

Comrades,  
Work for your  
Own Press!

# ST. LOUIS LABOR

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of St. Louis, Mo.

THE FEARLESS CHAMPION OF ORGANIZED LABOR

Comrades,  
Work for your  
Own Party!

NO. 558.

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## Big Cinch Kreismann Machine Changes Dates of Elections Bond Issue Election Nov. 7. Special Council Election Nov. 10 Wm. M. Brandt Will Be the Working Class Candidate Trade Unions and Socialist Party Oppose \$2,500,000 Bond Issue

The Big Cinch machine in the City Hall is working overtime. Last Wednesday Mayor Kreismann issued his proclamation for the special election to fill the vacancy in the City Council caused by the resignation of Mr. Schutz.

The Mayor's proclamation caused general surprise.

Why?

Because his proclamation calls for a second special election, to fill the vacancy in the Council.

In a proclamation issued many weeks ago, the Mayor fixed Tuesday, November 7, as the date for the special \$2,500,000 Bridge Bond election.

Although Councilman Schutz resigned last spring, neither Council President Gundlach nor Mayor Kreismann showed any inclination to fill the vacancy.

Why, one man less in the Council simplified the Big Cinch political work!

When, some months ago, the Socialist Party inquired why no special Council election was called, President Gundlach replied that such an election would cost \$75,000, and the city could not afford to waste that much money, especially in view of the fact that a special Bridge Bond election would be held this fall.

Of course, many people expressed serious doubt as to whether Honorable Big Cinch John Busybody was the proper person to decide the value of a member of the St. Louis Municipal Assembly at a time when "Big Business" and powerful corporation interests are doing their level best to intrench themselves in the City Hall, Four Courts, Court House, Police Headquarters and other public institutions.

However, the people were satisfied that the special Council election would be on the same day as the Bridge Bond issue election, i. e., November 7.

### Big Cinch Trickery.

It was not until the Central Trades and Labor Union (by resolutions adopted at a meeting three weeks ago) insisted that the special Council election be held on November 7 that the President of the Council promised to notify his bosom friend, Mayor Kreismann, of the fact that Mr. Schutz's resignation last spring caused a vacancy in the Council.

Mayor Kreismann waited until last Wednesday, when he issued his proclamation, fixing Friday, November 10, as the date of the special Council election.

Hence there will be two special elections within three days:

**Tuesday, Nov. 7,** the Bridge Bond issue election will take place.

**Friday, Nov. 10,** will be the election of a member of the City Council.

This means that instead of \$75,000 for one joint election, the city will now have to spend \$100,000 for the two separate elections. Kreismann, Gundlach & Co. figure that the Councilman to be

elected might not be one of their Big Cinch gang, and in order to avoid this anti-machine weight against the Bridge Bond issue it would be best to have the elections three days apart.

We feel confident that the Big Cinch City Hall machine crowd have miscalculated, after all.

The voters of St. Louis will not stand for the Bridge Bond issue on November 7, and on November 10 they will select for member of the Council the candidate "who is farthest away from the administration crowd," as Dr. Boyd very aptly put it at last Wednesday's conference of Organized Labor.

The St. Louis labor movement is a unit in its opposition to the Bridge Bond Issue.

It is significant that every daily paper in St. Louis is lined up with the Big Cinch interests—Globe-Democrat, St. Louis Republic, Post-Dispatch, St. Louis Star—every one of these capitalist organs came out in strong editorials against the Central Trades and Labor Union and for the \$2,500,000 bond issue.

The Post-Dispatch, that "purchasable quantity" of Joe Pulitzer, headed its made-to-order editorial "Vote for the Bond Issue."

We see to-day about the same line-up as in the New Charter fight, and we are convinced that the Big Cinch interests, under the guidance of the Republican ex-boss, Jephtha Howe, will meet the same Waterloo as they did in the Charter election last January.

Be it remembered that Organized Labor of St. Louis carried the first \$3,500,000 Bridge Bond issue at the election in June, 1906. At that time the people were assured that \$3,500,000 would build the bridge.

Since then we have been informed that an additional \$2,500,000 are needed to complete the work.

Most of the bridge work has been done by outside non-union labor. The people of St. Louis are expected to put up over \$6,000,000 for a municipal bridge which is built by non-union labor, while the same 50,000 Union men who made the building of the bridge possible may look on how their money goes to the enemies of the labor movement.

The fixing of the Bond Issue election for Nov. 7, and of the special Council election for Nov. 10, is simply another Big Cinch trick to deceive and hoodwink the voters.

