

# SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HERALD

VOL. II. No. 37

CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A., SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1900.

Whole No. 87.

## MILWAUKEE SOCIALISTS IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED

Grand and Harmonious Gathering  
Under the Banner of Social Demo-  
cracy—Union of Working Class

## TRADES UNIONISTS IN THE FOREFRONT

The S. L. P. with Three Delegates Joins  
Forces with the Social Demo-  
cratic Party of America

Frederic Heath Nominated for Mayor

Social Democrats began the spring campaign last Monday evening (Feb. 12) by a nominating convention that was remarkable in many ways. The big hall of the Deutscher Maennerverein, at State and Eighth streets, was crowded to the doors. It was an assemblage highly creditable to the political labor movement, and some of the old stagers in labor circles declared that its like had never been seen, and that the People's party even in its palmy days in Milwaukee had never had such an imposing convention.

When the hour for opening the meeting arrived, Victor L. Berger, as state organizer for the party, appeared upon the stage and declared the convention in session. He made an address of welcome and then announced a song by the Socialistic Maennerchor. The boys sang with enthusiasm and were loudly applauded. Robert Mister was chosen temporary chairman and Eugene Rooney temporary secretary. Mr. Meister then named the following committees:

On credentials—Comrades George Moerschel, Jacob Hunger, Emil Seidel, Edward Ziegler and Dr. H. C. Berger. On order of business—Comrades Louis Wieman, C. A. Blodgett and J. C. Underhill.

While the committees were at work Comrade Frederic G. Strickland, of Chicago, was introduced to the convention, and made a stirring address.

The committees then reported. The report on credentials showed a total of 147 delegates, of which 37 were from the branches of the party, 43 from the wards, and 67 from the various trade unions. The delegates were then seated according to the localities and organizations, and there was applause when the union delegates took their seats, the representatives of the Socialist Labor party also receiving like courtesy.

While the committees were out Dr. Titus Voelkel made an address in German.

The committee on resolutions reported the following:

"Whereas: The trade union movement of the working class is an inevitable manifestation of the struggle between capital and labor and is absolutely necessary to resist the superior economic power of capital and to maintain their standard of life; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we hereby reaffirm the expression of our national convention in this respect and recommend to all members of our party to join the organization to which they respectively belong, and we also pledge ourselves to patronize every union label in the market; furthermore, be it

Resolved, That we fully recognize that the exploitation of the working people will cease only when society gets a hold of the production and distribution, and that we therefore brand as traitors and Judases such trade union leaders who for their personal gain try to hide the class struggle and hold the union men to the capitalist party."

Then a communication was presented by Section Milwaukee, Socialist Labor party, which was as follows:

"Whereas: Our national convention has declared in favor of union of all Socialist forces;

Resolved, That Section Milwaukee make no nominations in the spring campaign, for the reason that the Social Democracy party represents the class conscious labor party in Milwaukee and as our national convention, held in Rochester, N. Y., January 27, 1900, has declared that the Social Democratic party is a class conscious labor party, therefore Section Milwaukee deems it advisable to join forces with the Social Democratic party."

Nominations were now declared in order. For mayor, Howard Tuttle, C. A. Blodgett and Frederic Heath were nominated. Comrade Blodgett withdrew his name. The balloting resulted as follows:

Heath—95.  
Tuttle—50.

On motion of Comrade Berger the nomination of Comrade Heath was made unanimous, and Mr. Heath thanked the convention for the honor it did him.

For comptroller the nomination came thick and fast, Comrades Max Hinz, Edw. Ziegler, Nicholas Schwinn, Gustave Richter and Louis Arnold being named. All save Comrade Hinz declined and he was nominated by acclamation. Mr. Hinz thanked the conven-

tion and promised to stand by the fight to the bitter end.

Comrades Jacob Hunger, Eugene Rooney, John Doerfler, Thomas C. P. Myers, Howard Tuttle and Albert Forman were nominated for treasurer, but all declined but Myers and Tuttle, and the following vote was taken:

Tuttle—100.  
Myers—43.

Mr. Tuttle was declared the nominee, and as he was absent from the city, a delegate announced that he had agreed to serve in any capacity the party saw fit to demand his services.

The convention then gave to the central committee the right to fill vacancies and to conduct the campaign.

Before the convention adjourned speeches were made by John Moser and Eugene Rooney.

