







The Socialist Convention

The body that comes nearest to representing the working class of the United States will meet in Chicago week after next.

No delegate to the Republican or the Democratic convention, save the handful who compose the "inner circle," expects to have any voice in the formation of a platform, the statements of principles or the nomination of candidates.

The Socialist convention, on the contrary, will be a really deliberative body. The problems of tactics, principles and persons which will best express the interests of Labor must be worked out by the delegates assembled, always bearing in mind the fact that these delegates in turn are but the representatives of the great rank and file of the organization.

Therefore the deliberations of the Socialist Convention will be the only ones that will have any historical meaning. That this fact is recognized by the opponents as well as the friends of Socialism is seen in the fact that all the great libraries are today carefully collecting the proceedings of the various conventions of the Socialist Parties of this and other countries and filing them away as material for historical research.

The proceedings of the coming convention will be of more than ordinary interest. They will occur at a most critical period in the history of Socialism. The questions to be settled will be of great importance to the future of Labor in America.

No one can tell today how any of these questions will be settled by the Convention. On the subject of Immigration, Labor Unions and numerous others almost equally important there are certain to be animated discussions and important decisions.

The only way to follow these discussions daily is through the Daily Socialist. The reading of these proceedings each day will constitute an education in Socialist philosophy and methods of doing business that can scarcely be equalled.

There should be at least twenty-five thousand additional readers for this series, and it is easily possible to attain that number with the start which has now been made.

As interest in the convention grows it is easier to secure readers and every advantage should be taken of this opportunity. There can be no better start for the great campaign now before us than a mighty army of readers familiar with every detail of the methods by which the platform, principles, tactics and candidates of the Socialist Party were determined upon.

No Great Bequests to Socialism

There are some who do not believe in the Socialist theory of class-consciousness. They do not think that people are moved by their class interests but by arguments and sympathy.

A proof of the Socialist position is supplied by a fact which would probably scarcely be thought of at all in this connection. It is that THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A LARGE BEQUEST TO THE CAUSE OF SOCIALISM.

At first this might seem like a very natural thing. Yet when we consider that there have been bequests for almost every possible purpose—to endow colleges, libraries, hospitals, museums, aeronautic research, to reward heroes, to care for sick cats, to establish masses, build churches of every known creed, then the fact of almost any omission becomes peculiar.

Yet for the last twenty years at least there has been a movement that claims to be able to abolish poverty and to do more for the world than any other movement the world has ever known. This movement has been steadily growing until today it has over thirty million adherents. It has aroused as great devotion in its followers as any religion. It has required the most tremendous financial sacrifice to maintain its organization and carry on its work.

Yet during all these years there has never been a wealthy person so hard up for an object to be remembered in his will, or so blind to his class interests, even in the moment of death, as to make the Socialist party of any country a heavy beneficiary of his fortune.

If people were really moved by argument or sympathy instead of by their class interests there would have been many exceptions to this rule. Here and there throughout the world there would have been men of wealth who, having become familiar with the Socialist philosophy and seen its truth, even though they might not have confessed their faith during life, would, when death came, have left their money to abolish the system upon whose evils they had grown rich.

What is the lesson of all this? Well, if a lesson is needed, it is the same old one that has been preached many times before, that IF THE WORKERS WOULD BE FREE THEY THEMSELVES MUST STRIKE THE PLOW.

No millionaires are going to finance the Socialist movement, and that very fact is one of the proofs that the philosophy of Socialism is correct.

Send in the Reports

The Daily Socialist is preparing to issue a special unemployed number shortly after the convention, to contain the result of the investigations now being made by its thousands of readers.

Already there is a great mass of matter on hand that is bringing out some new, strange and interesting phases of the situation. The army of the unemployed has companies and battalions located in some of the most out-of-the-way places. These are being sought out by the great body of correspondents of the Daily Socialist.

There is still need of further co-operation. Every reader is asked to send a letter or postal card giving the following information: Locality, Employed one year ago, Today, Wage reduction, Character of Industry

SAME OLD CRY

R. J. CALHOUN.

The cry of the wage-slave begins for a master to serve in order to feed and clothe himself in as old as our present form of civilization.

Under the subtle operation of this system the workman's sympathy seems to be alienated from his class just in proportion to the amount of his salary.

Never till this economic justice shall prevail and all shall have a right to work and receive the fruit of their labor will the competitive struggle for bread.

In the transition period from one form of slavery to the other, it has been a question whether the wage or chattel slave was the better off.

Last night it rained again, and under a fine blue sky and a bright spring sun this morning every blade of grass on my prairie waste conceals within its depths a flashing jewel and the scattered bits of broken glass as I pass flash up to me gorgeous gleams of emerald and ruby, of orange and gold and brightest green and violet and blue.