Since the investigation of the New Municipal Courts Building work is in progress the people of St. Louis have another very strong reason why the bond issue must be defeated.

We venture to say that if an investigation of the Municipal Free Bridge work were inaugurated to-day the people of St. Louis might find out a few things very similar, but perhaps more perplexing than those discovered in the Municipal Courts Building. There has been a Chinese wall surrounding the Bridge work ever since the first caisson was sunk.

Last Wednesday the Unions affiliated with the C. T. & L. U.

opened their Anti-Bond issue campaign amid much enthusiasm. The decision to call a special meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Union for this coming Sunday evening was a good one.

Not only every delegate should attend, but representatives of non-affiliated labor and civic bodies are invited.

That the Trade Unionists, Socialists and other progressive citizens will be welcomed as guests at this meeting goes without saying.

### The Socialist Party

has stated its position against the Bridge Bond issue in no uncertain language. Central Trades and Labor Union, Building Trades Councils and Socialists are a unit in their fight against this latest Big Cinch grab.

On page 4 of ST. LOUIS LABOR we publish in full the proclamation of the People's League. The document speaks for itself and needs no further comment.

Every citizen will recollect the outrageous work of Jephtha Howe, Kreismann & Co. in roadroading the Southern Illinois Traction bill through the old Municipal Assembly during the last hours of its life. Central Trades and Labor Union, Building Trades Council, Socialist Party and the radical civic improvement associations protested against Howe's Southern Traction steal, whereby the fifty years' electric railway franchise was secured two or three years before the bridge is completed.

Mayor Kreismann and his political guardian, Jeph Howe, thought: "The public be damned!"

Kreismann indorsed Howe's franchise steal by signing the Southern Traction bill.

Every citizen who will vote for the Bridge Bond issue endorses the Southern Traction franchise steal.

### The Socialist Party

is also prepared for the special Council election on November 10. As already announced in former issues of this paper, Comrade

### WILLIAM M. BRANDT

will be the Socialist candidate for the City Council.

He will represent the working class of St. Louis, and his campaign will be conducted on the working-class platform and program of the Socialist Party.

There will be a clear-cut fight. The lines between the capitalist and working class interests will be sharply drawn.

Socialists, Trade Unionists, working men and women of St. Louis! The time for a good, lively campaign is very limited. Let us not lose a moment's time to get down to action.

Tuesday, November 7, and Friday, November 10, are days of honor for the working class of St. Louis.

Every Socialist, every Trade Unionist, every progressive citizen must rally to our banner!

United we stand!

G. A. Hoehn.

## Central Trades & Labor Union

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ASKS SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

#### The Carpenters'-Machinists' Jurisdiction Fight.

#### WAITERS PROTEST AGAINST MISREPRESENTATION BY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

#### Fight Unfair Tailor Firm.

#### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Last Sunday's meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Union was the best attended for months. Every seat was taken and the interest shown in the proceedings indicated that the delegates were there for business.

Matters of great importance were up for discussion, among others the report of the Legislative Committee on the Municipal Courts Building work.

The Legislative Committee reported as follows:

Report of Legislative Committee. To the Officers and Members of the

Central Trades and Labor Union Greeting:

We, the Legislative Committee, beg leave to report as follows:

With reference to the resolutions referred to this committee from the Plasterers' Union No. 3 regarding the violation of the specifications for the contract for the plastering for the Municipal Courts Building:

Your committee, in company with Messrs. R. E. Lee, Edw. McCormack, E. L. Smyth, of the Plasterers' organization, waited on Mr. Reber of the Board of Public Improvements, and requested a copy of the contract and specifications for the plastering of the above-mentioned building.

Mr. Reber furnished copy as requested by the committee, and on Monday afternoon the Legislative Committee and the committee from the Plasterers' Union No. 3 met to arrange a meeting with the Contracting Plasterers' Association of St. Louis. Said meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon, September 26th, at which time the specifications and contract were gone over by the above committees and organization. It was unanimously agreed to present a resolution to the House of Delegates asking for a special committee to investigate the violations of the above specifications, as set forth by the Plasterers' organization. Therefore we ask that the Special Committee appointed by the House of Delegates start this investigation at their earliest possible convenience.

A visit was made to the Municipal Courts Building by your committee and the above-named committee of the Plasterers' organization.

