

SOCIALIST PARTY MAKES GREAT GAINS

Red Lodge Elects Ticket Over Combine of Republican and Democrats--Silk Stocking Ward Wins by Three Votes.

Red Lodge carries the socialist banner in Montana. The election was a bitterly contested one and has so been heralded in the capitalist papers for over two weeks. The republicans and democrats combined against the socialists. The Finnish coal miners were the ones that decided the victory, voting the socialist ticket almost to a man. In the silk stocking ward even, the citizen's candidate won out by only 3 majority. The result was as follows:

Ray Austin, socialist, is elected mayor by a vote of 260 to 161 for Caswell, citizen. For treasurer, E.

J. McLean, citizens, received 225 to 188 for Carl Salminen, socialist. For police judge, M. H. Lucas, socialist, was elected by a vote of 241 over W. F. Tincome, citizens, who received 143. The aldermen elected are: Frank Valentine, citizens, over Dan Davfs, socialist, by 3 majority in the First; Second ward, Oscar Johnson, socialist, by a majority of 1 over J. M. Dunbar, citizens; Third ward, William Hayworth, socialist, by 24 majority over John Flaherty, citizens. This places the city administration for the ensuing term wholly in the hands of the socialist party.

MISSOULA

The Missoula vote stood as follows for the socialist candidates:

Police magistrate, James Lyons, 76.

Treasurer, Martin L. Brown, 63. Alderman 3rd ward, J. F. Case, 9. Alderman 4th ward, P. A. Dambrowsky, 19.

BUTTE

The democrats, anti and otherwise, won out in the city election. The socialists, considering all things did very well. The following shows list of wards and the socialist vote:

First ward, 20; Second ward, 61; Third ward, 155; Fourth ward, 16; Fifth ward, 107; Sixth ward, 66; Seventh ward, 220; Eighth ward, 180. Total, 825.

The socialists of Butte are highly gratified over the defeat of Winscott in the Seventh ward. This man spent a lot of money in vain endeavor to get re-elected; but the results show he polled the lowest vote in his ward.

PRIMARY LAW AGAIN DEFEATED

The Amalgamated company failed in its nefarious purpose to fasten the incubus of the primary law upon the workers of Cascade county, March 27. The vote stood 450 for, to 925 against. There was a majority against the law in every precinct of the county. The Great Falls Tribune, with a spiteful fling says, "all the socialists in the county and all the professional politicians have been against the law at all times." The Montana News has been the only paper that has conducted a campaign against the law. It has been circulated throughout the county in quantities by the comrades. The primary law leaflets put out by the News under the heading, "Be prepared on the Primary Law," were also distributed by the socialists with a liberal hand. This victory in one of the deepest dyed corporation counties of the state shows the power of a press published in the interests of labor.

The wide spread publicity that the News gave to the evils of the proposed measure has been the means of defeating the petitions in

STEVENSVILLE

Stevensville socialists were in the city race also although we did not get the word in time to publish their ticket. W. G. Dobbins was the candidate for mayor. The hundred campaign numbers of the News that were sent in with Comrade King's reply to the attack made upon him by the local editor, which the latter refused to publish, acted like a bomb shell in the ranks of the enemy. They made all sorts of propositions to pull Comrade Dobbins off the ticket, but he was not the pulling off kind. Stevensville also had a water fight on. The question was whether the city should build and own her own waterworks, or whether she should vote a twenty year franchise. The old party candidates were about evenly divided on the issue, which gave the socialists the balance of power. As a consequence every effort was made to pull off the socialist candidate for mayor, and the plutes even offered to guarantee his election for alderman in the second ward. "But" the word came to the News "he just smiles and saws wood."

Fergus and Park counties. If the socialists are awake they can defeat this measure against the liberty and secrecy of the suffrage in every county in the state.

The fact that a working class was able to defeat a vicious franchise deal at Livingston has caused the papers of that town to make many and various comments. The Enterprise says the workers for the company put up a hard fight, and worked like a band of heroes, but the odds were too heavy against them. It also states that the first and third wards, the home of the socialists and working men gave heavy majorities against it.