Everywhere one sees the struggle to make some green thing grow in the bits of back yards and on the porch railings.

Many of us who use the Metropolitan "L" will recall the little girl who tended her flower garden so carefully on the roof and porch railings near Halsted Street Station, and the chicken farm adorning the roof of a rear building somewhere near Marshfield.

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METROPOLITAN REFLECTIONS

FROM THE TWENTY-EIGHTH TO THE FIRST WARD.

BY W. B. NICKERSON.

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The Valley of Decision

BY JOHN FITZPATRICK

I lost the music of the sighing sea, The lark's will carry o'er the perfumed plain; Perchance in the city's hives, condescended to The Toilet's plight, gaudy robes of grief and pain.

WORLD OF SOCIALISM

BY J. B. ASKEW

The Bohemian Social-Democrats are celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of their history as a party. The latter was founded on April 7, 1875, in a hotel, "The Holy Margaret," in Prague, when twenty people held a private meeting, and the Czech Social-Democratic party was founded and its program fixed.

The elections to the Prussian Landtag are fixed for June 3, and the Socialist party executive board has issued a manifesto to the comrades in Prussia to make a great effort to secure at least that the participation of the workers shall be so great as to form an effective demonstration against a system which leaves 85 per cent of the population practically unrepresented.

AMERICAN LAW

Having suggested elsewhere that we probably get our law from our courts and judges in this country as is obtained by any other people, I am reminded by reading the American Mechanist Journal that in that trust-repudiation country the workers had quite recently had their "Taft Valet" experience. Since Jan. 1 of this year the Supreme Court of the United States of America has given no less than three astounding decisions on points of law which are in such cases as serious or more so, to organized labor, in the States as the Taft Valet decision was to us in this country.

TO THE EDITOR

Socialism Inevitable. Jack London in his "Iron Heel" and W. B. Dyer in his "Benevolent Feudalism" overlook the importance of one institution—its absolute necessity in fact—in any state of "feudal anarchy." In order to maintain an oligarchy or benevolent feudalism it is essential that the minds of the under-dogs be hypnotized by some sort of superstition.

Nietzsche's Works.

Will you name some other book written by Nietzsche other than "Human All Too Human"? T. F. B. Others of Nietzsche's well-known works are "The Gay Science," "Zarathustra: Dawn of Day," and "The Joyful Science."

Slow Journey.

The cable car crawled slowly on, with an occasional long pause at a threatened breakdown. At last an old man with a long, white beard rose feebly from a corner seat and tottered toward the door by the conductor, who said: "Your fare, please."

Strength of Ferns.

"Strength is not a thing usually attributed to maidenly ferns," remarked a farmer. "And yet if its roots have not sufficient room they will break the strongest flower pots. Blades of grass will force the curbstones between which they spring out of place. Indeed, the body of a grass blade grows in a wonderful manner. The most striking example is the island of Aldabra, to the northwest of Madagascar. The island is becoming smaller and smaller through the action of the mangroves, growing at the foot of the cliffs. The roots break off immense pieces of stone, which fall into the sea. Into the gaps thus formed the waves cut their way. In a few years it is likely that the combined action of the water and mangroves the island will disappear."



2393. GIRLS' DRESS. Paris Pattern No. 2393. All Seams Allowed.

Bright pink cotton voile has been used for this simple little every-day frock. The waist, made with a round neck and flaring sleeves, is cut in one piece, and a bias band of the same material with white trim the lower edge of the sleeves; similar bands ornamenting the front. Small white pearl buttons fasten the dress at the center-back, and trim the bias band's front of the waist. The skirt, full skirt, is attached to the waist under a belt of the material, and ribbon-trimmed beading trims this belt and the round neck. The pattern is in 4 sizes—6 to 12 years. For a girl of 10 years the dress requires 2 1/2 yards of material 27 inches wide, 2 1/4 yards wide 36 inches wide, 2 1/2 yards wide 48 inches wide, 1 1/2 yard of heading and 2 1/4 yards of ribbon to trim. Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Socialist Cook Book

"Picked-Up" Codfish.

Wash enough salt codfish to fill a cup when flaked. Pick it apart, removing bones and membranes. Cover with cold water and let it soak gradually to the simmering point. When ready to serve drain and cover with hot water and thick cream, and add a cupful of white sauce. Cook one rounded tablespoonful of flour in one of butter, melted, add gradually one cupful of hot milk, a dash of salt and pepper, and then the fish. Just before adding add one beaten egg, and stir until the egg is blended. Garnish the dish with toast points.