

MISSOURI SOCIALIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ST. LOUIS.

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A Serious Matter

Is the Socialist Movement to This University Professor.

NO FATHERLAND, NO MOTHER-TONGUE, IT KEEPS ON COMING.

A new magazine published in St. Louis and called "Commonwealth" has just made its appearance. The first number contains fifty-six pages of reading matter and twenty-three of these are devoted to an article on "The Principle of Collectivism," by William Poland S. J. of St. Louis University. The writer sets forth what he conceives to be the Socialist programme and then launches forth into a web of argument to prove that Socialism will destroy a man's "individuality, personal liberty and native autonomy," etc. Next week's issue of Missouri Socialist will contain a lengthy reply to the article by one of our correspondents. Some of the statements made in the preface by the writer are very complimentary, however, to Socialism, as they come from one opposed to it, and are in the nature of an admission. Following are extracts:

"However much we may have hitherto despised this theory, it is time for us to see that it is the tenet of the most widespread political party in the civilized world. It is a party that knows no fatherland, as it knows no mother tongue. It has cut itself free from all the prejudices of language and of traditional methods in government. It is even strong enough to-day to concentrate its forces in some constitutional, elective community and by a single majority ballot to take possession of the machinery of government."

"We are not considering here the advantages or disadvantages of certain municipal ownerships, as of water, lighting, and passenger transport; or of certain national ownerships, as of railways, telegraph lines, etc. We are occupied solely with the question of ultimate complete centralization, the abolition of private capital and the common ownership of all the means and instruments of production. The tendency of the broad Socialist movement is to this, as to an ideal, a goal. We are told that it is only by an ultimate reconstruction of society upon the basis of common ownership that all men will be enabled to receive a wage commensurate with their labor, a compensation due to them for the benefit which by their labor they bestow upon the community. It is seriously important, therefore, to understand at the beginning and to bear constantly in mind that in dealing with the collectivist theory we are dealing with a political theory of labor and not with a theory of idleness, anarchy, nihilism, dynamite or free plunder."

"In face of this latest scheme for the amelioration of the condition of labor, all the old systems for the reconstruction of society, the systems of St. Simon, Fourier, etc., have passed into the history of theory. The new system itself is far from being clear, whether as to the details of method or of practically distributed results. However, its fundamental principle, the consolidation and common ownership of all the means and instruments of production, is clearly and unmistakably announced. This principle, at least in partial expression, is found embodied as a political tenet in every Socialist programme that is presented to the people for their suffrage. It is the one point which is found in every Socialist programme without exception. And what is significant of its silent power is that it is recognized by governments the most antagonistic to it as a policy which may be legitimately presented to the people for their election."

"This collectivism has entered into the field to win not by violence, but by the present conventional political means, that is to say by a majority of votes. Though collectivists feel that just now they cannot get this majority for the establishment of the social state, yet they are sanguine of ultimate success. They rely upon the enemy as their best ally in the destruction of the enemy. Under the conditions of industry which have been brought about by machinery and rapid transport they are waiting for the competitive system to run its course. Within fifty years the old-time conditions—under which the tradesman owned his lot, his shop, his tools and the fruit of his labor, under which he found his own market and regulated supply to demand—have practically disappeared. Small proprietorships of peasant, mechanic, merchant have given way to

huge agricultural, industrial and mercantile capitalizations. The process goes on with giant strides. To use the expression of Karl Marx, 'one capitalist kills many.' The collectivist, then, is waiting for large capitals to absorb the smaller. He will thus find created for him a few millionaires on the one hand and a mass of wage-slaves on the other. The essential preparatory work will be done for him (as he could not do it himself) by the trusts and monopolies, the inevitable outcome of competition. As the capitalists by absorption grow fewer, the workers must increase in number, and they must also increase in misery, since they can have nothing to say about production, market or price. This development must go on until the workers revolt by using the legal means of suffrage which has been put into their hands. But when they revolt it will be as a united, organized, disciplined body, into which they shall have been formed by the very methods of the capitalist system. Then, as capitalists expropriated the many for the benefit of the few, the many will turn around and expropriate the few for the benefit of all."

New York City Convention.