The Post says "skiddoo" to the franchise grabbers. It also says that those who wanted no franchises "played a game that would make Brete Harte's heathen Chinese ashamed of himself. They talked blandly even lovingly to the franchise managers, but when they came to vote--oh, Lord!"

The cold facts of the matter are that Livingston is so impregnated with socialistic sentiment and teaching, that the people are wise to any grafts that may be practiced against them. The working class is learning that it may have political power.

MAGNIFICENT CAMPAIGN

Helena Socialists Astonish Opponents in First Mayoralty Contest.

This spring's campaign is the first time the Helena socialist party has ever entered the race for mayor. The result has been problematical from the first, and the appearance of a third candidate has caused consternation in the ranks of the Siamese twins. The betting was demoralized, and the wildest guesses were abroad. It was generally thought that Fairgrieve would poll a heavy union vote, and would run ahead of his ticket, but the beauty of the socialist situation was that the socialist vote was solid and uniform, the majority of the union men in the city scabbing, as usual, on their class program. The socialist vote was around the 250 mark, almost doubling the last vote. The score is as follows.

Mayor, Alex Fairgrieve, 252. Treasurer, Dr. Willett, 210.

Police Magistrate, Herman Luehman, 229.

Alderman 2nd ward, Fred Mundt, 16.

Alderman 5th ward, A. J. Cupples, 23.

Alderman 6th ward, August Peep-er, 39.

Alderman 7th ward, T. P. Hughes, 41.

Evils Unabated

Hauserlake Dam Breeds Disease and Mutiny.

The reports of the conditions at Hauserlake show no abatement of the evils, the filth and the horrors of that place. One of the chief causes of discontent is the Chinese who are employed to do the cooking. Fourteen of these pig tailed celestials attend to the culinary department, and the men describe all their ways as unspeakably filthy. Bedbugs are found in the cake, the pudding is composed of embalmed eggs, sour bread, and Chinese wigs, the pan cakes are a delectable morsel of raw paste scorched on the sides.

In spite of numerous and bitter complaints the company refuses to dispense with the Chinaman although an offer was made to replace them with white women at the same cost. Some impression prevails that the Wisconsin Construction company is responsible for the fearful condition that prevails. Such is not the case: This company has its own boarding houses, with three white women in charge, and the management is entirely satisfactory. It is the Helena Power and Traction company on which is laid the heinous crime of the sickness and death of its workmen.

It is now stated that there are probably 120 typhoid cases, all told. It looks like a case for the grand jury. The Power Company must be run by human brutes. It is said they object to the decent method of the Wisconsin company because they will cause dissatisfaction among the men.

The body of the man drowned has not yet been found. There are no preparations whatever for caring for injured men, no lint or medi-

GREAT FALLS DOUBLES VOTE

Strenuous Work of Party in That City Brings Great Results.

The capitalist papers state that the great surprise in the Great Falls election was the doubling of the socialist vote. Its total poll was 164 votes against 73 last year. The socialists polled a little over 11 per cent of the total vote. The primary law was also defeated in the city vote by a majority of 123. The socialist vote is as follows:

First ward, Geo. I. Dickenson, 21.

Second ward, Myles J. Scallon, 34.

Third ward, W. N. Polsgrove, 44.

Fourth ward, Hiram L. Hull, 65.

BOZEMAN

Bozeman had candidates for alderman running in only two wards, the First and Second. This is Montana's military town where the young men are trained to shoot strikers, and where the Montana militia holds its annual encampment. We cannot expect a very intelligent working class vote from such a place. D. E. Frazier, candidate for alderman in the First ward, received 12 votes, Hyrum Olsen, candidate for alderman in the second ward, received 5 votes.

Livingston Wins Out

Simpson, Aggressive Socialist, One of the City Fathers--Town Stirred Up.

