

THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST

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EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. To secure a return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.

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WAS THE EXCEPTION JUSTIFIED?

The Socialist party of the city of Milwaukee held a city convention last week, and after a few hours' debate adopted a platform and outlined a program on which they will appeal to the voters of that city at the coming spring election.

The platform adopted by our Milwaukee comrades last week is of peculiar interest to Socialists throughout the country, for the reason that for the first time in the history of the Socialist movement in America our party has entered a political contest with a good prospect of victory on a large scale, which if won will place great responsibilities on the shoulders of the Socialists of that city.

The platform adopted by our Milwaukee comrades last week demonstrates that when it comes to the final test common sense, sanity and a due regard for utility and practicality are likely to prevail in Socialist councils.

There is one clause in the program adopted by the Milwaukee convention which will not doubt be severely criticised, since it is a slight break from what has always been considered one of the fundamental positions of Socialists the world over: that is, that Socialists would, under no conditions, vote to grant public franchises to private corporations.

It will now be in order for ex-Gov. Yates to deny that he ever knew the Very Rev. Dr. George H. Simmons, the advocate of "good men in politics."

The newspapers are so overcrowded with the news of the carnival of crime in Chicago that they have hardly any space to write about how Socialism would "break up the family and destroy our American institutions."

The sports all read Chief Collins' last order to his men to suppress gambling in Chicago. They had a good laugh, and then proceeded to look up the dope on the next day's entries just the same as if they expected to be able in some way to place their money.

The judges, the police authorities, the preachers and the newspapers are all crying out with a loud voice for harsher punishment for the criminals who are terrorizing the citizens of Chicago, but so far there has been little or no real attempt to discover the cause that is turning thousands of boys in their teens into the most desperate criminals.

Peoria is having more than its share of social and financial scandals. It hardly gets one "prominent citizen" behind the bars and the scandal lashed up until another more horrifying and far reaching is launched.

We are glad to note that several of the ward branches are forming study classes to read and study the fundamental principles of Socialism.

Socialist papers have often revealed the character and nature of the human brutes who rob the workers of the major portion of what they produce and then pose as philanthropists by doling out a very insignificant portion of their stealings in charity.

Why not order five of our yearly cards for \$2?

BERLIN'S DEMONSTRATION.

The "Bloody Sunday" Demonstration in the Greatest Socialist City in the World.

The demonstration for the universal franchise at Berlin on Jan. 21st was a most signal success. Ninety-three meetings were held in all parts of the city and hundreds of thousands of men and women participated.

There was not the slightest disorder, although more than one-fourth of a million people were on the streets, which were partly closed to travel by the police, making it necessary for the populace to use one side of the streets.

Not a drop of beer was taken by the demonstrators and not one drunkard could be seen on the street, except those unfortunate victims of capitalism who have sunk so deep that they cannot be reached by the Socialists; poor wretches, who are lost to society and to themselves.

The police acted very prudent and gave protection to the Socialists to use their own weapons, which kept excellent order, thereby again giving proof of the self-restraint and dignified self-control of the Socialists in the face of the shameful provocation by the government, which closed entire avenues by troops and forbade the use of public thoroughfares by the workers and their wives, threatening to shoot them down like dogs.

The Socialists of Berlin know their power and it is this confidence in their attitude of supremacy that keeps them cool and collected. They know that fear has prompted the government to make that laughable display of armed power, thereby exposing itself to the ridicule of the entire world.

The Socialists sailed pitifully at those youngsters in their student-costume and paid no attention to their childish display of the "Carpenter" colors.

ROBT. SALTIEL.

PRIMARY LAW CONTEST.

The following appeared in the Tribune of Wednesday, Feb. 7, and explains the status of affairs in our contest on the constitutionality of the new primary law:

SOCIALIST PARTY SEEKS VIT.

Petition to Compel Election Board to Allow Primaries is Presented to the Supreme Court.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 6.—(Special).—The constitutionality of the primary election law is attacked in a petition filed in the Illinois Supreme Court today by Charles L. Breckon of Chicago for a mandamus to compel the Election Commissioners of Cook County to allow the Socialist party to hold a primary election on Feb. 17 for offices to be filled at the spring election.

The primary election law passed by the last General Assembly, which has been in accordance with the intention of the Legislature, as it deprives citizens of the State of equal protection of the law.

Comrade Stover has returned from Springfield and reports that if the application is granted a quick trial will be given.

The Capitalists combine all the dynamic social forces and work them out for all there is in them in their own interests.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SOCIALISTS AND THE I. W. W.

