home is where I meet people with whom I sympathize, whom I love.

Yet for the consolation of the artists I will say that I believe indeed that a state of social order would probably lead at first to a great amount of machinery for the manufacture of clothing, and that will still be anxious about getting through the work necessary to holding society together; but that after a while they will find that there is not so much work to do as they expected, and that then they will have leisure to reconsider the whole subject; and if it happens to them that a certain industry would be carried on more pleasantly as regards the worker, and more effectually as regards the goods by using hand-work rather than machinery, they would ascribe it to its being such, because it will be possible for them to do so. It is not possible now; we are not at liberty to do so; we are slaves to the monsters which we have created. And I have a kind of hope that the very elaboration of the machinery purveyed by such a society would in the end be used for the better, and the carrying on of a pleasant life as it would be under social order; that the elaboration of machinery, I say, will subserve to the simplification of life, and so once more to the limitation of machinery.

Well, I will now let my claims for decent life stand as I have them. To sum them up in brief, they are: First, a healthy body; second, a mind fit to live with the vulgar householders crowded with upholstery that I despise, in all respects degrading to the mind and enervating to the body to live in simply, because I call life leisure to reconsider the whole subject; and just make it here, that my home is where I meet people with whom I sympathize, whom I love.

Rather, however, take courage, and believe that we of this age, in which so much of all kinds is produced and enjoyed, we are in the midst of a great new and healthy and strong, and that the age fashioned of the work of those that have gone before us; and that the day of the organisation of man is dawning. It is not we who can build up the new social order; the past ages have done that for us; but perhaps we can climb over the ruins that they have made, and see that the attainment of a good condition of life is being made possible for us, and that it is now our business to stretch out our hands to take it. And how? Chiefly, I think, by educating people to a sense of their real capacities as men, so that they may be able to use to their own good the political power which is rapidly being thrust upon them;
to get them to see that the old system of organising labour for indivi
dual advantage was wrong, and that they had now come to see that it
was not a necessity for labour but an obstruction to it, and that not only
or chiefly because they are the perpetual pensioners of labour, as they are,
but rather because of their class which they are always in the position of
neccessitates. All this we have to teach people, when we have taught
ourselves, and I admit that the work is long and burdensome; as I was
began by saying, people have been made so timorous of change by the
terror they have felt that even the utmost of dangers is not hard to move.
Hard as the work is, however, its reward is not doubt ful.

The mere fact that a body of men, however small, are banded together
in a common cause that they see is to their advantage and that they
are proud of, is of itself a magnificent thing. As the working class, the
real organic part of society, takes in these ideas, hope will arise in them, and they will claim changes in society, many of which will not tend directly to theirs emanu-
ication, but which they may look to with confidence for the time being.

The dissatisfaction of the men at the action of the Miners' Union
agents is getting stronger, and there is a growing settled conviction
that a thorough reorganisation of the union is necessary. It is rather
pleasant in this going to bear that the word of the people is rising,
which previously was merely a whisper, but has now become a step
border the civilised world will be socialised; and looking back on what we have been, shall be astonished to think of how long we submitted to live as we live now.

William Morris.

SOCIALIST FEAST IN COPENHAGEN.

During all the years in which the political conflict has been going on in
Denmark, the 5th of June has been a field-day for the part. The Social
Democrat: workmen party also has made that day a feast, not exactly
in memory of the charter of the organisation (for to this the working
men have given a very long ago), but as an opportunity for encouraging
ourselves to fight for our rights. Year
after year the partakers in the feast have grown in number. Last year
the place was too small; therefore, this year it was enlarged from 21 to 30 acres of land. As in 1896 it was a part of the place for exercising soldiers.