The platform adopted declares against public franchises to corporations, in favor of attorneys for the poor, free medicines and baths, coal, wood and ice at cost, abolition of the slums and one daily meal to all school children, and says:

"The Social Democratic party of America is the American expression of the international movement of modern wage workers for better food, better houses, more sleep, more leisure, more education, and more culture. Those who toil with hands and brain are the producers of all wealth, but as laws are now made in the interest of property rather than men, the rights of the workers, although they are in the great majority, are ignored."

What shall be the edition of the big double number of The Herald, March 17, with all its special features designed to interest people in Socialism this year? That depends on how well the comrades and readers co-operate with us. We can make arrangements for printing a million copies, but must have orders in advance. Order a thousand copies for propaganda in your town.

## A Stunning Lie

The latest of the philosophers to discuss Truth is Mark Twain, who gives it as his idea that the greatest lie on record is Carlyle's "stunning lie" that "a lie shall not live."

The truest thing known to Mark Twain is "the universal conspiracy of the silent-assertion lie, is the support and confederate of all the tyrannies and shams and inequalities and unfairnesses that afflict the peoples," "a most majestic lie that the civilizations made it their sacred and anxious care to guard and watch and propagate."

Mark gives examples: "For instance," he says, "it would not be possible for a humane and intelligent person to invent a rational excuse for slavery; yet you will remember that in the early days of the emancipation agitation in the north the agitators got but small help or countenance from any one. Argue and plead and pray as they might, they could not break the universal stillness that reigned, from pulpit and press all the way down to the bottom of society—the clammy stillness created and maintained by the lie of silent assertion—the silent assertion that there wasn't anything going on in which humane and intelligent people were interested."

"From the beginning of the Dreyfus case to the end of it all France, except a couple of dozen moral paladins, lay under the smother of the silent-assertion lie that no wrong was being done to a persecuted and unoffending man. The like smother was over England lately, a good half of the population silently letting on that they were not aware that Mr. Chamberlain was trying to manufacture a war in South Africa, and was willing to pay fancy prices for the materials."

"Now here we have instances of three prominent ostensible civilizations working the silent-assertion lie. Could one find other instances in the three countries? I think so. Not so very many, perhaps, but say a billion—just so as to keep within bounds. Are those countries working that kind of lie, day in and day out, in thousands and thousands of varieties, without ever resting? Yes, we know that to be true. The universal conspiracy of the silent-assertion lie is hard at work always and everywhere, and always in the interest of a stupidity or a sham, never in the interest of a thing fine or respectable. It is the most timid and shabby of all lies? It seems to have the look of it. For ages and ages it has mutely labored in the interest of despotisms and aristocracies and chattel slaveries and military slaveries and religious slaveries, and has kept them alive; keeps them alive yet, here and there and yonder, all about the globe; and will go on keeping them alive until the silent-assertion lie retires from business—the silent assertion that nothing is going on which fair and intelligent men are aware of and are engaged by their duty to try to stop."

## MERLIN'S MIXTURE

### A Crisis.

There come times, in the lives of persons and of parties, when a word or an act decides the character of destiny. Fortune and Failure, in self-same apparel, and with features alike, present themselves before us. Future fate is dependent on the choice.

To such a time do we, as a party, now approach. The question of union with an organization similar in plan and purpose to our own comes up for settlement. It is the issue, just now, of paramount importance.

Upon its wise settlement much depends. A misstep just at this critical time in the progress of American socialism and of our branch of it, might cause incalculable harm. On the other hand, the wise welding of the kindred socialist forces into a united and harmonious whole would be of vast help to the movement.

Hence it is a question that calls for our most careful consideration and our most conscientious judgment.

### An Unbiased View.

It is imperative that we approach the matter with unbiased minds. From the circumstances of the case it is almost impossible for us not to be prejudiced, and to have conceptions of persons and things that hinder an unbiased opinion.

How often an old prejudice blinds one to a new truth! How often a little venom, like a speck of dust in the eye, obscures our vision of the right and best! How often a petty dislike of a person leads to the pettish rejection of the principle or party for which that person professedly stands!

And so in this matter of union we are in danger of being biased by sentiment on one side or by prejudice on the other. Who of us, on hearing that magic word "unite," is not moved to fling caution to the winds and exercise only an open-handed hospitality? And on the other hand, how many there are of us whose memories still involuntarily weave the thorns of unhappy association around the letters S. L. P.?

It is needful, therefore, to lay aside the rosy glasses of sentiment and the smoked glasses of prejudice, and to look, with keen, unobscured eyes at the problem presented.

### Socialism or Socialism?

One thing that must be done is to distinguish between socialism and socialistic. The failure to do this has resulted in many misconceptions and mistakes.

