







Social-Democratic Herald
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Gems for the Socialist Scrap-Book.
XII. THE STRIKERS. — By EDWIN MARKHAM.
Out on the roads they have gathered, a hundred thousand men.
They ask but the right to labor and to live by the strength of their hands— bodies like knotted oaks, and patience like sea-sands.

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FOR OUR NEW READERS:
THIS COUNTRY is made up of working people, both industrial and agricultural, but is ruled by the capitalist class, which is numerically small. Being in control of the government, it runs that government in the interests of its class and against the interests of the working class, which is the people. We Socialists believe that the country should be ruled by the people in the interests of the people. That is why we established a government in the first place. We want the people to own it so that the political power can be used to begin the march to the co-operative system, called Social-Democracy. All the means of existence are now owned by capitalists, and yet the capitalist class makes up only about 12 per cent of the population, and a mere ONE PER CENT of it OWNS OVER HALF THE WEALTH OF THE NATION! The means of existence should be owned by the collectivity in order that the benefits should go to ALL instead of to a FEW.

The Economic Parentage of Words
To an observer of the changes going on continuously within society it is easily seen that even the words which we use, together with the interpretations which we attach to them, change with the shifting economic conditions of that society.
Many of the words which we employ today were unknown even ten years ago. New inventions, changing environment, improved methods of producing and distributing wealth, have all forced us to coin new words and phrases in order that we may intelligently express our thoughts and ideas. We find that such words as X-ray, automobile, carburetor, auto-boat, incandescent, phonograph, wireless telegraphy and many others became parts of our written and spoken language but a short time ago. The economic development of society has made the introduction of these terms a necessity.

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EDITORIAL ETCHINGS.
New York officials are yielding a bit to public opinion by trying to clean up certain cess pools of vice and contamination in the downtown business district. But the effort is not an easy one.

FOR PARTY HONOR
Recently two prominent Socialists from one of the eastern states visited Milwaukee and made a study of the methods used in the organization. Afterwards one of the comrades wrote to the state organizer: "It is perhaps needless for me to say that nowhere else among the cities which we visited did we find the organization reduced to such a business-like basis as in Wisconsin."

from being badly decimated by the Hearst municipal ownership wave, that his appointments will not permit him to do any speaking for them. Some time ago the DeLeonites tried to test Debs' loyalty to the Industrial Workers by getting him to speak under such auspices in New York City, which would, in effect, cause him to repudiate his own party. He declined to do so. Now, to even matters up apparently, he has declined to speak for the other side. Score one for foxy DeLeon. We give him credit for being a master monkey-worker. We have no desire to belittle his talents in this particular in the slightest. But we do wish some others could see his traps before they fall in to them.

THE BUSINESS SYSTEM IS ON THE OTHER SIDE.
The sink of filth has for years been one of the drawing cards of the New York business men—most of them "eminently respectable," of course, but yet not only benefiting from crime and vice, but even opposing for business reasons any interference with it.

The Social-Democratic National Platform.
We, the Socialist Party, in convention assembled, make our appeal to the American people as the defender and preserver of the liberties and self-government, in which the majority and the workers of the political movement stand for the program and principles by which the liberty of the individual worker, and the workers of the world from uniting, and to throw them against each other in the struggle of contending capitalists for the control of the vast unexploited means of the world, or the remaining sources of profit.

Among other things the columns of the Faribault Referendum has been most assiduously used by the disruptionists in Minnesota to create suspicion and spread dissension in the ranks of the organization. This paper together with the Toledo Socialist has been the regular mouthpiece of the disturbers for months, and hardly a week passes without some long denouncing article from one of their number. This paper, over a year ago, openly and brazenly repudiated the national Socialist party, its platform, candidates and officials, and worked overtime scandalizing our comrades, Debs, Herron, Lee, Simons, Steadman—every one was either a fool or a knave and every one a fakir. Its disgusting billingsgate was poured out every week until the comrades grew sick and tired of the treasonable curse and kicked the paper out of the party. It is now a camp follower of the S. L. P.

the Socialist press and both local and national organizations plead lack of jurisdiction when charges are preferred.
This well bears out a suspicion that we had of the affair at the time it was being advertised in the press. In fact we were severely taken to task by a western preacher, a Rev. T. W. Woodrow, for hinting that the comrades should be careful in dealing with such a concern. "It may not be that in this particular instance," we said, "but it is quite conceivable that you might recommend a concern that would turn out a fraud and a catch-penny, which would then earn for you the hearty execrations of all those you had led to invest." It is a pretty good rule for Socialists to follow: Beware of the glib-tongued fellow, whether he is loaded down with "Socialistic" business proposals or undigested Socialist phrases. We are not yet living under conditions that tempt people to goodness rather than to badness, and "all's not gold that glitters!"

the Social-Democratic National Platform.
To the end that the workers may win every possible advantage that they can strengthen them to gain complete control of the powers of government, and thereby the sooner establish the co-operative commonwealth, the Socialist party pledges itself to advocate and secure in both the economic and the political struggle the successive immediate interest of the working class for shortened days of labor and increased wages; for the insurance of the workers against accident, sickness and lack of employment; for pensions for aged and exhausted workers; for the national ownership of the means of transportation, communication and exchange; for the control of the land, the mines, the surface, and of franchise of land values; the proceeds to be applied to the public utility and to the betterment of the conditions of the workers' children, and their education; for the settlement of strikes; for the new administrative system for pensioning the aged; for the betterment of the government, including initiative, referendum, proportional representation, and the recall of officers by their constituents; and for every aim or advantage for the working class that may be created from the capitalist system, and that may relieve the suffering and distress of the workers. We lay upon every man elected to any executive or legislative office the first duty of seeing to it that the economic and political interests of the workers' most immediate interest, and for whatever will lessen the economic and political power of the bourgeoisie, and increase the like powers of the worker.

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