ONE CENT.

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EDITORIAL

TOO GOOD TO KEEP.

By DANIEL DE LEON

SEALED wrapper, bearing a 2-cent stamp and the postmark "Madison Sq. Sta. N.Y. Dec. 2. 5.30 P.M. 1911," brought to this office on the 3rd of this month a "story," the whole or part of which this office was informed it was free to use "on or after Dec. 7." The story is too good to keep until the 7th. Let our readers enjoy it now.

The story is dated Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 7. It is an accurate and graphic description of how "*The Leader*, the world's greatest Socialist newspaper in the English language," was born in that city on that day, and how its birth was received. "The down-town streets were packed with people bent on securing one of the first copies," says the story; and it proceeds to tell how "when the Nome edition went on the streets to-day the people in the congested down-town district blocked the streets from curb to curb to get a paper," how "newsboys were swamped," how "street cars had to be stopped at times to avoid running down excited ones whose only thought was to get hold of a *Leader*." The story, mailed in this city on December 2 of the things that happened on the 7th, 5 days later, closes with "Again Milwaukee has made history."

And so she has.

We are often taken to task by Mr. Victor L. Berger's associates for speaking of him and his Milwaukee Administration, their plans, their theories, their actions, their methods as "bourgeois."

Lo our latest justification—this "hurrah clothing" and "corner grocers" style of fraudulent self-advertising.

The Socialist Movement, founded upon the class interests of the proletariat, is dignified; it is clean; lofty in aims, its methods are lofty; truthful in premises, its utterances ring true. No fly-paper, no nest glass egg, no tinsel, no roping-in—none of that has a place in the Socialist armory. It stands upon its own merits, conscious that the unshakable facts on which it stands and the irresistible logic of its arguments must lash the spheres to its chariot wheels. It strains after no stage effect; it knows not the tricks of the "boom"; it spurns the "puff." In short, there is no Lie on its lips. These be bourgeois manoeuvres, fitting the bourgeois, but only disgraceful to the serious work that the Proletarian Movement has before it;—and these be, too, Bergerian Social Democratic contrivances.

The Socialist Movement looks for and trains MEN. It breaks with bourgeois methods. Where these are in vogue, no Socialism is there, but Pullerinism.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America. Uploaded November 2012

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