The City Convention of the Social-Democratic Party of Greater New York was held last Saturday afternoon at the Labor Lyceum, 54 East 4th St. About one hundred and fifty delegates were present, representing forty-nine subdivisions. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, showing a determination on the part of New York comrades to make this campaign a memorable one. Comrade Morris Hillquit presided, with Comrade Warren Atkinson as vice-chairman. Leonard D. Abbott was chosen secretary. The committee were: Platform—Algernon Lee, Job Harriman, L. D. Mayes, L. D. Abbott and M. Hillquit.

Ways and Means—Emil Neppel, Phil Schmidt, H. Slobodin, C. H. Springer, Gerald Tushak, W. Atkinson and Wm. Koehn.

Comrade Abbott placed the name of Job Harriman before the convention for the Mayoralty nomination. Comrade Jonas presented the name of Ben Hanford, and Comrade Phillips nominated Algernon Lee. The two other candidates declined in favor of Comrade Hanford, and he was unanimously nominated amid cheers and applause.

Morris Brown, of Cigarmakers' 141, was then nominated for Comptroller, and Henry Stahl for President Board of Aldermen.

Alex. Jonas, Job Harriman and L. D. Abbott were elected a committee to fill vacancies if necessary.

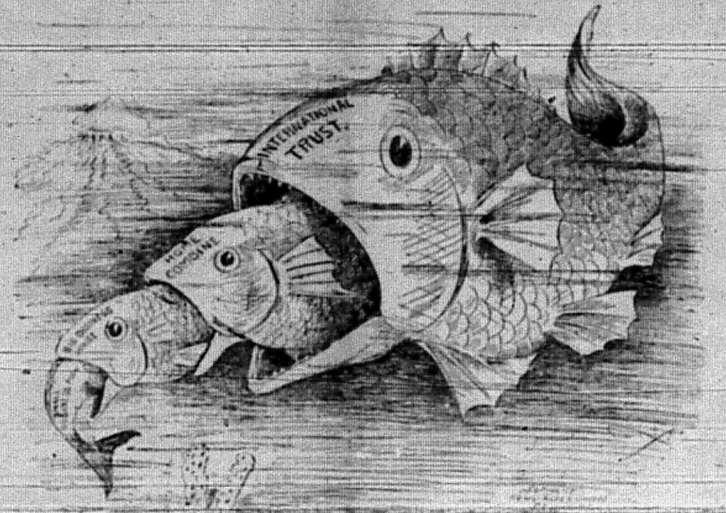
Prof. Herron and Ben Hanford were then called upon for speeches, and both delivered fiery addresses that were received with great enthusiasm. The convention then adjourned, with three cheers for the Social-Democratic Party.

A Socialist Preacher.

The Rev. John J. Spouse, of St. Charles, Mich., is no ordinary preacher. For some time he has been delivering sermons to his people from such texts as Matt. 6:19-34, Matt. 5:3-6, John 15:17, Jer. 15:12, Acts 4:32-7, Paul IV, Cor. 9:21-2, etc., to the great disgust of the goats in the flock, and when he hurled the Sermon on the Mount at them and informed them that it meant pure Socialism, the aforesaid goats, who were coal mine owners and their lackeys, began to dance around as though possessed of the devil. Rev. Spouse brought matters to a head by handing in his resignation, but it was not accepted, and then he exhorted from the Lord's Prayer, saying that the passage, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven," actually meant what it promised. It was the last straw. The goats refused to longer contribute to the support of the pastor, and several withdrew and joined another church, where they would hear no more distressing sermons. The undaunted Rev. Spouse next announced that he was going to secure a job, work ten hours a day, support himself and his family by his own labor, and preach for nothing. Here is a minister to whom we can doff our hat. When in the presence of some others our hands naturally drop on our watch and pocketbook.—Cleveland Citizen.

Subscribe at once, fifty cents a year.

THE WAY IT WORKS



Mr. Workingman, the above cartoon is no idle fish story. You know that you realize that the small business man is being swallowed up by the big business house, the big business house in turn by the national trust, and that the plans are now being laid for the international trust. The Socialists have told you long ago that these things were coming; so you see that Socialists are not such empty-headed fools as many people would have you believe. They must have some knowledge of political economy and of a whole lot of other things or they could not have foretold the conditions of to-day so accurately.