An examination was made of the material used in place of that which was called for by the specification, and it required no expert to see that the material used was not that specified in the contract, but a much inferior material was substituted. The specification calls for a Keene's cement finish. We find that the rooms visited were finished with Keene's cement, as specified, as far up as the picture moulding, and even the specifications were violated in this instance.

The specification calls for finishing coat of Keene's cement, as follows:

"For each three (3) pails full of water, shake in gradually one hundred (100) pounds of Acme Keene's cement or Best Bros' Keene's cement, and allow it to soak for a few minutes, add one pail (pail to be of ordinary and proper size) full of finely strained, well seasoned lime putty for each one hundred (100) pound bag of cement, thoroughly mix and temper before laying on; double up as soon as the suction of the wall will permit, lay down and trowel to a smooth, glossy surface." We, your committee, find that, instead of a smooth, glossy surface, it has a very sandy complexion, and sand is not specified whatsoever in finish coat, and from the picture moulding to

the ceiling and the ceiling itself being composed of lime putty and plaster of paris, showing in many instances indications of cracks in the work.

There appeared in the public press on October 4th a statement by Mr. Reber to the effect that upon making an examination of the building, he finds 230 rooms have been finished in violation of the specifications, and in the same statement endeavors to justify the violations by stating that the city has procured a better job. It appears strange to the committee that, had the city procured a better job by a violation of its specifications on this work, why was not the material now used in violating the specifications specified originally in the contract, thereby saving the City of St. Louis the difference between nine dollars (\$9.00) and eighteen dollars (\$18.00) per ton. Just how much this amount would be your committee is unable to state, but that it must be considerable.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. McDONOUGH,

Chairman.

J. C. SHANESSY, Sec'y.

OTTO KAEMMERER,

MRS. SADIE SPRAGGON,

Delegate Smyth of the Plasterers' Union stated on the floor of the central body that his organization was willing to submit all evidence on the Municipal Courts Building case to the Board of Public Improvements,

providing the Plasterers' Union will be allowed to prosecute the case.

### Machinists Want Headquarters in St. Louis.

On motion of Delegate Lamb of the International Machinists' Association, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, The International Association of Machinists, at its international convention, held recently in Davenport, Iowa, decided to remove its international headquarters from Washington, D. C., to a city more centrally located, and

"Whereas, The membership of said organization throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico will be called upon in the near future, by their votes, to choose between St. Louis, Mo., and Indianapolis, Ind., as the place for the future permanent headquarters of the above-mentioned organization, and

"Whereas, The acquisition of such an institution would, in our judgment, be of great benefit to our city generally, and to organized labor in particular, and

"Whereas, We firmly believe St. Louis to be so situated and equipped that it offers facilities for the transaction and dispatch of business second to none, and

"Whereas, Said organization will, in our opinion, serve its own purpose best by selecting St. Louis, with its unrivalled location, as the place for its headquarters; therefore, be it

Trades and Labor Union of St. Louis and Vicinity, speaking for its sixty thousand affiliated trades unionists, hereby extends a hearty invitation to the officers and members of the International Association of Machinists, to make St. Louis the future permanent home of said organization."

### Waiters' Emphatic Protest.

Waiters' Union No. 20, through its secretary, Thomas W. Hooper, proposed the following resolution, which was concurred in by unanimous vote of the delegates:

"Whereas, An article appearing in the editorial columns of the St. Louis Republic September 26 that Chief of Detectives Allender stated to an official of the City Club during the Taft luncheon that he was pleased to see that none but colored waiters were employed there and that there were no anarchists among negroes; also that the President of the United States needs no protection against derringers or dynamite among men of the dusky hue; and

"Whereas, We feel that a statement of that kind is a stab in the back to the white waiters, many of whom have families and homes here and are good and respected citizens, and

"Whereas, We believe an utterance of this kind should not be passed by without protest; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That we condemn the actions of Mr. Allender, and that he should be severely censured, and

(Continued on Eighth Page.)





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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

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## The Supreme Court or the People?

The Supreme Court of the United States has now got to decide whether the people of Oregon have a right to fix telephone and telegraph rates by a referendum vote. It is a fine popular government that enables five men, appointed for life on the recommendations of the corporations, to overrule the people of a state.—Chicago Daily Socialist.

It does not require the five Supreme Court dignitaries to overrule the people of a state. Three of the fossils are a majority, hence three of them can do the work.

