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ILLINOIS STATE CONVENTION A FULL TICKET NOMINATED

Seventy-five delegates representing the branches of the Social Democratic party of Illinois met in convention at 10 o'clock last Sunday morning, May 13, at Arena hall, 594 E. 63d street, Chicago, and nominated the following state ticket:

- For Governor—James Beattie, Spring Valley, Ill.
- For Lieutenant Governor—Al Pierson, Jacksonville, Ill.
- For Secretary of State—Thomas G. Kerwin, Chicago.
- For State Treasurer—Jacob Winnen, Chicago.
- For Auditor of Public Accounts—James Wright, Chicago.
- For Attorney General—Charles H. Soelke, Chicago.
- For Trustees of State University—Mrs. Irene Stedman, Miss Ellen Edwards, F. J. Hlavacek.

The convention was called to order by Comrade Svoboda who read the call and made remarks appropriate to the occasion.

Comrade Philip Brown was elected temporary chairman and Comrade R. H. Johnson temporary secretary.

The following committees were then elected:

- Rules—Edwards, Winnen, Bruell.
- Credentials—Hlavacek, Ambroz, McSweeney, Miss Corinne Brown and Frelich.
- Permanent Organization—Pierson, Bruell, Beattie, Ambroz, Hlavacek, Benson, Roderus, Winnen, Horgan.

After a brief recess the committee on rules reported. The committee on credentials reported 157 comrades entitled to representation.

The temporary chairman was made permanent and owing to the unavoidable absence of Temporary Secretary Johnson, Comrade James Wright was elected permanent secretary.

The following committee on platform was then elected: Mrs. Corinne Brown, Edwards, Winnen, Cox, McSweeney.

A recess was then taken for lunch. When the business of the convention was resumed, Comrade Corinne Brown, for the committee on platform, reported as follows:

The Platform

The Social Democratic party of the state of Illinois, in convention assembled, reaffirms the national platform adopted at Indianapolis, and declares its uncompromising adherence to the principles of International Socialism.

We demand that a law be passed enabling all municipal corporations to own and operate all such municipal industries as the supplying of light, heat, street railways and the transmission of information to the people at cost, and that if necessary the constitution be amended to enable such municipalities to raise money for the purpose.

We advocate public control and ownership of the liquor traffic.

We demand the abolition of the contract system in public works and the direct employment of labor by the state and municipality.

We demand that convicts in the various penal institutions be employed cooperatively in diversified industries for their own benefit and support and that none of their products be put upon the market.

We demand the extension of the state factory law to include the following provisions:

- The enactment of an educational section which shall prohibit the employment of children under 16 who can not read and write simple sentences in English.
- The establishment of the eight-hour day for all minors.
- Adequate safe-guarding of all dangerous machinery.
- A report by employers to the

Grist for Capitalism's Mill

Not alone does the economic system which we permit to exist rob the home of its divinity, but practically raids the cradle for flesh and blood to feed the remorseless maw of the dragon of Profit. In 1890 there were, in round numbers, 5,000,000 children of school age prevented from attending school by the necessity for their labor as bread-winners or by poverty of parents unable to buy books or clothing for the little ones. Of the 14,371,893 reported as attending school many attended only part of the term and spent the rest of the year in toil. Mr. W. S. McClure has pointed out that in many sections, particularly the great manufacturing districts of the east, the school enrollment is not increasing in proportion to the population. New York state, for instance, with an increase of 18 per cent. in population, shows a gain of but 1.38 per cent. in school enrollment. In

state factory department of all accidents within twenty-four hours.

We demand the enforcement of that provision of the State Constitution which declares that adequate school facilities should be furnished all children between the ages of 6 and 21. School facilities include sufficient school room, normal trained teachers, free school books, food, clothing and shelter whenever necessary.

The nomination of candidates for the state ticket being in order, Comrade Jesse Cox presented the name of Comrade James Beattie, of Spring Valley, for governor. The nomination was received by the convention with rounds of applause and approved by acclamation. Comrade Beattie is one of the most devoted members of the party in the state. Wherever known his reputation is that of a tireless worker in the interest of his class, honest, trustworthy and level-headed. Comrade Beattie holds the position of organizer for the United Mine Workers of Illinois, is a practical miner and has been identified with all the struggles of the miners in this state for years.

Comrade Al Pierson was nominated by acclamation for lieutenant governor. Comrade Thos. G. Kirwin was the unanimous choice of the convention for secretary of state.

For auditor of public accounts Comrade James Wright received a unanimous vote.

