

# The People.

VOL. VIII, NO. 48

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1899

PRICE 2 CENTS

EDITORIAL

## A PARALLEL.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**M**ayor Jones of Toledo, O., whom Croker and other Democratic monopolists are grooming for Presidential nomination, and who realizes he is at the end of his tether in the Republican party, has published a statement to the people of his city asking a re-nomination and election as Mayor. He says:

The golden rule is my guide. I believe in the shorter work day as the most practicable step now possible looking to the solution of the problem of problems—the problem of the unemployed. The eight-hour day should at once be adopted and rigidly adhered to on all public work. It is wiser, more human, and cheaper to provide a plan to let men work and add to our wealth than to keep them in idleness either as tramps or beggars, or dependents on our overworked charities. I have been the Mayor for all the people, high and low, rich and poor, black and white, employed and unemployed. My experience in the office has served to strengthen every conviction to which I have ever given expression regarding the brotherhood of all men.

This “golden rule” Mayor, with his “brotherhood of all men” and his cheap talk about labor somehow or other forcibly remind one of Mr. W.R. Hearst, proprietor of the *New York Journal*, who likewise is being groomed, in this case by himself alone, for the Democratic nomination for President

Both Jones and Hearst are labor skimmers—Hearst through his paper, Jones through his factory. Jones believes in the “brotherhood of all men” and yet lives on nothing else but what he fleeces from his Brother Labor in his shoe factory; Hearst believes in “anti-trust” while he is a trust man himself bursting with trust stock and intent upon promoting trusts. The earnings of Hearst’s poor newsboys and other employés are savagely reduced—by his factotum, while he is considered innocent of the wrong notwithstanding his silence in the matter; the earnings of Jones’ employés are reduced—by his foreman, while he looks innocently on and profits thereby. Hearst causes his paper to “bleed for the woes inflicted upon Labor”—by others, while, beginning with his own paper, he is everywhere fleecing labor; Jones orates about the

necessity of the rigid enforcement of a shorter work-day—not in his own shop, where, if he wanted to, the thing could be done, but in the public works, where his own pocket would not suffer, and where enough labor can not, under capitalism, be employed to absorb the army of the unemployed, and thus remove the “contentment” among his wage slaves.

The only difference between the two lies in their purses, and, as a result of that, in some of their sub-methods: Jones, not having several hundred thousand dollars’ income a year, can not create the large number of sycophants that Hearst creates around him by judiciously giving some waiters in certain restaurants \$1-bills to pay for a cup of coffee, and telling the waiter to keep the change; but what Jones can’t do with money—an article at which Hearst has the best of him, he seeks to do with rhetoric—an article at which he has the best of Hearst.

Strange figures have appeared above the political horizon of American politics; there are stranger ones grooming.

[Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.](#)

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