The above quotation from the Chicago Daily Socialist is explained by the following capitalist press dispatch:

Washington, October 3.—The task of attempting to put an end to all initiative and referendum legislation was begun to-day in the Supreme Court. Counsel for the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company filed a brief, attacking a taxing law of Oregon because it was enacted by virtue of the initiative amendment to the state constitution, which is alleged to be in violation of the federal constitution.

It is urged that the failure of the company to have a hearing before the raising of its taxes by the initiative method placed the telephone company at a disadvantage with others taxed, after being heard by the State Legislature. In this way, it was claimed, equal protection of the laws was denied it.

The initiative amendment and the Oregon tax were denounced as violative of the right of a republican form of government, which was guaranteed by the federal constitution. It was contended that in legislative assemblies the minority rarely, if ever, fails to moderate the wishes of the majority, however powerful, but that government by direct legislation is government by brutal force.

Governor Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey was quoted as saying a government must have its law-making body, as "it can no more make law through its voters than it can make law through its newspapers."

Reference was made to the claim that the initiative method of legislation is a check against corruption of legislators. "It were better," the telephone company contends, "that the struggle against abuse and corruption should continue than that they should be eradicated by theories and practices of government revolutionary in character and founded on error or injustice."

Replying to the contention that the initiative is a reserve power for rare use, the attacking brief quotes from the election records of Oregon to show that in 1904 two measures were on the ballot; in 1906, 11; in 1908, 19, and in 1910, 32.

It was asserted no despot or monarch would be permitted to rule in any commonwealth of the nation, and yet the "despotism of the multitude is as arbitrary and complete as the absolutism of a despot."

In this connection, President Taft's views regarding the rights of the minority, as expressed in his recent veto of the Arizona statehood resolution, were quoted.

The outcome of the fight before the highest court in the land will be followed with general interest. Very correctly the dispatch speaks of "the task of attempting to put an end to all initiative and referendum legislation."

To what extent the Supreme Court will comply with the wishes of the corporation and monopoly interests remains to be seen. If the Supreme Court should see fit to decide against the people of Oregon (which is very likely!) in would simply add another nail in the coffin of that "supreme institution."

There is a limit to the power of tyranny, and within a few years the people of this great republic of ours will prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that there is also a limit to the power of the United States Supreme Court. The veil of pious reverence—that halo of sacredness surrounding the Supreme Court and its personnel—will soon be torn asunder. Without great difficulty the people will clearly and distinctly see the Supreme Court in its true light, and for self-protection devise ways and means to close up this abattoir of popular legislation for the benefit of the wealth producers of this country.

At any rate, the reputation of the United States Supreme Court is not the very best, and of late the prestige of this highest tribunal of justice has been melting away like butter in the July sun.

G. A. Hoehn.

## Our Milwaukee Letter.

Still the Milwaukee anti-Socialists are worrying over last Sunday's big mass meeting. How did the Socialists do it?

How did they secure the subscription of \$8,000 to the bonds of the Socialist daily in about ninety minutes? In an off year—when there was no campaign, no excitement, no political fireworks—why should 7,000 men and women meet just for the privilege of paying their money and starting a Socialist daily paper? That is the puzzle which is bothering our capitalist politicians.

Never before, perhaps, did the Milwaukee Socialist movement show its real strength as clearly as at this meeting, since the enthusiasm, with a well-planned and deliberate purpose behind it, is far ahead of the hurrah excitement of a political campaign.

The big hall in the Auditorium was filled to the roof. The speakers were Mayor Seidel, Congressman Berger, President-elect Johnston of the Machinists, and Carl D. Thompson. All presented the necessity of a Socialist daily in Milwaukee.

The applause, and more especially the financial response, showed that they carried with them the hearts of the audience. Besides the \$8,000 subscribed for the daily bonds, a collection of nearly \$300 was taken to defray the expense of the meeting.

A party which can do that in an off-year is not going to be defeated at the polls next spring!

Here is an interesting fact for trades unionists. The Socialist Supervisors of Milwaukee are starting an agricultural academy in this city—an institution, by the way, which will be of solid benefit to our farming community on this side of the state. Now, this new building will employ a great many men and a good many trades. But every part of the work will be done by union labor in all trades where union labor can be obtained. This is the first time in Milwaukee that a building of this size has been constructed under union labor conditions. The trades unionists of Milwaukee are realizing the benefits of a working-class administration.

