





SOCIALIST TRADE & LABOR ALLIANCE.

Address Delivered by Oscar Seldel, of the Textile Alliance of Philadelphia, Before His Organization, April 6, 1899.

It cannot be denied, that, without the organization of trade unions, the condition of the working class would be still worse than it is now.

endeavor to convince union members of the fact, that the capitalistic parties or middle class reformers will never help to release working people from the continuous fight for wages, we are debarred by these labor leaders with the cry: "No politics in unions."

When we advocate Socialist tactics in trade unions, we are told this will split the organization. Discussions raised through Republican or Democratic policies don't bother them.

Now let us proceed to the main point; let us consider whether the formation of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance was advisable or not.

It is said, we should remain in the old conservative unions; to teach Socialism, despite the opposition of labor fakirs or indifferent members.

When the laboring people are once convinced that Socialism means emancipation of wage slavery and destitution, the labor movement of America will become more vigorous and progressive than now.

The continuous fight, year after year, for a few cents of wages, the impossibility of keeping the unemployed from taking the place of those who strike for better wages, or against a reduction of wages, make most of our fellow-workers disgusted and careless.

These labor leaders know very well the cause of our sufferings, but they oppose the Socialist Labor party because it may take years until we gain our purpose.

The organization of the "great A. F. of L." gives another illustration. Review the conventions of this body.

It may be said that the last convention of the A. F. of L. showed a great tendency toward Socialism. Granted, for the sake of argument. But what does this mean?

What we could not gain by working inside of the conservative unions, shall be accomplished by forming independent Alliances based on Socialistic principles.

In the Alliances we shall not be debarred from discussing the social question in all its details, and we shall be enabled to teach our fellow-workers the cause of all the ills resulting from the capitalistic system of society.

It is claimed that our elected representatives may also become corrupt when in office, but it can be stated that this will not occur frequently.

The old trade unions are merely relief organizations in the present society. They help to assist their members in casualties resulting from the wrong system of the present society.

To THE PEOPLE.—I enclose you copy of two letters sent to E. G. Dietzgen, of Chicago, Ill., which we would like to have published in THE PEOPLE.

A list of our Branch officers was published a few weeks ago and the addresses of the Branches and Section Committees, prepared by the Branch Financial Secretary received per express a package of "Leze Majeste" articles.

"By order of Central Branch No. 2, Section Baltimore, Md., March 19, 1899.

"Mr. E. G. Dietzgen, Chicago, Ill. "Sir:—Central Branch No. 2, Section Baltimore, S. L. P., is in receipt of ten copies of a manuscript entitled "Leze Majeste," alleged to be hurriedly written by you.

"By order of Central Branch No. 2, Section Baltimore, Md., March 19, 1899.

"Mr. E. G. Dietzgen, Chicago, Ill. "Sir:—The 19th Ward Branch, Section Baltimore, S. L. P., instructs me to return the ten copies of "Leze Majeste," expressed to me for the Branch, and to say to you that we understand your contemptible, infamous and dastardly purpose thoroughly, and have no use for either you or your books.

"By order of 19th Ward Branch, Section Baltimore, S. L. P. "WILHELM LOSSE, Fla. Secretary."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

Important on the Strike of the Alliance Glass Workers.

To THE PEOPLE.—The strike of the S. T. & L. A. had on hand among the glass workers is ended; it resulted in the manufacturers agreeing to the new, the employers' demands, but no raise in wages; and they also agree to recognize the organization of the men, that is the S. T. & L. A., which has become a factor in the labor movement here.

This class of employees in the window glass factories never were organized, as they were unskilled, and the skilled workers, the blowers, finers and cutters, who have been organized in the pure and simple trades union, never encouraged the unskilled men.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 4.

On the May Day PEOPLE.

To THE PEOPLE.—The American Branch of Section Buffalo, S. L. P., have resolved to raise a subscription list for the May Day edition of THE PEOPLE, so as to enable every comrade who desires to do something for the movement in the way of agitation to do so by subscribing to the list for as many copies as he may desire at half a cent each.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 7.

Three Out of a Bunch.