The convention's choice for attorney-general was Comrade Chas. H. Soelke, who was nominated by acclamation.

Comrade Jacob Winnen received the unanimous vote of the delegates for state treasurer.

For trustees of the State University the following were chosen: Mrs. Irene Stedman, Miss Ellen Edwards and F. J. Hlavacek.

The following committee was then elected to select twenty-four presidential electors: Cox, Edwards, Svoboda.

Comrade Stedman then introduced the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously:

"Whereas, Mutual overtures have been made by the Social Democratic party and the Socialist Labor party looking toward the organic union of the two organizations; and whereas, the work and methods to perfect said organic union have not met with the approval of a large number of the different parties; and whereas, it is desirable to secure united and consolidated action in the impending campaign. Therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Social Democratic party assembled in their state convention, that they believe in political union in the state of Illinois, and therefore, and to this end, appoint a committee of seven, who shall have power to retire candidates from the state ticket of the Social Democratic party and substitute candidates of the Socialist Labor party therefore, provided there is a political union on national candidates."

Comrade R. H. Johnson was appointed as a committee of one representing the convention to convey the resolution to the state committee of the Socialist Labor party.

The chair appointed the following committee to carry out the instructions of the foregoing resolution: Corinne Brown, W. C. Horgan, R. H. Johnson, F. Svoboda, Seymour Stedman, Jas. Wright and Frank Roderus.

The following comrades to constitute the state campaign committee were then elected: Jos. Finn, F. Svoboda, Jacob Winnen, E. Anderson, S. Stedman, Philip Brown, Ellen Edwards, W. C. Horgan, H. H. Babka.

After a short address by Comrade McSweeney the convention adjourned, all the delegates being well satisfied with the work done.

Pennsylvania population increased 22.77 per cent., but school enrollment only 1.59 per cent.

There is enough and to spare for all in this country. The adult male labor properly organized could alone produce all the necessities and luxuries needed by working five hours a day. If Justice ruled this would be the case, but Profit, not Justice, rules, and we go on stunting the moral and physical development of children and forcing women into toil amid surroundings that must inevitably produce a race of physical and moral degenerates. The economic system is responsible, but an economic system is only the creature of men, who have the power to create another if they will, and the burden of responsibility must be shared by every man who, by his vote, indorses men and policies that make such crimes against society and civilization possible.—From an address by Charles Dobbs, Louisville.

WHAT THEY THINK OF

The mason thinks of his trowel,
The shoemaker thinks of his awl,
The carpenter thinks of his level,
The woodman thinks of his maul;
But truth, which is more important,
Gets hardly a thought at all.

The merchant thinks of his ledger,
The lawyer thinks of his plea,
The doctor thinks of his patient,
The admiral thinks of the sea;
Do you think of truth and justice,
Of the right which makes men free?
—M. B. Diehl.

DEBS INTERVIEWED ON THE SOCIAL EVOLUTION

Eugene V. Debs, Social Democratic party candidate for president, in a recent interview said:

"The nomination came unexpectedly and unsought. I have all my life had my face set resolutely against officeholding and I attended the convention of the party, the first national convention it has ever had, as I have attended the conventions of other parties, strongly opposed to the use of my name for any office."

"The convention of the Social Democratic party was the only political convention that has ever met in which there was not a candidate and not a lobbyist in the interest of any candidate. This was in accord with the principles of the party, however, because when it succeeds to power there will be no \$50,000 office."

"The platform of the Social Democratic party in a nutshell is the collective ownership by the people of all the means of wealth production and distribution. It aims at industrial democracy just as we now have political democracy. That is, as we have political democracy theoretically; practically one man becomes the master of 10,000 because one man owns the means upon which 10,000 depend for employment."

"To inaugurate genuine democracy we must democratize industry as our fathers democratized politics a century and a half ago. This will result in the co-operative commonwealth, in which organized society will operate all industry in the interest of all the people. The declaration of independence will then have become a realized fact."

"The new social order is not Utopian, but scientific. It is not an ideal social system to which people are expected to adapt themselves, but it is a system evolving from the present one, which it will succeed in obedience to the laws of social evolution. Co-operation of society is the next stage in the economic development, and although not yet in existence a scientific analysis of present conditions proves that it is bound to come in the natural course of events. The trust is the forerunner of the social revolution. It represents the social principles of co-operative production, to which will be added the social principle of co-operative distribution. This means industrial co-operation as the basis of human brotherhood. The gigantic scale upon which all production and distribution is carried forward marks all these agencies for collective ownership in the interests of all the people. Rent, interest and profit will disappear. Wealth is not for the enrichment of one and the poverty and degradation of many."