Compare with this the recent action of the Milwaukee School Board. There are only two Socialists on this board. The question of appointing non-

# Why Every Progressive Citizen Should Vote Against the Bridge Bond Issue

Last Wednesday evening a conference of representatives of Organized Labor was held at the Barbers' Union headquarters, in the Burlington Building. Chairman J. P. McDonough of the Legislative Committee of the Central Trades and Labor Union called the meeting to order. After the election of G. A. Hoehn as secretary of the conference. Dr. W. W. Boyd submitted an address to the public against the \$2,500,000 additional Bridge Bond issue, which was unanimously adopted.

Dr. W. W. Boyd, J. C. Shanessy and James Conroy were appointed as press committee.

The following "Anti-Bond Issue Campaign Committee" was named: Brandt, Boyd, Smyth, Dryden, Greeley, Conroy, Lammert, Wells, Riegert, Steel.

It was agreed that the Anti-Bond Issue campaign be carried on under the name of The People's League.

## SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR UNION CALLED FOR THIS SUNDAY EVENING AT 8:00 O'CLOCK.

After due consideration, the conference decided in favor of calling a special meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Union for this Sunday, October 15, at 8:00 o'clock in the evening, at 3535 Pine street, for the purpose of extending the Anti-Bond Issue campaign work.

To this special meeting of the central body of Organized Labor will be admitted not only the regular delegates, but also representatives of non-affiliated labor organizations and civic improvement bodies.

This meeting, like all meetings of the central body, will be open to the public.

The statement to the public adopted by the conference reads as follows:

over every Executive Department of the Municipality, but also over every co-ordinate branch of the City Government. These four men seem to believe that they are "It"; that wisdom will perish with them. They invade spheres of official service wholly outside of their charter powers. They institute a system of Russian Espionage, giving to their spies greater latitude than the Heads of Departments have. They call for the resignation of officials and members of Public Boards in order to advance partisan interests. They form political combinations in the Council, and also in the House of Delegates, to carry through their pet measures and to defeat good ones. They pack Committees in the City Assembly, so as to smother bills they do not like and to pass those they do. They have fought every popular attempt to pass the Bills establishing the Initiative, Referendum, and Recall, and have sent into Committee hearing, to insult the people's representatives, a drunken member of the House. They have even gone so far as to suggest to officials of the School Board, over which they have absolutely no power, that school expenditures should be cut down. They have carried, not economy, but niggardliness, into every function of government. For these and many other reasons, they have forfeited the People's confidence, and we do not feel in duty bound to entrust them with another two millions and a half.

### How Do the People Know?

Fifth—We are opposed to the Bond issue, because the recent revelations in regard to our new Public Buildings raised the question: If the Board of Public Improvements is incompetent to superintend the erection of buildings, for which the WELLS' ADMINISTRATION provided both the specifications and the moneys to execute them, is it competent to spend an additional two and one-half millions of dollars on a Bridge which was estimated at the start to cost only the sum originally voted by the People? How do the People know, if the specifications on Public Buildings are ignored, that the New Bridge is being built as it should be? Before voting more moneys for the project, ought not the People to ask the Board of Public Improvements for a clean bill of health? And in this connection, is it not pertinent also to inquire why the Bridge, as well as other Public work, is carried on by non-resident labor? Are not the workmen of St. Louis as skilled and competent and are not the manufacturing and building firms of St. Louis as able as those of other cities? Why, then, should the City of St. Louis be discriminated against, when its citizens are being taxed to foot the bills?

### Defied the Will of the People.

The fact is, the present City Administration has utterly defied the will of the People. For its motto it has adopted the Vanderbilt classic—"The People be damned." How shall the People answer this Challenge? We have no method of recall. But Providence has provided a practical recall. The People may now utter their verdict. At the approaching Bond Election, without the slightest harm to the Bridge, we can say to the 4 Rulers at the City Hall:

"Gentlemen—You are our servants, not our masters. You have been weighed in the balance and found wanting. You have forfeited our confidence. We cannot entrust large sums of moneys to your control. We are, therefore, compelled, in all conscience, to vote 'No!' at the election of November 7th next."

### THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE.

Headquarters: Room 603, Burlington Building.

### TO THE VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS:

THE PEOPLE sincerely favor the completion of the Municipal Bridge and are ready to vote any necessary additional monies for that purpose under right conditions. Why, then, shall we vote "NO!" November 7th on the proposed new bond issue?

### Was It Ever Intended to be a Free Bridge?

First—Because it is not certain that the bridge, under the present City Administration, will be, or ever was intended to be, a free bridge. The principal City Officials, it is alleged, were elected by Terminal Association money, and their acts since their election would seem to be a strong affirmation of it. They encouraged the passage of the Southern Illinois Traction Bill, granting to this corporation, two years before the bridge is completed, a fifty years' franchise over it.