The Livingston election was a hotly contested one. The socialists had just defeated a great franchise grab and the capitalists feared the strength they might exhibit in the struggle for the city offices. The following are the returns:

A republican alderman in the First ward, a democrat in the Second and a socialist in the Third ward. The successful candidates are George W. Colpitts, republican, First ward; J. J. Clark, democrat, Second ward, and Charles Simpson, socialist, Third ward. The returns show a

majority for Colpitts of 28; for Clark, 10, and for Simpson, 3. The votes cast were as follows: First ward, George W. Colpitts, republican, 94; William Grabow, democrat 66; Howard Nethkin, socialist, 57. Second ward, W. E. Dean, republican, 116; J. J. Clark, democrat, 126. W. H. Smith, socialist, 13. Third ward, S. M. Nye, republican, 43; J. E. Mallery, democrat, 50; Chas. Simpson, socialist, 53.

This elects one republican, one socialist and one democrat. It is the first time a socialist has ever been elected in Park county.

DES MOINES

Des Moines, Ia., Mar. 30, 1906. We have just closed a city election in which the socialists made a gain of 50 per cent over the last one. We caused to be submitted the five questions viz:

Shall the city of Des Moines own and operate electric light plant, electric power plants, water works, gas works, and heating plant--all carried.

One of the aristocratic working class "sympathizers" was discovered trying to steer the Worker's club for Lindsay. He has been most persistent in saying the Worker's club was non-political. It is said that the manipulators of the republican campaign have promised a prominent member of the Workers Educational club, once ex-labor leader, the job of running the "benevolent feudalism," free employment agency that the republicans have again promised to establish. All the relief the capitalist class will ever give the workers will be counterbalanced a thousand times by the work and the wages that they withhold from them.

HAVRE

The socialists of Havre put up a good fight. The party has not been organized there long, but from now on it will be recognized as a factor in the field. The union men of the Great Northern shops scabbed at the ballot box. Had they known their legitimate political program they could have run Havre as they wished. The socialist vote was:

Mayor, B. B. Ryan, 26. Police magistrate, Jas. Lamey, 37. Treas., E. E. Marcoe, 56.

Alderman 1st ward, A. T. Swanson, 4.

Alderman 2nd ward, Wm. Ryan, 24.

Alderman 3rd ward, E. G. Miller, 5.

The Independent said Fairgrieve was ineligible for the mayoralty. He would have to work. This is the sort of ignorant insult that the capitalist class is accustomed to throw at labor. Of course it is the grafter class that does the work of society.

TEACHERS BROWBEAT CHILDREN

A matter has come to light in connection with election events that has placed one of the teachers of the Hawthorne school in a position so opposed to all principles of free government and American institutions, as to merit her summary dismissal from public service. Before the election the Hawthorne school, Miss Johnson, principal, announced that a vote would be taken in the school on the city candidates on the following day. The teacher then asked if there were any socialists in the school. Four children held up their hands. She thereupon gave them a lecture against harboring such ideas, and told them there was no socialist ticket in the field, and they were not to vote anything of the kind. One of the children asked her father if there was no socialist ticket, and he told her there was. After she had related what occurred at school he told her when it came to vote to write the name "Fairgrieve" on her ticket, but not to let any one know she wrote it. She did as her father directed her

at the preliminary vote the next day when but one vote for the socialist candidate appeared. The teacher immediately asked who cast the vote.

An emphatic reproof followed, and when it came to the regular balloting no socialist ticket was prepared to vote on.

The whole intent and purpose of such a play as this upon innocent children is to spot the socialists so as to make their life miserable for them and undermine their convictions. Teachers have no business to teach partisan politics in their schools. The Socialist Party is today the third party in the country, comprising the ablest thinkers, and scholars known in America, and the attempt by an ignorant teacher to so subsidize the minds of her pupils is as great an outrage on political liberty as the attempt to teach special religious beliefs is a violation of religious freedom. The News demands that the offensive teacher be dismissed at once for such a flagrant violation of the principles of American liberty.

State Department

Comrade Knapp of Big Timber sends in a list of six.

Comrade Coster of Glasgow sends in a list of nine.

Comrade Beaton of Libby is doing a little work on the side for the News.

Comrade J. H. Walsh, now of Everett, Wash., sends in a list of nine subscribers.

Comrade Thiel of Red Lodge orders the "Evolution of Man," and several other first-class scientific works.

Comrade McDermott from Great Falls was a visitor at The News office on Saturday. Great Falls local has voted 50 cents a month from each member to sustain The News.