"I believe the time is ripe for a party of this character. New issues, more vital than any that have ever been before the people, are crystallizing. As the lines between the laboring class and the capitalists become more sharply drawn and the great middle class is eliminated, our party will become larger and more powerful, and it must eventually succeed to power. When the time comes the wealth producing power of the country will be transferred to collective hands naturally and easily. The change will come by evolution."

Social Democracy and War

Emile Zola, in a striking article in the North American Review, expresses the belief that sooner or later war will have become a thing of the past. The chief reason for its disappearance, in his opinion, is that it will have become useless. "When speaking thus," he says, "I have in mind the democratic movement, the great Socialist movement, which, within the last hundred years, has made such advancement. In my way of thinking the real human struggle is no longer on the field of battle, but on that of labor; in industry, in agriculture, in fact in every human effort for production and prosperity." In the future state of society he is convinced that war will be unheard of, because "the reorganization of labor will everywhere bring greater solidarity and bind the different nations together either by arbitration or some other means of which we have as yet no conception. War cannot be a factor in this future state which the struggles of a closing century will link to the century about to dawn. It will be doomed to disappear, for it will be incompatible with the new condition of things."

RECALL OF REPRESENTATIVES THE BROCKTON INCIDENT

Recent occurrences in Massachusetts have led many of our members to ask "What is the use of having candidates for office sign a resignation? It has proved to be only an empty form. Why keep it up?"

It is true that the experience of Socialists in this country with the imperative mandate has been very unsatisfactory, yet it is a principle which it would not be well to abandon. Instead of dropping it, would it not be better to seek some way of making it effective? Surely it is possible to devise some new plan, or to so improve upon the present one, that a Socialist organization shall have control of those of its members whom it elects to office. The principle involved is that an elected candidate represents not himself, but his constituency, and is bound to obey the instructions of that constituency. The claim is made by opponents of Socialism that our application of this principle is unjust, as the branch does not by any means comprise the people whose votes have elected the candidate. True, but the branch or the organization within the particular district nominates the candidate and works for his election, arranges meetings, puts out literature, canvasses the district, and raises the money for all these expenses; but above all, the organization is responsible for and is the cause of his election because it represents the principles of Socialism, which principles, and not the individual candidate, triumph in the election. Social Democrats do not work for their candidates because they happen to be popular men, but because they embody the principles of their party. Accordingly, the candidate, before he is elected, pledges himself, in a written resignation, to resign from office if the party which elected him finds that he has not proved true to the trust it reposes in him.

In agitation meetings the question is often asked by well-meaning people seeking information: "What guaranty have we that Socialists, if elected, will not be just as bad as the other party politicians?" and we have always triumphantly answered them, "Our candidates are elected subject to recall. They sign their resignation before they are elected, and we can recall them at any time if they don't do what is right." But the wind has been taken out of our sails. On the first experiment, the imperative mandate has proved a failure. The right of recall remains with us; but, like many other of our rights, it cannot be exercised. We may call and recall all we like, but our representatives do not and need not respond. It is time for us to find out where we are at in regard to this important principle. If our candidates can do whatever they please as soon as they are elected, just the same as the capitalist politicians, we ought to so understand.

The Brockton case, which occurred within the past month, fully demonstrated the futility of the imperative mandate as a working principle at the present time. In the case of Alderman Perry, our Brockton comrades had a difficult and delicate problem to deal with, but they dealt with it like true Social Democrats. They met the issue square-

ly, and did their duty nobly. Perry, one of their elected aldermen, had been explicitly instructed by his branch to vote against the giving away of a certain public franchise, and had deliberately voted for it. The branch promptly tried his case, found him guilty, and demanded that he should resign. They presented his signed resignation to the board of aldermen of Brockton for their acceptance; but the board, while for the most part sympathizing with the action of the Social Democrats, did not feel called upon to accept the resignation. Nothing was left for the branch to do but to expel Mr. Perry, which they promptly did. Mr. Perry continues to serve as alderman for the remainder of his term, but he in no way represents the S. D. P. nor any other party. He is disowned by his former comrades; and this, together with the ever-present consciousness of a trust betrayed, must be his punishment. It is probable, too, that he will find it rather difficult to get elected to office again upon any kind of a ticket. People will fight shy of him. A man who is a traitor to one party will be a traitor to another.