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and wording it could not have been better served. We would not miss a word from it. We are here amply supplied with the pamphlet. Our comrades should carefully preserve their copies. They will be interesting reading, eventually, if not sooner.—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

Imported Free-Socialists.

To THE PEOPLE.—An illustration of the kind of "English Socialists" that come here and seek to lead the public, was recently experienced in this city. It should be observed, that the Fabian Socialists are looked upon as the most conspicuous of the different complexions of Socialists in England.

John W. Martin, Secretary of the London Fabians, was recently brought over to this country by the New York Fabians. The other night he lectured in the club before the "Social Settlement," and the Municipal Reform Club, whose common object is to endorse the best candidates on both the Democratic and Republican tickets.

At the close of his lecture, Comrade Davis asked the Martin several questions. Some times a lawyer, in cross examining a witness, will receive such an entirely different answer than he anticipated, that it will destroy all the evidence that he had brought before the court.

St. Louis, Mo., April 8.

Agitating in Vernon.

To THE PEOPLE.—Comrade Martha Moore Avery addressed, end of last month, the most successful meeting ever held in the history of the movement in this locality. At a social meeting, was called to order and Comrade Avery proceeded with her lecture "Capital, Capitalist, Capitalism," carefully and scientifically analyzing her subject in a plain, concise manner.

At Barré, Comrade Avery closed a course of three lectures Tuesday evening, March 28. The meetings were well attended, and great interest was manifested by those present.

Rutland, Vt., April 10.

LETTER BOX.

Off-hand Answers to Correspondents.

[No questions will be considered that come in anonymous letters. All letters must carry a bona fide signature and address.]

N. E. DEL., BUFFALO, N. Y.—Your proposition is an impossibility. The S. L. P. will never get into powers over night, so it is useless to propose will be the candidate in the East yet. We here believe it is a scheme to take advantage of the S. L. P. growth in the West where so many new members are being added to the ranks.

J. S. K. JR., RICHMOND, VA.—We know of no book that gives a detailed account of Socialist control of the United States.

W. T. T., NEW YORK, N. Y.—The author of the "Volkszeitung" article against the Party policy on Trades Unionism was Julius Gramig, the gentleman, when some time ago he being the Editor of the "Volkszeitung" was asked by the paper's Board of Directors to join the Party.

C. E. S., WESTFIELD, MASS.—The plutocracy is a part of the capitalist class. The plutocrats are the rich, the owners, the parasites upon the "Haute Finance,"—the parasites upon the parasite; it is the

highest sublimation of capitalism. Therefore, to say that "the middle class, or the working class, or both are fleeced by the plutocracy" would mean, or imply, that they are fleeced only by a portion of the capitalist class;—and is an error. The fleecing is done by the whole capitalist class. Strictly and generally speaking, the middle class is a part of the capitalist class; but it is ground down by the upper capitalist class plus the plutocracy. The wording in THE PEOPLE was correct; in the original was defective for the reason above given.

A. M. S., CHICAGO, ILL.—If it can not be, then some other time.

W. H. C., SOUTH BOSTON, MASS.—We hold that it is essential to the definition of "class-consciousness" when applied to an individual that he, not only understood his class, but also the nature of the social UNDERSTANDING. To say of a capitalist, who thoroughly understands his class interests but who, by either moral or intellectual defects, fails to understand the class, acts in opposition to the class-consciousness of the proletariat, would, therefore, be an act of class-unconsciousness, the class-consciousness being suppressed by ignorance or decency.

A. R. B., LONDON, ONT.—The columns of THE PEOPLE are open to contributions that some way or other aid in the understanding of the Social Question.

W. H. NEW HAVEN, CONN.—The "Volkszeitung" article of last week, of \$1,500,000,000 of taxes imposed by the late Congress; this amount, it says, falls upon the whole people, each man, woman and child having to bear his share; that share is computed at \$100.00 per year for the average man, woman and child that means an average of at least \$100 of taxes upon every workman's family, thus reducing the purchasing capacity of the family to one-third of what it was a year ago.