Over a hundred new names went on our mailing list last week. The increase is an amazement to the postoffice department. The News is getting ready to play ball for the election next fall.

Local Red Lodge sends in \$6 for stamps. They say their convention names the winning ticket. They report the Finnish socialists as lined up in good shape and ready for business.

The Red Lodge platform arrived too late for insertion last week. Socialists should not be dilatory. Two towns that held their conventions in plenty of time to have sent us the reports early in the week had to be reached by special delivery. We have put every effort on making the campaign numbers of the Montana News represent the activity of the party at every point in the state. This is the function that a party organ should and must fulfil. But it takes the full co-operation of the party members to do it.

Every day demonstrates the fact that the Socialist party in Montana has reached the point where it must have more help and more active workers. A telegram came from Havre last Friday morning asking that Mrs. Hazlett be sent at any cost for a Saturday night meeting. It was utterly impossible to comply with the request as Mrs. Hazlett had another engagement. Butte sent a telegram asking to have Ben Wilson come and speak on the street. We could have had Comrade Wilson for the spring campaign, but the expense of bringing him here from Idaho Falls was so great that we could not undertake it for the few towns that were able to guarantee meetings. The Montana News keeps the force here busy every hour that is not actually required in sleep. A communication has been sent to the National committee asking for help during the summer and fall campaign. Favorable replies have been received from several members, so it is likely that the efforts of the Montana Socialist party will have some assistance.

Comrade Stone from Garnett dropped in to see us last week. This comrade will open up new territory for us in Granite county.

Comrade King left March 27 for a tour of the eastern part of the state. His route is as follows: Livingston, March 28; Red Lodge, 29; Silver Tip, 31; Bridger, April 1, 2.

Local Helena, warned by the difficulty of raising campaign funds just at the time when they are the most necessary, has voted to tax each member 25 cents a month from now on for a fall campaign fund.

Carbon county seems to be "going some," as far as socialism is concerned. Both of the county papers, the Picket and the Republican, seem to be filled up with nothing else. The Republican is fighting for the primary law with all its might, and the rights of the working class are getting a good airing.

All the money has been raised to buy the motor for our press except \$15. Comrade Hazleton of Bozeman is the man who has done this. Livingston has \$30 in the bank for the motor. It takes \$65 to get it and install it. A motor will mean that Comrade Graham will be saved about four hours a day of hand power on the job press, and can have the time for his books, reports, correspondence, etc.

Local Billings writes: "We seem to be up against it good and hard. The unions have moved to new headquarters and the local has no place to hold the regular meetings, which we had every Sunday at 3 p. m. From now on we will meet when it is convenient to do so. We have at present 20 members in the local, and the indications are that inside of 90 days we will double our number. Enclosed find \$3 for due stamps.

Comrade Ghormley of Portland is in town representing the Nutrito Company of Girard, Kans. This is the firm that manufactures the health coffee that is putting Citizens Alliance Post and his postum out of business. Comrade Ghormley is doing business on a big scale. He left one carload of Nutrito at Portland, one at Seattle, and one at Spokane, and has a car in here at Helena. He intends making the tour of Montana.

To give some idea of the work involved in getting out these campaign issues of the paper, in the last issue the Butte comrades sent material for their department that covered two whole pages of The News. It was all good campaign stuff, pat to the occasion. In order to get the campaign matter in for the other towns that were running city tickets, we were obliged to print the Butte papers first, then take the forms from the press and make up for Helena and Livingston. All this extra work costs money, but the so-

cialists of Montana have put up a city campaign to be proud of.

Comrade Austin sends in a list of five. He says: "I have been receiving a bundle of The News regularly for the past three weeks, and the boys seem to take them as readily as if they were gold dust. And I believe it is doing more good for the working class than its weight in gold could possibly do. The boys seem to be taking more interest than ever."

Comrade Scott of Montreal sends in his renewal. He says, "The News is certainly getting much better now that the party has got hold of it, and I hope that it will continue to enlarge its circulation, and educate the working people to the fact that socialism is our only hope and if we working people do not take what belongs to us our capitalist friends will not take the bother to fasten it on us."