The show was arranged at 1 o'clock in "Norre-Boulevard." 13,000 men
with their (mostly red) ensigns and banners when they presented, and
18 bands of music were distributed throughout the procession. All
the partakers were red ribbons on their breast; many of them had a red
flag in their hands, the words "liberty, equality, brotherhood" in white
on their hats; some carried with them various names. Foremost in the show the Council of the Social Demo
cratic Federation and the Redaction of the Social Democrat; after
them followed the members of the Federation with the old "Internationale," which the Hussars in vain tried to capture at the first great workmen's meeting in Copenhagen. At 2 o'clock the show proceeded from the rendezvous along the main streets; along the road were large masses of people standing to see it pass, and from some houses it was saluted with cheers and flowers. The show was greater than last year, and especially should be noticed 500 women, with their "women's red flag," the words "women's liberty, equality,
brotherhood." About 30,000 men and women took part in the show, and it had a length of two English miles and the ranks marching very near each other. It lasted more than two hours before the foremost reached the festival place, the entrance to which was marked with flags and the inscriptions "Liberty, equality,
brotherhood." The "people's will is the supreme law." The place was
enclosed by green branches, and from the enclosure waved the flags of
all nations. Upon a hill was erected a decoration of flags, and on a pole 70 ft. high, from which an electric light at night enlightened the place, was hoisted a red flag with the inscription, "Welcome!" As a union arrived at its platform, it stopped and planted there its ensigns and banners. It was a magnificent appearance that of the large show with its many, and for the most part valuable, silk banners, among which red was the prevailing colour, entering the place. The procession arrived, about 30,000 men and women gathered in the feast-place, about that time that at 3 o'clock about 70,000 people were assembled around the platforms. At a given sign all the bands played, and the partakers in the feast sang a song in appreciation of their success. Thesmith Harup, the joiner Berg, and the cigar-maker Olsen were in the three chairs, while the painter J. Jensen, the secretary Hurdum, and
the H.C. Olsen spoke courageously and stoutly about liberty; and after a song for Social Justice the secretary of the Federation, the joiner C. C. Andersen, and the treasurer of the Federation G. C.
Olsen, spoke about Socialism. At last a song, "To the worker," was sung, and the partakers, who had enthusiastically cheered the speakers, spread to the different refreshment-stands, while drinking being upon the places set apart for it, which were illuminated by coloured lamps. At midnight the feast ended, and it was again made evident that the social democratic spirit is spreading, and that the constables had nothing else to do beside listening to the speeches, and seeing how the working-men succeeded in celebrating their annual liberty-feast. To the feast telegrams of congratulation arrived from 24 Social Democratic Unions in the country. In most of the towns the
workmen party also held liberty-feasts. Especially should be mention
the feast in Aarhus, the second town in Denmark. Fourteen

unions and about 8,000 men and women were present there, and the
ordained of the cooperation, Mr. Martin, editor of the Demokratene, of Hardal Jensen, and the
typographer Nielsen, were highly appointed, and the words of greeting,
P. KNUDSEN, Sec. S.D.F.,
Norregade 5.

NORTHUMBRIAN NOTES.

True masters in some cases are preparing to boycott the Socialist
Federation branches. At Broomhill the notices stuck up at the pit
head were taken down by order of the managers, although all kinds of
notices are usually placed there. The men, however, are not easily
owed, and a little of this kind of action will be useful to the move
ment.

The dissatisfaction of the men at the action of the Miners' Union
agents is getting stronger, and there is a growing settled conviction
that a thorough reorganisation of the union is necessary. It is rather
pleasant in this going to bear that the word of the people is rising,
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In the past the miners, just like all trades' unionists, have been very
regular of the business of their organisation. As long as things went with security they were careless of what the officials did. Now when a crisis is at hand it would be cowardly as well as foolish to desert the union. The men have the power to make their society what they wish, and the fault is that hitherto they have had no definite ideas as to how things should be done, and what aim should be kept in view.

The discussion on the Mines Regulation Bill is a fine example of the
uselessness of the present labour M.P.'s. The excessively moderate
proposal to reduce the working hours for boys from 54 to 48 per week,
was spoken to by Mr. Burst in a way that put an excuse for pitching a
row at Mr. W. H. Smith's head. "I shall make a matter of policy, but I hope it won't be carried," was the very apparent
meaning of what Mr. Burst said, and Mr. Smith, of course, pointed out
that as the chief labour M.P. did not care for the amendment the
Government would not accept it.

Mr. Bradlaugh fairly outdid himself when he opposed the attempt to
adopt to workmen's grievances. As a matter of prin-

cept Mr. Bradlaugh objects to interfering with what he calls the
freedom of labour. Under the present system women are set to
do this and other degrading kinds of work because their labour is
cheaper than men's; the present organisation of industry forces them
to compete against their husbands and brothers, and the capitalists do
all they can to encourage them. To ignore the fact that the women are
placed into this work, and then to proclaim the wickedness of inter-
fering with their freedom, is really too absurd.

There is a very able article by George Julian Harney (U.S.A.) in
the Jubilee supplement to the Prorogued Chronicle for June 22nd,
giving a sketch of the Charlot movement, and a useful reminder
that the extended political liberty of the last fifty years has simply given
more power to the capitalist as against the landed, and not to the
worker as against the employing class.

One of the coallowers that insisted most firmly on the reduction
—Potter—has just died. Curiously enough, Potter's father died in
immediately after a strike which terminated adversely to the men some
years ago. Superstitious people might say that this was another
solemn warning to the Potter family against grining down the wages
of the workers.

In an article in the Co-operative News G. G. Holyoake says that J.
Brasilford Bright's article in the Commonweal is the first sign of a
revolution on the lines that Mr. Bradlaugh and Mr. Cobden
have been trying to bring about. It is a pity that a representative man like Mr. Hol
yoake should know so little of the present socialist movement and
also to other progressive movements. In spite of the fact that some Socialists, by no means of a representative standing, have railed against co-operation, the party generally is in sympathy with the aims of co-operators. Sometimes unfortunately more dividend-hunting agita-
tors than the party itself, the P.K.K. action, it is a real relief to see
that because under present conditions it is wrong for workmen to get dividends when they can, but because they put forward their dividend-hunting as a remedy for the present system of exploitation.

A. E. D.