"CONSTANT READER," PASCOGA, R. I.—The property that the Co-operative Commonwealth demands collective ownership in is all that machinery of production and distribution that the nation needs to produce and distribute goods to it. It is senseless to try to draw up an inventory of the several items. You can settle the point each time for yourself. If any subject occurs to you, please state it, and we will know whether it is comprised in the machinery of production and distribution that should be held collectively, then just put this question in brackets after the word "production and distribution." If you find it is, stick it on the list; if you find it is not, you can safely leave it off.

P. K. CHICAGO, ILL.—That is a question that you should address to the N. E. C. S. J. HARTFORD, CONN.—Guess your adverse critic had the best of it. There is no necessity of flying into a rage if a popular notice is harmful. If it is, the Socialist must fight and seek to break it down; if it is innocent, why let it go. Never forget that, whatever his substance, a man is a man, and Jefferson did give to the world in a moment of noble enthusiasm, that monumental document—the Declaration of Independence.

A. L. NEWBURG, N. Y.—The income tax plank of the S. L. P. platform is not a tax reform measure, but a measure to strip the hands of the exploiters. See the Party's Municipal Programme. The question suggestedly aids in elucidating Socialist economics and expose vulgar bourgeois notions. Should it take the hint and treat the matter in full.

"YOUNGSTER," LOUISVILLE, KY.—The vote polled by the so-called "Social Democratic party" last November was: New Hampshire ..... 300 Wisconsin ..... 2,000 Massachusetts ..... 1,700 New York (4th A. D.) ..... 272 New York (8th A. D.) ..... 104 New York (12th A. D.) ..... 104 Total ..... 5,380

That was the party that was to poll right away in one city alone, more votes than the S. L. P. all over the country.

D. K. PHILADELPHIA, PA.—Communicate with W. L. Brower, National Secretary, S. T. & L. A., 123 N. 2nd St., Philadelphia, and specify what literature you want.

F. H. S., NEW HAVEN, CONN.—You may have your Tuesday morning; generally that would not be too late; this month it is; owing to the necessity of pushing on to get time for the May Day issue, there was no longer space available for the platform.

J. D. W., CHICAGO, ILL.—Have no more information about the so-called split in the Social Democracy of Germany than you have gathered from the press dispatches. Considering, however, the effect of the German Social Democracy was placed in a somewhat peculiar position due to the large number of radical bourgeois who are driven into its ranks by reason of there being no other political party that they could go to; considering all these circumstances, a "split" may not be unlikely, but it would be of the nature of a clearing up, all the better for the movement. However that may be, what is going on there is a vindication of the "narrowness" of the S. L. P. While America is the youngest of nations, it is not the least the oldest. As Europe is learning much from America in other respects, the development of capitalism in Europe, coming later and slower than it does here, is a lesson to be learned from the S. L. P. in America. It deserves their careful study.

General Agitation Fund. Balance over \$1,000 of first series..... \$2.51 Ill. State Com. per T. A. Hickey..... 15.00 Total..... \$17.51

Press Fund for the Workers Republic, Dublin, Ireland. Previously acknowledged..... \$54.80 Section N. Y., 20th A. D., per P. Campbell on list 5..... 1.50 Section N. Y., 15th and 16th A. D., per B. O. Cook on list 9..... 1.95 Total..... \$58.25

SECTION GREATER NEW YORK, S. L. P.

RESULT OF GENERAL VOTE ON THE CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FOR NATIONAL SECRETARY IN THE VARIOUS SUBDIVISIONS OF THE ABOVE SECTION.

Table with columns for New York and Brooklyn subdivisions, listing candidates and their respective vote counts. Includes names like Henry Kuhn, Emil F. Kirchner, Jr., and various district names.

For the General Committee, L. ABELSON, Organizer.

Advertisement for 'The People' newspaper, including contact information for the New York City office and subscription rates.

Advertisement for 'Trades' and Societies' Calendar, listing various social events and meetings.

Advertisement for 'Grand Spring Festival' and 'Progressive Workingmen's Societies' at EBLINC'S CASINO.

Advertisement for 'West Side Agitation Committee' and 'Socialist Educational Club'.

Advertisement for 'First Annual Concert & Ball' and 'Socialist Band, N. Y.'.

Advertisement for 'Daily People Conference' on Sunday, April 23rd, 1899.