What I mean is this: Socialism is the mental product of an individual mind, arbitrarily applied to the social life of a nation. It is a system of industrial life that has been marked out by scientific rule and compass, without regard to human fault or change.

Socialism is the result of the gradual evolution of industry, fitting itself to the changes and the needs of man. It is the great principle of social justice slowly asserting itself in spite of capital's opposition and labor's apathy.

The one plans to banish winter by means of stoves, while the other simply waits the warm breath of summer.

The one marks out a path, and curses all who do not walk therein, while the other sees that myriad paths may lead toward the same goal.

The one is a magic formula for social health, locked in a party chest, while the other is a gradual outworking of a natural law.

### Our Cursed Conceit.

There was once an old Scotch lady whose mind was somewhat perturbed concerning the orthodoxy of her fellow members in the kirk. One day, while speaking of them, she exclaimed, emphatically, "There's nane o' them soand save the meenister and mesel," and I ha'e ma doots aboot him, ye ken!"

And there are Socialists, and Socialist parties, who constitute themselves the keepers of orthodoxy. In the words of Scripture, they say "I am the door. By me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved. Whoever climbeth in some other way, the same is a thief and a robber."

If they are to be believed, they are the divinely-appointed guardians of the only gate leading into the co-operative commonwealth, and every candidate for entrance must first pass under their rod.

Now it may be that we are not altogether free from that spirit. As a matter of fact, we are not. There are not a few of us who, considering the power and promise of our particular party, consider that we, and we alone, are the particular seed from which shall sprout the tree of national socialism.

In our eighteen months' life, we have not had time to develop many faults, and as we draw back our skirts from the de-

filament of those whose ragged dress proclaim a rougher road and a longer journey, some call it caution. Others call it conceit.

### Movements and Men.

Again we must remember that movements are infinitely larger than men. We are so apt to pin our faith to a leader, and regard him as the soul, head, and heart of the movement, and we degrade the movement and ourselves into subservient helplessness.

I stand upon the beach. The foremost wave rolls proudly in, and as it breaks, it groans, "There, the tide is defeated, for I am broken." Is it? Does not the tide roll irresistibly in, in spite of the broken waves in front?

And so the movement of socialism is not thwarted or retarded by the fall of a leader, or the change of a party. The form may alter but the fact and the force remain the same.

I have seen small bodies of Socialists mapping out, in their half-wisdom, a certain plan of action and prophesying universal doom if their dictum be not adopted. But the movement sweeps on, overturning their petty plans, and the predicted disaster does not appear.

And more, no single individual can stay a live movement. Some of us here in the east are afraid, in these unionist days, of a certain Eve getting into our political Eden and raising Cain.

But, by the gods, if we can be bested by a woman, then the sooner we dig our graves the better.

### A Plea for Peace.

Hence, in this matter of union, let us avoid being biased, let us not be overly self-righteous, let us recognize the unity of socialistic force, and face the problem with a dominant desire to adopt the course which seems to us best adapted to the present needs of the Socialist movement.

If it be possible to effect a satisfactory union with the non-conformist branch of the S. L. P., let every Social Democrat rejoice, and be ready to give the hand of welcome to our new allies. A union has advantages of marvelous merit, and it will be a matter for sincere thankfulness if it can wisely be effected.

Get rid of that damnable distrust of those who wear a badge different from your own. Sometimes I think that Socialists, in their revulsion of sentiment against the trusts, have adopted the principle of constant distrust.

And if, on the other hand, union be not deemed advisable at this present juncture, let us see that our chance for work is not impaired. Union or no union, we must forge ahead, agitate, educate, organize, elect, gathering the ever increasing converts of socialism into orderly ranks, preparatory to the future fight.

I do not here advise as to the matter of settlement of prejudice, and a willingness to fit oneself into new conditions for the continuance of the old fight.

## A NEW CONVERT

Dr. Blumhardt, a famous Protestant clergyman of Wurtemberg, Germany, has astounded the church and state by an open declaration in favor of Social Democracy. From his address, which has been published throughout Germany, we take the following:

"When I look at the present condition of the workingman, I much despair that civilization and Christianity have not yet produced better results. Through legislative enactments practically no substantial improvement of the condition of the poor has been or can be accomplished. I can see no way for permanent betterment except by an absolute reorganization of the social status of modern society. For many years it has been my conviction that no religion is worth anything that can not transform society and raise it to a higher and better level and make men happy here on earth. In this sense I understand the Scriptures, and in that sense I understand my Christ. And therefore I feel myself inwardly related to those people who are charged with aiming at a Utopia; I am their associate and one with them in spirit. May the time come when money shall not be the measure of all things and of all values, but the life and happiness of man shall become the chief thing."