D. Drier—Heating and plumbing, 223 So. Main St., Livingston.

We have a letter from Comrade Chas. G. Burk, a member at large of the Montana socialists. He is off at Ferry, away from all socialists, but he says he keeps trying to convert those around him. He says, "The working mules in these parts are inclined to be bone-headed, but capitalism is making progress, and in the near future, it they are composed of bone too, a fellow perhaps can ram a little socialism down their necks. A good republican killed a beef a while back because he was hungry."

The Womans' Socialist club of Great Falls has sent in \$20, with a request that it be used for the salaries of the editor and manager. The spirit of the contribution is most heartily appreciated. We can only say in regard to salaries for the management of The News, that as bills come due they have to be met with whatever money there is around. The balancing of the books this month shows that the News account has just about run along even thus far with no allowance for salaries. We are glad we have done so well. Salaries are impossible so long as any bills are unpaid. If a sum of \$500 could be put at the disposal of The News, to admit of our getting job stock, type and equipment ahead, and a sum in the bank to check against, this printing plant would be a money-making proposition and would turn money into the Montana party. Until then it is bills first, and the editor and manager will eat after the rest are paid. We are not starving yet though, comrades, and we don't intend to. And The News is moving right along to be the socialist representative of the great northwest, and you're all going to help—you're helping now.

The following letter is from an old-time democrat of Carbon county, who is beginning to think that the socialists do know something after all.

"A few years ago Mark Hanna was calling on the moneyed men of the country to stand pat.

"Now, Debs, the champion of the working people of America, calls on them to stand up and be counted as the saviour of their enslaved brothers.

"Debs is making his last earthly stand in the interest of suffering humanity. If they convict Moyer, Haywood and their comrades he has only his life left to give, which he will freely give for their liberty. Are the enslaved people going to let this chance pass without asserting their manhood? Are they going to bow their heads a little lower to the master's yoke? No! I believe, down in their hearts, they are in favor of the Debs movement, though many of them have been so long ground by the iron heel of the tyrants that they have not the courage to say, 'We will shoot it out with you to the end. We are up against the real thing and have been for years. The law of the land is sapping the very life out of us, and now they are going to murder us.' "It's a poor man that won't fight

when he is cornered, and I say, 'if they murder our people, we will fight.' I am not a member of any labor union, neither am I a member of the Socialist party, but I will be a member of the Debs army if the officials of Idaho don't release our friends."

'Phone 75-M for plumbing. D. Drier, Livingston.

Red Lodge, Mont., March 30. Our Livingston meeting was bigger than we anticipated under the circumstances—over two hundred. Only had a half day's advertising and there was a very popular show in town. As near as I can judge the Livingston movement, I look for a partial victory at the polls at the coming election. The industrial population seems to be thoroughly satisfied with socialism, especially the shop boys. They of the fighting line seem to have largely worn out the prejudice, contempt and ill-concealed hostility one is used to seeing against the socialists here, so that the working people are everywhere avowing their socialism. This forms such a contrast to the towns where the arrogant middle class intellect domineers that it is certainly a pleasure to alight in a town like Livingston.

Red Lodge is another Livingston, or more so. Here there seems to be a strong, thorough and sensible movement, thanks to both the English speaking and Finnish comrades. To say that the enemy is terrified is to put it mildly. The Finns seem to have joined the socialists in a body, and they constitute a very large percentage of the population. They have had Comrade Bownan, a Finnish speaker, here for more than two weeks. He has held a series of crowded meetings and has organized a local of fifteen members with the prospect of fifty before long. He will remain until after the election. Most of the Italians and Austrians here are said to be socialists.

A meeting was called for me, through a misunderstanding, the night before I arrived. Last night the Finn band (socialist) attracted a large crowd on the street and rendered several tunes in the Finnish hall (socialist) for us. Several hundred people were present, and it was plain where the sympathies of the audience were. Sold ten of the Kautsky three pamphlet series. Will hold forth at the court house tonight on the primary law. The Picket is making a big fight for it.

MURRAY E. KING.

D. Drier—Heating and plumbing, 223 So. Main St., Livingston.

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