There may have been many reasons six months ago why members of the Socialist party should not give their active support to the I. W. W. It was still an experiment. The evidence of the hopelessness of effective work for Socialism within the A. F. of L. was not yet so complete as to carry conviction to those not personally familiar with the inside workings of that organization.

The Pittsburg convention of the A. F. of L. dropped its attitude of contemptuous toleration of the Socialists and declared open war upon all who dare to speak of revolutionary political action.

Every event in the world of labor since the convention of the I. W. W. last June has justified the actions there taken and verified the predictions of those who took part in that meeting.

The capitalists have not neglected to do their part to prove the correctness of the I. W. W. position. The Typographical union is one of the best illustrations of the fact.

More significant still, while the hands of the members are tied so far as any united political action is concerned by "no politics in the union" rule, they find themselves subject to the most aggressive injunction campaign ever conducted against any union in America.

The labor union of the future must be one that will be able to utilize every possible force at the disposal of the working class. It must be unhampered by artificial trade divisions in its ranks.

No Socialist will dispute these assertions. Neither will any deny that the I. W. W. meets the requirements. Why, then, do not Socialist party members lend their assistance?

This does not mean that the S. P. should officially endorse the I. W. W. by resolution. That would be to repeat the error that has been so often attempted within the A. F. of L. where we tried to "make Socialists by resolution."

The proposition is: "Resolved, That it is the duty of all Socialists to support every economic or political struggle into which organized labor, as such, enters."

ENTERTAINMENT FOR RUSSIAN COMRADES. Last Saturday night the Lettians (Lettis) gave an entertainment and ball at Workman's Hall, 12th and Waller streets, for the benefit of their comrades in Russia.

LEWIS-HARRIMAN DEBATE.

Socialist Party vs. Union Labor Party. A union labor party is being formed in Los Angeles through the activities of the Schmitz-Reuf organization of San Francisco.

DIRECTORY Cook County Branches

County Committee Meets Second Sunday Each Month, 55 North Clark Street—Executive Committee Meets Every 1st and 3d Mondays—Charles L. Breckon, Secretary, 163 Randolph Street, Room 15.

NOTE—The list below gives the ward, day of meeting, place, names and address of the Secretary. Unless otherwise noted all meetings are at 8 p. m.

1—21st and 4th Fridays, 8 p. m. F. Scholl, 163 Randolph Street, Room 15.

2—Thursdays, 3517 State, Chas. W. Kuen, 5701 State.

3—Tuesdays, 2517 State, Mrs. D. Dalgard, 2641 State.

4—Mondays, 2317 Wentworth Av. David Walker, 2504 Princeton Av.

5—No. 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 3035 Honore, at Free's Hall, Peter Ounallgham, 3754 S. Rockwell.

6—Mondays, 24th Thursdays, Room 8, 4554 Cottage Grove Av. Florence Pollex, 412 E. 29th.

7—No. 1—A. B. Hvale, 6239 Greenwood.

8—No. 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 602 E. 63d. John Hancock, 6317 Evans.

9—No. 3—4th Wednesdays, 232 E. 53th. C. Loebing, 222 E. 53th.

10—No. 4—2d and 4th Wednesdays at 247 E. 60th Pl. Julius Fink, 250 E. 64th St.

11—Fridays, Union Headquarters, 924 and Erie. T. J. Vind, 278 79th.

12—Hegewisch, S. K. Maresal, Burnham.

The Socialist does not struggle because he likes to, but because he must. The struggle must continue until the might of the people reaches up and de-thrones the masters of the bread and gives equal opportunities to the race.

The great \$1,000 prize contest will begin Feb. 1, 1906, and close May 1, 1906. Every article listed is of genuine intrinsic value.

NOTICE

You are cordially invited to attend an Entertainment and Ball

THE SCANDINAVIAN SOCIALIST BRANCH. In 22d Ward at MEYERS' HALL, corner of Sigel and Sedgwick Sts.

FEBRUARY 18, 1906 at 7 o'clock Good Music Tickets 15 cents. COMMITTEE

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"THE NEW CHIVALRY"

The story, "New Chivalry," that was run on a serial in the Chicago Socialist, will soon be published in book form by the Chicago Socialist. The price will be single copies 10 cents. To publishers and agents \$4.00 per hundred. Send all orders to the Chicago Socialist, 163 Randolph Street.

Svenska Socialisten

50c. Per Year ISSUED TWICE A MONTH Address 413 7th St., Rockford, Ill.

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MASQUERADE BALL

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The above books will be sent to your address for \$4.80. Don't miss this bargain. Address the Chicago Socialist, Room 15, 163 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.