"Let it not be regarded as astonishing that a man who confesses the Lord Jesus Christ acknowledges his agreement with the ideas of Social Democracy, with the poor working people of the land. For Christ Himself was of the lowly. He was crucified because He was a Socialist; twelve members of the proletariat were His apostles. People are mistaken when they think a man ceases to be a Christian when he joins the proletariat. Paul did the same thing. . . . It is impossible that the present condition of affairs should continue among the working people, and this change must be effected along the lines pointed out by Social Democracy."

Have your card inserted in the BRANCH DIRECTORY, 25 Cents per Month. It will help you in the work in your locality.

## SOCIAL DEMOCRACY A LIVING MOVEMENT

Great Gains Made by the Party at  
Erie, Pa., Results in Overthrow  
of the Republican Machine

## PROMISING OUTLOOK FOR NOVEMBER

As Usual the Capitalistic Press Undertakes  
to Suppress the News and  
Deceive the People

Five Hundred Votes for Socialism

[Special Report to The Herald.]  
Erie, Pa., Feb. 24, 1900.

From the returns filed in the prothonotary's office we furnish The Herald with the facts about the contest Tuesday that our city papers failed, through a tacit understanding, to give to their readers. This is one of the dirty tricks of capitalism—to keep anything from its readers that will tend to destroy their game of buncoing and deceiving the people. In the November election for the office of register and recorder there were polled 6,075 votes in the city. Of these Comrade Allen polled 197, or 3.2 per cent.

In the recent election there was polled 6,093 votes, of which the Social Democratic Party polled 485, or about 8 per cent, and the Socialist Labor Party, the De Leon faction, 60 votes, or 1 per cent. Thus, comrades and brothers, having polled 3 per cent last fall, in three months' time we have made the handsome, flattering and hopeful increase of 300 per cent at this election, when we polled over 9 per cent.

These men have voted and are with us to stay in the ranks of brotherhood—Socialism—to be no longer partisans but brothers indeed. Had a full vote been polled the Social Democratic Party would have polled 1,000 votes. Many a stay-at-home, democrat and republican, did not come to the polls for the reason they are reading and thinking as they have never read or thought before, and who will come in and help themselves and their brothers' interest by voting for the ticket this presidential year for a Socialist president.

Every man who voted the ticket should drop a letter to Walter H. Miller, 552 East Eighth street, the able and efficient city chairman, congratulating him upon the victory gained and pledging him their further support. Write him anyway; he wants to meet personally every man who voted the ticket. With the nucleus of 500 votes we can make it 5,000 votes this fall in the city. Now, comrades and brothers, do your duty and write him at once.

The daily papers have given you their side, so we will give you the side untold:

First Ward—  
Alley, Select Council—First district, 10; Second, 11; Third, 9; Fourth, 30; Fifth, 5. Total, 65.

Eisert, School Director—First district, 18; Second, 14; Third, 10; Fourth, 34; Fifth, 7. Total, 83.  
Socialist Labor ticket, 10.

Second Ward—  
O'Sullivan, Common Council—First district, 8; Second, 8; Third, 10; Fourth, 11; Fifth, 11; Sixth, 17; Seventh, 7; Eighth, 6. Total, 78.

Dummond, School Director—First district, 8; Second, 12; Third, 11; Fourth, 21; Fifth, 10; Sixth, 13; Seventh, 9; Eighth, 5. Total, 80.  
Socialist Labor ticket, highest vote, 28.

Third Ward—

Rappold, Select Council—First district, 13; Second, 1; Third, 9; Fourth, 8; Fifth, 7; Sixth, 12; Seventh, 20. Total, 70.

Reed, School Director—First district, 13; Second, 1; Third, 13; Fourth, 8; Fifth, 5; Sixth, 12; Seventh, 21. Total, 73.  
Social Labor ticket, 4.

Fourth Ward—  
Anderson, Common Council—First district, 21; Second, 1; Third, 12; Fourth, 48; Fifth, 4; Sixth, 5. Total, 91.

Donlin, Common Council—First district, 13; Second, 1; Third, 9; Fourth, 24; Fifth, 3; Sixth, 6. Total, 56.  
Willrich, School Director—First district, 22; Second, 1; Third, 12; Fourth, 11; Fifth, 4; Sixth, 11. Total, 91.  
No Social Labor ticket.

Fifth Ward—  
Blair, Select Council—First district, 8; Second, 14; Third, 4; Fourth, 14. Total, 40.

