

discover what that service has been and what it is to the person waiting for a car or trying to ride on one, the result is likely to be a decided improvement in the near future. The alderman who said it is 'the worst in years' may find that he spoke in full accordance with the facts."



### Alexander Jonas.

Whoever had the good fortune to know that gentle, thoughtful and weariless worker for his cause, Alexander Jonas, the Socialist editor of New York whose death occurred last week, will join in sympathy with the 20,000 people of that city who exalted his memory at his funeral. Mr. Jonas was for many years editor-in-chief of the *Volkszeitung*, the long established and influential German organ of Socialism in the United States. He was devoted to his cause with that all-round devotion which brings into the service of a cause the wisdom of the tactician no less than the sincerity of the evangelist. Unobtrusive but persistent, reserved in manner but aggressive in purpose, intellectual but with no flavor of any aristocracy of intellect, a friendly gentleman with ideals to live for and ideas to feed them with, a leader who dared to follow and an adviser who used his mind, Alexander Jonas richly deserved the confidence of the multitudes whose affection his long life of service with and for them had won him. Among those mourning crowds there must have been some who, though they had worked as citizens in other and possibly divergent ways from his, nevertheless held him in respect and if they knew him personally remembered him also with affection.



### JAMES B. WEAVER.

Over the bier of no man of the present day could we bow with more reverence than over James B. Weaver's. In an era of sordid reaction his name was distinguished as that of a leader in the cause of democracy, and there he remained until in the ripeness of his years and service death has relieved him.

General Weaver won his military title in a war involving the issue of a republic all slave or all free, and won it on the side of freedom. But he had both the heart to feel the sanctity of that cause in its later and wider applications and the mind to perceive the marshalling of its newer and more subtle enemies through their most attractive disguises. He was among the first Republican insurgents. While La Follette was yet at school,

General Weaver was turning his back upon the political party of his early manhood, which would have honored him with high office; and was defying its plutocratic captors who would have enriched him had he bargained with them, and who tried to ruin him because he wouldn't bargain.

It was as candidate of the "Greenback" party for President that General Weaver, a Congressman and an able one from Iowa, came into national notice. Whoever imagines that this leadership of his was only as a chip upon the current of political life, argues himself no interpreter of political history. Do they say that General Weaver represented only an ephemeral financial fad? Be it so if they wish to think it so, but that "financial fad" was the first concrete expression in American politics of popular revolt against the plutocracy which had been born of the Civil War.

This revolt was quelled through the ignorance and indifference of a people who were losing their democratic ideals and under the leadership of as gay and bold a set of political and business buccaneers as ever seized upon a ship of state. The people rose again and with another "financial fad," William J. Bryan carrying their banner. And to the eternal honor of General Weaver, let it here be said that he had the acuteness to perceive and the patriotic generosity to acknowledge Bryan as his own true successor. In the desperate struggle to throttle plutocracy and revive democracy wherein the leadership began with Peter Cooper, General Weaver hailed Bryan as the new leader. He was no self-worshipper. Where he saw leadership he followed.

Since Bryan's first battle, the pioneer insurgency of the Coopers and the Weavers has developed the insurgency of the La Follettes, and growing in power has passed into a progressivism which brings accessions from strange camps. It now faces the mammonistic array with an indignant army of discontent that may not be so easily fooled as the earlier ones. When the progressive triumph is recorded, there will be found in the first line of the roll of great leadership no name more worthily distinguished than that of James B. Weaver.



### THE PROBLEM OF MAKING A LIVING.

The advance in American wages in the last few years has made possible a general advance in prices of commodities. And since trusts and monopolies are able to fix prices, these are arbitrarily raised, to absorb the increase in wages.

Why not? For what else do trusts and monop-