Advertisement for 'Regular Meeting' of the Section Philadelphia at Labor Lyceum.

Advertisement for 'H. B. Salisbury, Counselor at Law'.

Advertisement for 'Dr. C. L. Furman, Dentist'.

Advertisement for 'Jacob Herrlich & Bro., Undertakers & Embalmers'.

Advertisement for 'The Toosin' Socialist Labor Party publication.

Advertisement for 'I Would Like to Know Some Thing About Socialism'.

Advertisement for 'Empire City Lodge (Machinists)' and 'Musical Protective Alliance'.

Advertisement for 'Socialist Science Club, S. L. P.'.

Advertisement for 'Skandinavian Section, S. L. P.'.

Advertisement for 'Waiters' Alliance "Liberty"'.

Advertisement for 'Arbeiter-Kranken- und Sterbe-Kasse fuer die Ver. Staaten von Amerika'.

Advertisement for 'Workmen's Furniture Fire Insurance'.

Advertisement for 'Brooklyn Labor Lyceum'.

Advertisement for 'John Oehler's Steam'.

Advertisement for 'Morris Hillquit, Attorney at Law'.

OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, 154 William Street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain Street, Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Executive Committee—Secretary George Moore, 61 Ryde Street, Montreal.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY—147 East 23rd Street, New York City.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Meeting of April 11, with L. Santal in the chair. All were present. The financial report for the week ending April 8 showed receipts of \$289.45 and disbursements of \$28.00.

Connecticut.

NEW HAVEN.—The S. L. P. has issued a straight-goods platform and placed upon it the following leading candidates:

Massachusetts.

LAWRENCE.—Branch 2, Section Lawrence, S. L. P., will hold a regular meeting at the headquarters, Central Building, on Sunday, April 23, 1899.

Virginia.

The May Day Celebration of Section Richmond, S. L. P., will be held in Springfield, Va., on May 1st, 1899.

Municipal Election Returns.

Brooklyn: 18th and 14th A. D.'s, Br. 2, Fred. O. Bisang, 20th A. D., Henry Kuhn in place of Eber Forbes.

ADAMS, Mass.—At the municipal election, the 3d instant, the S. L. P. participated for the first time.

CANTON, Ohio.—Following is the vote cast for S. L. P. candidates at the late municipal election.

JERSEY CITY, N. J.—Four Wards, spring election 1898, 313 votes; same Wards, spring election 1899, 455 votes.

HOBOKEN, N. J.—Spring election 1898, 115 votes; spring election 1899, 142 votes.

PATERSON, N. J.—We have increased our vote over last fall.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The translation into German of "What Means This Strike?" is considered inadvisable.

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Sign-Posts.

At the last meeting of the "Volkszeitung" Publishing Association several things happened that should be brought to the notice of the party membership.

In the first place, the Association carried out its theory of its being the superior and the Party the inferior body.

The committee must have entertained some misgivings upon the propriety of their conduct.

Finally, Justus Schwab moved that the salaries of the Editors of THE PEOPLE and the "Vorwaerts" be reduced to one quarter.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that some time ago ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages.

A third 5,000 edition of the pamphlet "What Means This Strike?" is now out.

Socialist Labor Party, Section New York.

Social Gathering and Dance, to Celebrate International Labor Day, at Webster Hall, 110 E. 11th St., betw. 3d & 4th Aves.

Monday, May 1st, 1899, COMMENCING AT 9 P. M. TICKET, 10 CENTS.

Music by the Musical Protective Alliance, L. A. 1028, S. T. & L. A.

The proceeds of this affair will go to the Campaign Fund of the S. L. P.

THE PEOPLE LIBRARY, 100 E. 11th St., New York.

SOCIALIST ALMANAC, THE NORTHWESTERN ADVOCATE OF THE Socialist Labor Party.

THE TOOSIN, The Northwestern Advocate of the Socialist Labor Party.

I Would Like to Know Some Thing About SOCIALISM AND THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH.

THE CLASS-STRUGGLE, Published weekly at 117 Turk St., San Francisco, Cal.

MORRIS HILLQUIT, Attorney at Law, 800 Broadway, Telephone 1717.

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