Benson, School Director—First district, 18; Second, 29; Third, 11; Fourth, 48. Total, 106.  
Socialist Labor ticket, 15.

Sixth Ward—  
Smith Common Council—First district, 9; Second, 4; Third, 17; Fourth, 7. Total, 37.

McLeod, Common Council—First district, 12; Second, 6; Third, 19; Fourth, 7. Total, 44.

Sauters, School Director—First district, 16; Second, 4; Third, 17; Fourth, 6. Total, 43.

Social Democratic Herald

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87 is the number of this paper. If the number on your wrapper is 88 your subscription expires with the next week's paper.

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, MAR. 3, 1900.

The double number of The Herald to be printed March 17 will be a good thing. Snap it up and start the national campaign right, by spreading the light among your friends and neighbors.

THE UNIVERSAL PROVIDER

The office of the great department store as a universal provider has seldom been more strikingly shown than in the recent application of an Iowa farmer to a store in Dubuque for a wife.

Do not forget or fail to order 100 or 500 copies of the big double number of The Herald to be printed March 17.

THE LOUD BILL PASSES

The readiness of the average American politician to assail the rights of the people with laws designed to curtail freedom of speech and dissemination of intelligence is well illustrated in the successful passage of what is known as the Loud bill.

For years there has been an opportunity for some patriotic statesman with a consuming desire to prove that the people are represented at Washington and have some influence there as well as corporation lobbyists.

It has never been a matter of surprise to those acquainted with the truth as to the exorbitant charges of the railroads for carrying mail, that the postoffice department has year after year shown a growing deficit in proportion to the amount of mail carried.

THE QUESTION OF UNION

The question of greatest immediate importance to all militant Socialists in the United States, and one in which a multitude of people as yet unaffiliated with any Socialist organization also have a lively and expectant interest.

published have been favorable to union. We make this statement at this time for the purpose of correcting a misunderstanding based upon a partial acquaintance with the facts, and because of what has appeared to The Herald as a studied effort on the part of prominent advocates of union to discredit, in advance of the Indianapolis convention, the motive of some of the comrades officially connected with the S. D. P.

There is not, there has never been at any time since the Rochester convention, the slightest doubt that the representatives of the S. L. P. to Indianapolis would be received in a fraternal spirit.

Delegates to the Indianapolis convention will go there imbued with one spirit and actuated by one motive—to do the best thing for the advance of socialism in this monopoly-ruled and capitalist-owned country.

NOTES AND COMMENT

The organization of the sash and door manufacturers of Chicago into a trust will effect the following savings in the operation of thirty-two establishments:

Total ..... \$696,382 And yet the anti-trust Bryanolators want to destroy trusts and go back to a system of enormous waste to preserve individual liberty and competition!

That middle-class reform organization, the American Anti-Trust League, through its president, M. L. Lockwood, proposes as "the most important remedy" for the deliverance of the people from the power of modern capitalism.

A week ago last Sunday the Chicago Tribune printed a special cable dispatch from Germany giving an account of Wagner's revolutionary ideas and banishment from his native country because he was considered a "dangerous character."

A most gratifying sign of the times is a distinct growth of interest in Socialism among trades unionists. This is strongly marked in the affiliation of members of trades unions with the Social Democratic Party.

The campaign at Erie, Pa., was short but decisive as to the fact that the Social Democratic party has made a notable advance in that city.

That Socialists do not always favor an advance in wages is shown by the fact that in Germany recently they opposed

an increase in the "allowance" of Emperor Bill. By the way, that word "allowance" is suggestive. The useful classes of society live on a bare pittance of a wage and "allow" crowned pigheads to revel in luxury.

What are you doing to help make the special edition of The Herald, March 17, a big success and a grand opening of the national campaign? Don't mind telling you—we think it will be a little the best issue of a Socialist paper ever printed in the United States.

Grandmother Hoar of Massachusetts, who has been making something of a reputation as an anti-imperialist, is anti nothing else—not even anti-Quay.

The call of the national democratic committee is for a convention of all "democratic-conservative - progressive-reform citizens." That is just what one might expect to emanate from an aggregation dominated by Tillman of South Carolina and Gorman of Maryland.

That class of reformers who today would crush out the trusts—were such a feat possible—would fifty years ago have crushed out the corporation, or a hundred years ago the partnership.

If whatever is useless is dangerous, the really dangerous people in this country today are the Bryanolators, who want to break down the machinery of modern production.

Every trade has its tricks which those inside know and those outside do not. The trade of capitalist politics, as it is played at Washington, no doubt has more tricks than any other.