The papers, in commenting upon the event, said it was the only instance of the kind that had ever occurred in this country, but that is a mistake. The case which occurred in Haverhill in 1898, however, was not satisfactory as a test of the value of the imperative mandate, because the resignation was not presented to the governing body for acceptance. When James F. Carey, who had been elected to the common council by the Socialist Labor Party, left that party before the expiration of his term of office, the remainder of the S. L. P. section of which he had been a member, demanded his resignation; but they were powerless, inasmuch as the resignation which he had signed and filed with the section had mysteriously disappeared. The section had nothing to present to the city government of Haverhill in the shape of a written resignation. This case was therefore not a test of the effectiveness of this safeguard of the rights of the democracy. The Haverhill instance proved its inefficiency to control the individual elected, or even to hold him in the party which elects him; but no more. The Brockton instance demonstrates its uselessness when presented to a governing body for acceptance.

What, then, is the best course for us to pursue? Shall we drop as useless the custom of requiring candidates to sign resignations, until we can get the measure adopted as a law of the land? Or shall we seek to raise the standard of character and honor in our organization, so that we may thus have some hold upon the candidates elected? Shall we seek to inculcate in our members the principles of honor and justice and a sense of moral obligation, at the same time that we are trying to teach the principles of scientific socialism? The two are certainly not incompatible. On the contrary, one is necessary to supplement the other.

It is a question worth considering, comrades.

Robert White.

RISE OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY ALARMS BOTH OLD PARTIES

The Indianapolis News has been taking a survey of the political field and sounds the following note of alarm:

"The unexpected growth of the Social Democracy in Indiana is giving the leaders of the two old parties considerable worry. They had not counted on the Social Democrats being a factor this time, but the results of a number of city elections last Tuesday has opened their eyes to what might happen if the new party continues to grow as it has grown since its national convention was held here a few weeks ago. It is said now that the Social Democracy leaders, a majority of whom live in the east, did not bring their convention here simply because the city is well located, but rather because they understood the conditions and felt that Indiana would be an excellent garden in which to plant their creed, on account of the state's thousands of organized laborers. The party has made a surprising showing in the gas belt in a short time, as is evident in the election of councilmen at Marion and Muncie and a large vote elsewhere."

"A politician who has just made a tour of a number of the gas belt cities, declares that they are becoming hotbeds of Social Democrats, and that new believers are added to the creed every day. Social Democracy workers are going quietly among the union men in some of the gas belt cities. It is understood that the new party is gaining more strength among the iron workers than with any other branch of labor, although there are many desertions from the two old parties among all of the unions. There

is little chance of the Social Democracy's filling any of the important offices this year as the victories have been in local fights, but the leaders of each of the two old parties fear that it will deprive them of votes that will be necessary to their success.

"Some Democrats say they have less to fear than the Republicans, as a majority of men now voting with the Social Democrats were against Bryan in '96, and that if they were against him this time, but not with the Republicans, that their chances have really improved. The Republican leaders are not saying much on the question, but their anxiety not to have Eugene Debs indorsed by the middle-of-the-road Populists at Cincinnati, next week, is sufficient indication that they are ready to take any means to check the growth of the Social Democracy. The loss of a few thousand votes might seriously cripple the Republicans in a fight like the one they expect this year, and it is said that they are getting ready to put their best speakers and workers in the places where the new party is gaining strength at their expense."

Organized Labor Vote

"Mr. Debs and his friends who are helping him to organize the Social Democratic party are the only sensible leaders that organized labor has. Organized labor has been pawing the air against both old parties from time immemorial and has catered to first one and then the other, only to be betrayed, and politically it is not to-day as distinctly a floating vote as the negro vote."—Economist, Evansville, Ind.

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NOTES FROM THE FIELD

F. M. McQuivey is state organizer for Utah. Sagunaw wants the Michigan state convention of the Social Democratic Party...

This convention will meet in Reichwein's hall, southwest corner of N. Noble and E. Market streets, Indianapolis, Ind., on Wednesday, July 4, 1900, at 10 o'clock a. m.

do anything for the working class, except to get off their backs. How can men think highly, nobly, clearly, when the chief object in life is to acquire the wealth which others have produced?

THAT EXTRAORDINARY PROPOSITION

For once, on the horizon of the world has risen a hope; it is the emancipation of woman. Suddenly there has shot into the political pandemonium one loud and ringing cry; it is: "Irrespective of sex."

