
The Results of the 1912 Election: A Statement.

by Eugene V. Debs

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By telegraph to *Appeal to Reason*.

Terre Haute, Nov. 7 [1912].— From the return at hand it is now certain that the Socialist Party has doubled its national vote. This is a distinct victory and we have every reason to congratulate ourselves upon the result. The Socialist vote this year will approximate a million, and it is safe to say that there is another million whose votes were not counted because they were disfranchised by reason of having failed to register, or having moved from one state to another, or being out of a job and away from home or country, or by the ward heelers in control of the election machinery.

The million votes cast this year, be it understood, are Socialist votes. The possible vote that could have been taken from us was taken by the so-called Progressive Party, and the vote which remains is a solid Socialist vote upon which we can count in the future without fear of disappointment.

Now that the battle is ours we must lose no time in preparing for the next. We are the only ones who came out with colors flying. The Demo-

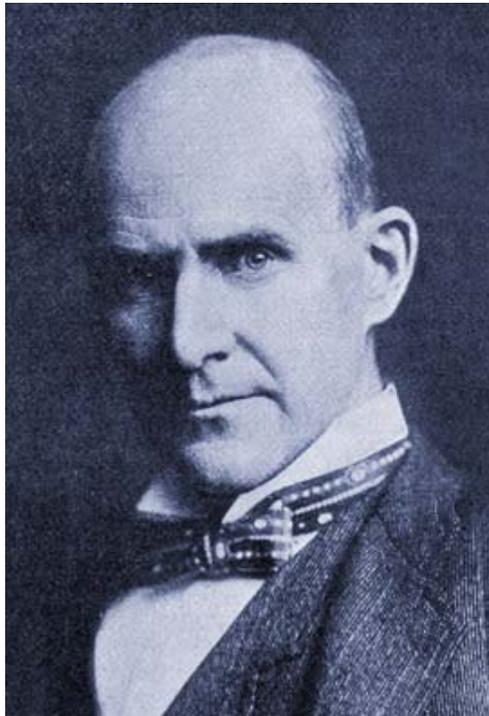
crats have the offices and these would prove their undoing. All the Democratic Party needed for its own destruction was power and after March 4th [1913] look out for the split that will tear it wide open, just as the Republican Party has been torn asunder in its vain attempt to serve warring economic classes whose interests

are in deadly conflict and never can be reconciled. Upon that rock the Republican Party went to pieces and upon that same rock the Democratic Party will also be wrecked. The disembodying will begin soon after the hungry horde of office seekers sweep down upon the government.

The Progressive Party will become great in futile protest. This party is surely a protest against Republican and Democratic corruption and misrule, and it will never see power on a national scale. It is too late in

the day for a third party whose only claim to recognition is that it proposed to reform capitalism or [to be] the benefactor of a dying middle class.

The Socialist Party from now on is the party of the people. This virile young giant will make history in the next few years. Soon after the Democrats go in power they will demonstrate their ut-



ter impotency and helplessness and thousands who voted their ticket will turn from them in disgust. It is then that we must be prepared to furnish them with the right kind of literature and guide them into the Socialist Party, where they belong.

It is quite likely that a panic will be precipitated during the Democratic administration, and in any event the people are ready for our propaganda and we shall prepare for the most energetic educational campaign ever waged in behalf of the Socialist movement. The supporter of *The Appeal* should make up his mind to work this year harder than ever before to widen the circulation among those who have not heretofore been subscribers, and who do not yet know that Socialism is the only way out of the darkness in which they are now groping.

Hearty congratulations to all the *Appeal* readers upon the splendid result of the campaign just closed. Let us all united to make this year surpass all others for energetic and effective propaganda work in their town, city, county, and state of the union.

Eugene V. Debs.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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