What a miserable, stunted and contemptible life is that of the man who would rather be "respectable" than in revolt against a system which corrupts politics, morals and religion and destroys human beings for profit!

The cost of making a millionaire is thousands of paupers, drunkards, lunatics and tramps. But the price will have to be paid until the people learn better—that is, until they learn Socialism.

Mark Hanna, who uses the government for his own purposes, is a patriot. But the fellows who want government used in behalf of everybody are traitors. It's a funny world!

When there is a slump in stocks and somebody makes a million the fact is heralded through the land. But what happens to the other fellow is seldom reported.

The starchmakers of the country have planned a trust with a capital of \$25,000,000. One of the results will undoubtedly be a stiffening of prices.

Position of the Laborer

Nearly every problem of state policy and economy, as at present understood and practiced, consists in some device for persuading you laborers to go and dig up dinner for us reflective and aesthetic persons, who like to sit still and think and admire.

There is, first, the clerical person, whom the peasant pays in turnips for giving him moral advice; then the legal person, whom the peasant pays in turnips for telling him, in black letter, that his house is his own; there is, thirdly, the courtly person, whom the peasant pays in turnips for presenting a celestial appearance to him; there is, fourthly, the literary person, whom the peasant pays in turnips for talking daintily to him; and there is, lastly, the military person, whom the peasant pays in turnips for standing, with cocked hat on, in the middle of the field, and exercising a moral influence upon the neighbors.—John Ruskin.

The Herald Leaflets are good for propaganda at 25 cents per hundred copies.

NO HOPE IS LEFT FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS

From the Address of Governor Lee of South Dakota at the Anti-Trust Meeting

We may legislate against private monopoly till doomsday, but so long as we do not deprive these institutions of their ownership of the means of production and distribution, we need entertain no hope that they will cease to torment us, for experience has shown that they thrive under hostile legislation.

How are the details to be arranged? I do not propose to go into that. No system ever had a fixed line of unchangeable details. Fit details will be supplied as the requirements of the system dictate.

These propositions are met with the rejoinder that "this is socialism." Granted. That does not disprove, but rather confirms its truth. The trust is socialistic. It is private socialism. It is unregulated socialism—run for the few at the expense of the many.

These changes are not within the limit of an ordinary day's work. The conversion of production for private profit to production for the general welfare cannot be brought about till the Trust of Trusts—the all-absorbing, all-dominating, all-owning monopolist has taken possession of the country and forced the people, in self-defense, to expel, as this monopolist has in turn expelled from commercial existence all with whom he has been at war.

THE TRUSTS INEVITABLE

It seems to me that the proof that trusts are inevitable as a protection against the rising flood of capital is simply overwhelming both in theory and in fact.

It seems most palpable that every industry in this country must in time fall into the power of the trust. The trust with its enormous capital not only gives our domestic capitalists better opportunities for competition with foreigners in foreign neutral markets but it is itself by damming up the old and natural domestic channels for investment actually

forcing itself to cut out new channels for its overflow.

It is impossible to dam up all the mouths of the Mississippi, no matter how high the dams. A flowing river must find the ocean somehow, and if not by one channel then by another.

It will, however, be a flank movement rather than a frontal attack that will finally dislodge the captains from their fortress. The trust is not only a protection against undue competition, but it is a labor saving device of the highest possible efficiency.

Capital will in vain seek profitable investment. Interest which is determined by the amount of gain received by the last amount borrowed will fall to zero and still money will remain unlent in the banker's hands.

WHAT THE EDITORS SAY

(The Clarion, London, Eng.) For all the danger and anxiety of the present time, no one can complain that this life is not interesting. Indeed, but for the grief, suffering and anxiety of those whom the war hits hardest—the friends and relations of those who have given their lives, or are even now risking them, in the service of their country—the present grave situation would not only be interesting but actually amusing.

(Justice, London, Eng.) "Out of evil cometh good" and one good thing this infamous war has at least done. It has demonstrated the soundness, from every point of view, of the Socialist demand for the armed nation as against a standing army.

(Midland Mechanic.) If the bosses increase wages 10 per cent in "good times" and decrease them 20 per cent in hard times, how long will it take us to find out where we are at?

CALL TO ACTION

ORGANIZE FOR 1900

There are few communities in this country today without one to a dozen Socialists who are not affiliated with a Socialist organization.

WHAT THEY CAN DO: The Declaration of Principles and Political Demands of this party will be found in this paper; read it and you will see that the party is a UNCOMPROMISING Socialist organization, recognized as such in the International movement for Socialism.