### The People Were Ignored.

At once the People's representatives protested against such an ordinance. Both friends and opponents of the Mayor urged him to veto it, and told him that if he signed the bill, it would defeat the passage of the proposed new bond issue. But he ignored both the Press and the People and signed the bill. Now he must take the consequence of his act, and be held responsible for the defeat of the bond issue.

### We Want a Free Bridge.

Second—We oppose the new bond issue, because, if it shall finally be settled beyond a doubt that the Bridge will be free—that is, will give equal privilege to all and special privileges to none—there will then be ample time and opportunity to vote additional bonds, if needed.

### Make It Certain that the Bridge Will be Free.

The engineers tell us that it will take at least TWO YEARS MORE to place the superstructure upon the piers. Moneys have already been set apart for it. Ample time is thus afforded the City Officials to make certain that the bridge will be free. When this becomes clear to the people, they will cheerfully vote additional bonds, and no harm can come to the bridge by the postponement of the new bond issue.

Third—We oppose the proposed bond issue at this time, because there seems to be a good deal of money in sight that could be applied for the bridge without another issue of bonds.

### How About the United Railway Co.'s Unpaid Taxes?

There is a large unappropriated balance of the original bond issue, estimated by various officials at different amounts. There will be also at the end of the present fiscal year in the City Treasury an estimated surplus of at least \$1,300,000.00. And there is, still further, a collectable debt of about \$2,444,444.44 from the United Railways Company.

With all these resources in sight, why should the Small Household of the City be taxed with \$2,500,000 more, years before the money is actually needed? What do the City Officials want to do with it?

Fourth—We oppose the bond issue, because we have lost confidence in the present City Administration.

### Bad Measures Signed and Good Measures Killed.

Apart from the apparent attempt to protect against the rights of the City, the Terminal Association, BAD MEASURES HAVE BEEN SIGNED BY THE MAYOR AND GOOD MEASURES VETOED. Four men, a quadrumvirate at the City Hall, ride rough-shod, not only

union teachers in the Milwaukee Trades School came before the School Board last week. The two Socialist members fought against these appointments, justly contending that in a trades school only trades unionists should be permitted to teach and train the future wage-earners of Milwaukee. The Socialists, however, were voted down. Non-union teachers were supported by those school directors who were elected on the Anti-Socialist ticket. It will be remembered that these Anti-Socialist tickets were distributed in the churches of Milwaukee, that the priests brought women in carriages to the polls with instructions to vote this ticket; and these women were told that it would be a "mortal sin" not to vote for the Anti-Socialist candidates! The workmen are beginning to find out who are their true friends and who are their real enemies.

E. H. THOMAS,  
State Secretary.

Milwaukee, Wis.

There is something wrong in a government where they who do the most have the least. There is something wrong when honesty wears a rag, and rascality a robe; when the loving, the tender, eat a crust, while the infamous sit at banquets.—Robt. G. Ingersoll.

### YOU ARE INVITED.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper, it is an invitation to subscribe. Just send us your name and address—we do the rest.

## Fining A Cyclone

It will be remembered that Mr. Hitchcock personally saw to it that the time-honored provision in the postal law providing for fines upon the railway companies when they fail to meet their train schedules was eliminated from the last postoffice bill; and, of course, there was no room for it in the current measure. In defense of his action, Mr. Hitchcock told the Senate, in reply to a resolution of inquiry, that the fines were unjust, since the passenger service on trains caused the railway companies to make all possible effort to meet their schedules—as called for in the mail contracts—and, anyhow, the fines were not causing any noticeable improvement, etc.

But this rule fails to work when the culprit is a rural carrier who has failed to get over his route in the allotted time.

Out in Kansas lives a rural free delivery carrier who recently came into collision with a playful little Kansas cyclone, which blew him so far out of his course that he became several hours behind on his schedule. For this he was fined and duly mulcted of a portion of his seventy-five per.

Indignant, the carrier has written the P. M. G., demanding that the amount of the fine be returned. But it is very doubtful if the department will reconsider.

These fines will no doubt have a salutary effect on future cyclones. Hitchcock will teach them not to in-

terfere with his rural carriers in Kansas.

Such disciplinary measures may not have the desired effect on tardy mail trains, but a Kansas cyclone is different.—The Harpoon.

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