







BACK OF THE FEAST.

By R. M. Sheridan.

From recently published interviews: "When I can't attend to both public and private business I'll quit the public's business."—Mark Hanna.

"My street cars are my savings banks."—Mark Hanna. "With parenthetical comment I reproduce an editorial of the 'Cleveland Press':

"It took nearly half an hour to raise the Lorain street car" (one of Mark Hanna's savings banks). "That ran over and killed little nine-year-old Eddie Somers and to release the body."

"What's that you tender-hearted one? You say it does make a difference—that children are dearer than life to some? Well, sometimes we don't act as though it made any difference. The great body of the public doesn't seem to care.

What is it that is not necessary—that there is no excuse for? Is it the killing and grinding out of the lives of little children by the avaricious "economy" of railway corporations that save expense and swell profits by overworking motormen and endangering life? Oh, bless you, no! What is it, then, that the editorial pen protests against and arraigns? It is the horrifying spectacle of a dying child planned to the metal rails and stony pavement under the wheels of one of Mark Hanna's street-car-savings-banks for a WHOLE HALF HOUR.

AS TO TACTICS.

By A. M. Simons.

A political party which is at the same time the advance guard of a revolutionary army, the representative of a special social class, and the preacher of a new social philosophy, must often find itself confronted with the question of tactics.

These problems of tactics have recently become particularly pressing in the municipal field. While success was still far in the future the party was necessarily almost exclusively a propagandist society.

Another favorite war cry of this wing is the right of labor to its entire product, a position also distinctly anti-Marxian which rests upon the theory of bourgeois abolitionism in the coming society.

There are two attitudes which because of their extreme character and the vociferousness with which they have been urged have attracted much more attention than they have really deserved. One of these is that occupied by the so-called "opportunists."

This school seeks to obtain advances through compromises with capitalism. It seeks favors by begging, by all-ances and by fusion. It generally considers Socialism only as a collectivist scheme realizable by successive steps transferring industry to governmental power.

It is in answer to this position it has been shown over and over again that when the class organization can be secured in the best of circumstances, temporary advances the whole revolutionary character of the movement is destroyed and the reform desired is gained after an endeavor only a little less than would have been necessary to secure complete proletarian domination.

ONCE MEN ARE ELECTED, HOWEVER, THEY ARE COMPELLED TO TAKE ACTION UPON A HOST OF MATTERS.

By A. M. Simons.

Once men are elected, however, they are compelled to take action upon a host of matters. If there is no definite official program mistakes or worse are made. If a committee is appointed to assist in the guidance of such an official, neither the man elected nor the committee have any official program by which to guide their action.

In the municipal field, success was still far in the future the party was necessarily almost exclusively a propagandist society. In pointing out this position, however, I hope that no one will be foolish enough to think that I do not recognize the other equally important fact, which will constitute the motive to unrest and action.

Specialists who never look beyond their own domain are apt to see things out of their true proportion. And yet we trust the specialist in his own domain to a much greater degree than the general practitioner.

Some men have a special faculty for making their fellow worker realize his bad condition; they, as agitators, can bring him to see the wrong he is suffering from the present system of wage-slavery.

Granting that, there are men who are naturally employed to demonstrate the science of Socialism, will educate the workers thoroughly, and when Socialist leagues and debating societies procure real specialists instead of freak exponents of all sorts of "isms" as their lecturers to instruct the open minds of the young people.

RESULT IN GERMANY.

Strength of Parties in Old and New Reichstag—English Socialist's View of the Meaning of Our Great Gain.

Table with 2 columns: Parties, 1903. 1908. Includes Social Democrats (106 101), Free Conservatives (29 10), National Liberals (53 52), etc.

The popular vote of the principal parties, according to final reports, was as follows: Social Democrats, 3,025,103; Center (Clericals), 1,833,707; National Liberals, 1,243,353; Conservatives, 909,714; Richter Radicals (Freisinnige Volkspartei), 523,505; Barth Radicals (Freisinnige Vereinigung), 241,118; Antisemites, 244,587.

The Social Democrats gained 600,000 votes and 23 representatives. The Center lost 400,000 votes and lost 5 representatives, though still holding more than its proportional share of seats in the Reichstag.

"Specialists who never look beyond their own domain are apt to see things out of their true proportion. And yet we trust the specialist in his own domain to a much greater degree than the general practitioner.

"If you get a bundle of sample copies of The Worker, you will understand that you are requested to distribute them among your fellow workers."

STATE SECRETARY WHITE'S APPRECIATION.

Here is what Dan A. White, State Secretary of the Socialist Party of Massachusetts, says of the usefulness of this paper:

To the Editor of The Worker. Dear Comrade—I feel it my duty to say a word in appreciation of your valuable paper. I realize that each of the Socialist papers is doing a grand work in its way for the cause, but I feel that The Worker should be in the hands of every member of the party news is, in my mind, indispensable, and the clear-cut able editorials in defense of Socialism should be read by everyone interested in the cause.

All Comrades and Organizations are hereby informed that an Industrial Labor Exposition and Food Show for the benefit of the Labor Press, 'THE WORKER' and the 'NEW YORKER VOLKSZEITUNG', is being arranged, and will take place April 23 to May 8, 1904, at the GRAND CENTRAL PALACE, Forty-third and Forty-fourth Streets, New York.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

Organizations are requested to consider arranging Festivals Accordingly.

National Platform of the Socialist Party.

[Note.—In New York and Wisconsin this party is officially recognized as — the name of the National Socialist Party.]

The Socialist Party of America in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class and those who sympathize with it, into a political party, with the object of securing the political power of government and using them for the purpose of securing the social system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism. The class struggle will continue, and will be active force in bringing about this new and better system.

IMMEDIATE DEMANDS. We declare that the development of economic conditions is leading to the overthrow of the capitalist system, and we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to Socialism also depends upon the progress of development reached by the proletariat.

The public ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts, and combinations. No other means of such industries to be applied to the reduction of taxes on property of the capitalist class, but to apply wholly to the improvement of the service and diminishing the rates to the consumers.

Every Socialist who has not already done so should read Liebknecht's pamphlet, 'No Compromise, No Political Trading.' Written with especial reference to the appearance of certain arguments apply with equal force to the movement in the United States. It can be had of the Socialist Literature Company, 164 William Street, New York City. Price, 10 cents.