HOW ORGANIZED: The Social Democratic Party is now organized in more than half the States; it consists of Local Branches, State Unions and a National Council.

PROPAGANDA FUND: Appeal to Reason..... Kansas..... \$1.00; Y. Jones..... Indiana..... .50; Branch No. 9, Milwaukee..... Wisconsin..... .50



THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN WISCONSIN

By G. R. Gordon.

That the reader may better understand the Social Democratic movement of this state it is necessary to take a glance at the events leading up to the formation of the S. D. P.

As early as 1875 the first (German) daily paper was started in Milwaukee, called The Socialist. The paper was somewhat of a Lassalian organ and existed only a little over one year.

In 1882 the Milwaukee Arbeiter-Zeitung, the predecessor of the present Voerwaerts, was started. This paper gave great aid to the then young Socialist movement.

Four years later, during the palmy days of the Knights of Labor, and the great eight-hour agitation, the Socialist forces united with the Knights and a tremendous struggle ensued, culminating in the terrible riots in which several workmen were shot to death by the militia, 2,000 troops being brought to this city.

It has been charged that Mr. Robert Schilling, the present fusion populist leader, was largely responsible for their imprisonment. For one year the Socialists worked with the Union Labor Party, but found to their sorrow that this party in this state was not even a reform party.

The situation today is most favorable. At the recent city convention, attended by 147 delegates, 67 being from the trade unions and 3 from the S. L. P., an exceptionally strong ticket headed by Comrade F. F. Heath was nominated with great enthusiasm.

In the weekly Waerheit and Voerwaerts we have two of the strongest and most able papers edited by as hard and self-sacrificing worker as the socialist movement contains, Victor L. Berger.

In Sheboygan we have the weekly Volksblatt, ably edited by Comrade Oscar Loebel, and last, but we hope not to be the least, the Milwaukee Social Democrat.

With such comrades as Heath, Tuttle, Meister, Berger, Forman, Arnold, Rahfeld, Flamm, Rooney, Hunger, Doerfler, Richter, Brown, Blodgett Seidel, Bauer, Sheehan, Brockhausen, Timm and many others in Milwaukee, and Comrades Mohr, Loebel, Henry Luther, Wm. Manzke, Henschel, Jas. Geitz and others in Sheboygan, and right here I wish to say that we have a very strong movement in the furniture city.

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Early in the summer of '93 an alliance was formed by the Socialists, the trade unions and the People's party, and at a convention with equal representation a ticket was nominated called the "Co-operative Ticket," which polled 3,600 in Milwaukee.

The great A. R. U. strike had the active support of the society. At the People's Party convention in 1894 the society and trades unions united and presented a state socialist platform.

The Socialists refusing to compromise, almost a bolt took place. The Populists convention, being frightened at the bold stand of the Socialists, voted to adopt the full program of the radicals, including the famous plank 10.

This platform was attached to the National P. P. platform and fitted it about like a pair of eye glasses on a pig. However this alliance produced some good results, as it brought to the real Socialist movement many earnest and active workers out of the ranks of the P. P.

At St. Louis Delegate Berger was very active for the nomination of Debs for president. The latter, however, declined to be a candidate. Upon his return to Milwaukee and report of the convention, efforts were made by Comrade Berger and others to organize a new socialist party, and with this idea in view, a correspondence was opened up with many leading men like Debs, Jesse Cox, H. D. Lloyd and others.

memorable and now historic convention of the A. R. U., held in Chicago, in June, 1897, the Social Democratic Society was represented by Comrades V. L. Berger and F. F. Heath.

The Federated Trades Council of Milwaukee endorsed the action of the A. R. U. convention and invited Comrade Debs to visit Milwaukee. Nowhere in this nation has Eugene V. Debs had so large and enthusiastic meetings as in Milwaukee.

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of international influence because of their control of finance. The only interest these men have in South Africa is purely economic; they do not reside there, nor are they likely to become citizens; they went there for money, and those who came early and made most have commonly withdrawn their persons, leaving their economic fangs in the carcass of their prey.

THE PLATFORM

The Social Democratic Party of America declares that life, liberty and happiness for every man woman and child are conditioned upon equal political and economic rights.

That the private ownership of the means of production and distribution of wealth has caused society to split into two distinct classes, with conflicting interests, the small possessing class of capitalists or exploiters of the labor force of others and the ever-increasing large dispossessed class of wage-workers who are deprived of the socially-due share of their product.