WASHINGTON STATE ORGANIZED

The meeting held at Seattle, Wash., April 29, was called to order by John Cloak, of Whatcom, who stated the objects of the meeting. John Cloak was then elected chairman and J. D. Curtis secretary.

THE REFERENDUM VOTE

Table with columns: No., Yes, No, for various states including Calif., Colo., Conn., Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kan., Ky., La., Md., Mass., Mich., Minn., Mont., N. Dak., Nev., N. J., N. Y., Pa., S. Dak., Tenn., Tex., Va., W. Va., Wis., and W. Dak.

Branch No. 2, Utah, cast 30 votes against union, but by mistake directed letter to Comrade E. V. Debs, which was not opened until Comrade Debs' return to this city on last Saturday, too late to be included in above report.

Table with columns: No., Yes, No, for various states including Calif., Ind., Mass., Mich., Mont., N. J., N. Y., Pa., S. Dak., Tenn., Tex., Va., W. Va., Wis., and W. Dak.

The vote of following branches were received too late to be included in above tabulated report: No. 3. New Jersey, No. 11. Washington, No. 3. Illinois, No. 1. Nebraska, No. 1. Indian Territory.

John Cloak, Fairhaven; C. E. Martens, Whatcom; G. D. Wilson, Fairhaven; Mrs. Belle Hatt, Geneva; Mrs. Geneva Lake, Olympia; Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, Geneva; E. E. Martin, Olympia; Hermon Culver, Pt. Angeles; Wm. Hogan, Equality; A. G. Seibert, Seattle; Walter Griggs, Equality; E. Lux, Seattle; J. H. White, Equality.

Socialism is treading in the wake of the trusts. Politics, with the moral law squeezed out, is what the government is dealing in. The world owes every man a living—if he can get it.

Among the callers at headquarters last week was E. H. Thornberg, traveling correspondent of Swedish newspapers. Mr. Thornberg learned much while in Chicago of the Social Democratic movement, which will be reported to the people of Sweden.

It will be remembered that the Indianapolis convention continued the executive board in office until a new board is chosen. Since then Comrade Jesse Cox retired, and at a meeting held Saturday, May 12, Comrade Corinne Brown was elected to fill the vacancy.

NEW BRANCHES

The new branches of the Social Democratic party organized since a week ago, are located at: Elma, Wash.; Blendsville, Mo.; Kansas City, (4th ward) Mo.; Kansas City, (9th ward) Mo.

MAY DAY CELEBRATION

The Bohemian branches of Chicago celebrated the first of May, the working men's holiday, at the Bohemian hall, May 1, and it was a grand success. The spacious and modern hall was filled on the floor and the galleries. Over 2,000 people were present, the fair sex being well represented.

INDIANA STATE CONVENTION

In accordance with a resolution passed May 3 by the Indianapolis central committee of the Social Democratic party, you are hereby notified that there will be held a convention of the Social Democratic party of Indiana, for the purpose of nominating the following state officers, to be voted for on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1900: Governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, attorney general, reporter of supreme court, state statistician, superintendent of public instruction, two judges of the supreme court, one from the First district and one from the Fourth district, also fifteen presidential electors, and other officers.

LOCAL BRANCHES

Notices of Branch Meetings Inserted for 25 Cents per Month

- CALIFORNIA: Liberty Branch, San Francisco, holds public meetings every Sunday and Wednesday evenings, commencing at 8. Admission free. Educational meetings (for members) every Tuesday evening. (Sociology, Economics, Public Speaking, etc) Business meetings (for members) every Thursday evening. Membership, with advantage of Educational Course and Social Democratic Herald free to each member, 25 cents per month. Apply to the secretary, John C. Wesley, 117 Turk street.

The Pious and the Poor

Socialism is treading in the wake of the trusts. Politics, with the moral law squeezed out, is what the government is dealing in. The world owes every man a living—if he can get it. It depends largely on the man. If he is an ordinary voting mule he may find suicide easier than competition, and he will be much happier over there on the evergreen shore, unless he bumps up against a trust in harps and halos!

The Social Democratic Red Book. Edited by FREDERIC HEATH. PRICE 15 CENTS. Sent postpaid on receipt of price. Debs Publishing Co. TERRE HAUTE, IND. IF YOU SYMPATHIZE WITH TRADE UNIONS You will encourage the sale OF UNION LABEL GOODS. THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC RED BOOK. Socialists residing in North Dakota and desiring to organize for effective propaganda work in that state are requested to correspond with Math. Eidsness, Towner, N. D.