That capitalism, the private ownership of the means of production, is responsible for the insecurity of subsistence, the poverty, misery and degradation of the ever-growing majority of our people.

That the same economic forces which have produced and now intensify the capitalist system, will in the end bring about the collective ownership of the means of production for the common good and welfare, or result in the destruction of civilization.

That the present economic and independent political action are the chief emancipating factors of the working class, the one representing its economic, the other its political independence, and that both must cooperate to abolish the capitalist system of production and distribution.

Therefore, the Social Democratic Party of America declares its objective to be the establishment of a system of co-operative production and distribution through the restoration to the people of all the means of production and distribution to be administered by organized society in the interest of the whole people, and the complete emancipation of society from the domination of capitalism.

That the working-people and all those in sympathy with their historical mission to realize a higher civilization should sever connection with all capitalist and reform parties and unite with the Social Democratic Party of America.

The Social Democratic Party of America declares that the complete abolition of the Social Democratic Party will be tantamount to the abolition of capitalism and of all class rule.

The solidarity of labor connecting us with millions of our fellow-workers throughout the civilized world will lead to international socialism, the brotherhood of man.

As steps in this direction, we make the following demands:

1. Revision of our antiquated Federal Constitution, in order to remove the obstacles to full and complete control of government by all the people.

2. The public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines.

3. The public ownership of all railroads, telegraphic lines, and means of transportation, communication, water-works, gas and electric plants, and other public utilities.

4. The public ownership of all gold, silver, copper, iron, coal and all other mines; also of all oil and gas wells.

5. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production.

NATIONAL FUND

The following is a list of comrades who have agreed, in response to the appeal of the National Executive Board, to contribute monthly for one year to the national fund. Other names will be added as they are received.

- CONNECTICUT: Finesilver, N.H., Hartford; Holman, B., Hartford; ILLINOIS: Stedman, S., Chicago; Jesse Cox, Chicago; P. Ayer, Chicago; "A Friend", Chicago; Dr. J. H. Groer, Chicago; Mrs. C. Brown, Chicago; "Friend", Chicago; James Wright, Chicago; INDIANA: E. V. Debs, Terre Haute; MASSACHUSETTS: Flanders, P. B., Haverhill; Cohen, A., Boston; Parker, Levi, W., Newton; Monette, G., Brockton; Bosworth, W. P., Brockton; Tate, Peter, Everett; Hitchcock, D. G., Warren; Goldman, S., Haverhill; Hough, E., W. Newton; Chase, Jno. C., Haverhill; Brown, J. W., Templeton; Grieve, C. S., Amesbury; Allen, Helen N., Lynn; Keown, Dr. J. A., Lynn; Carey, Jas. F., Haverhill; MICHIGAN: Keliher, S., Grand Rapids; MINNESOTA: Geeswein, F., Red Lake Falls; MISSOURI: Fischer, Wm., St. Louis; Fellner, Henry, St. Louis; Ruesche, Wm., St. Louis; MARYLAND: Jacobson, E., Baltimore; NEW HAMPSHIRE: Gordon, F. R., Manchester; Allen, Helen N., Lynn; Mellen, C. H., Somersworth; Somersworth Branch; NEW YORK: Fales, L. C., Bensonhurst; Abbott, L. D., New York; Butcher, Wm., Brooklyn; Thomas, E. H., New York; Kohn, Arthur, New York; Heis, F. W., New York; Loupolov, Jas., New York; Fankner, J., New York; Weyall, Chas., New York; Mark Raphael, New York; Aaron N. Sodofs, New York; Philip Gruber, New York; Meade, T. F., Brooklyn; NEW JERSEY: Pankopf, Carl, Jersey City; Karl Lindner, Paterson; "Comrade", Newark; OHIO: Beovar, Jos., Cincinnati; Rezn, Julius, Cincinnati; Braun, F., Cincinnati; Altenebend, C., Cincinnati; PENNSYLVANIA: Lewis, J. E., Pittsburg; F. W. Hirt, Erie; TENNESSEE: Enloe, Dr. B. H., Nashville; Hamilton, W. A., Nashville; Mahoney, Wm., Nashville; TEXAS: Price, R. S., Houston; WISCONSIN: Berger, V. L., Milwaukee; Rooney, E. H., Milwaukee; Ziegler, E., Milwaukee; Doerfler, John, Milwaukee; Baumann, G., Milwaukee; Arnold, L., Milwaukee; Meiser, R., Milwaukee; Humann, C., Milwaukee; Tuttle, H., Milwaukee; Heath, F., Milwaukee; Branch, F., Milwaukee;

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