Now, the Socialists have told you one thing that has come true; they can tell you another. You hear Mr. Bryan and numerous other anti-trust men shouting about breaking up the trusts. They leave you under the impression that they intend to dissolve these big trusts into the thousands of former small concerns again. What would you think of the man who would tell you that after the big fish in the above picture had swallowed all the others and digested them thoroughly he could, by the enactment of a law, transform the big fish into a lot of little ones again? Well, the growth of the trusts is just as natural a process as the swallowing of the little fish by the big one, and when the international trust swallows the others it digests them thoroughly, and no amount of

magic or witchcraft can transform it into little concerns again. Now, you paste this into your hat and see if it doesn't prove to be true. The trusts cannot and will not be broken up.

But here is what the Socialist proposes. The trust is a good thing for the men who are in it; then let's all get into it. Let us have it owned collectively by the people. As it stands at present it is nothing but a monarchy in which a few men control and the workingmen who perform all the labor are practically slaves. Let us transform this industrial monarchy into an industrial democracy, in which every man shall have a voice and a share in the benefits.

This trust process is going to continue until there are only a few big international trusts running the whole industrial system of the world. Then you workingmen will finally wake up and vote to own and operate and manage those trusts yourselves. When you do that, you will reap all the blessings that ought to flow from the wonderful improvements made during the last century in science, invention, art, etc. You will only have to work a few hours each day to produce all you need to satisfy your wants and desires and the rest of your time you can spend in the improvement of your intellect and the enjoyment of life.

Think about these things, Mr. Workingman. They concern you more than anyone else.

Business! Business!

Mayor Wells Inaugurates a Reform—Cutting Workingmen's Wages.

FIFTY DOLLARS A MONTH ENOUGH FOR ANY ASSISTANT JANITOR.

"Every department of the city government must be administered on approved business principles," said the Democratic platform during the recent campaign, and Mayor Wells is evidently determined to carry out that plank without waver. That he is a "business" Mayor is not to be doubted. But many workingmen do not understand the meaning of the term, "business," though they are getting new object lessons on that point every day from the Democratic Mayor. A man who is in "business" is, as a general rule, a man who employs laborers, and one of the first principles of his business is to pay the laborers just as little as they will accept. Mayor Wells is "dead on" to all the little tricks of business, and he knows how to fleece the workingman in the proper style. When he promised a business administration he knew he could fulfill his promises. As recently reported in these columns, when a bill passed both branches of the Municipal Assembly to pay a gardener employed at the City Hall for overtime the Mayor promptly vetoed it on the ground that a public servant should not mind doing a little overtime work for the good of the public. In this matter he was only consistent with his platform and record. A man who is engaged in the exploitation of labor in private life, who upholds the capitalist system and who is elected to office on a capitalist platform cannot be expected to do otherwise than act in accordance with his training and beliefs, and Mr. Wells' opinion, ground into him by a life of business, is that the workingman needs a bone and nothing more.

A bill passed the House of Delegates and City Council the other day to add three janitors to the City Hall force at a salary of \$60 per month. Whether the janitors were needed or not is immaterial here. What we wish to call attention to is Mr. Wells' "business" instincts, which always keep him true to the interests of his class and make him look upon the working class with contempt. The bill was vetoed by the Mayor, for the following reasons stated in the morning papers:

"In his veto of the bill to increase the

force of janitors at the new City Hall from nine to twelve Mayor Wells called attention to the fact that approval would saddle upon the city an additional expense of \$180 per month or \$2,160 a year. The janitors at the Courthouse and Four Courts, he pointed out, were paid \$55 per month each, while those at the City Hall were given \$60. The bill vetoed provided for \$60 salaries to each of the three additional janitors. MR. WELLS DECLARED THAT HE CONSIDERED \$50 PER MONTH SUFFICIENT WAGES FOR ANY ASSISTANT JANITOR. Inclosed in his veto to this bill was the draft of an ordinance prepared under his direction providing for a force of twelve janitors at the City Hall, with salaries uniform for all janitors of \$50 per month each. Such a measure, he wrote, could be passed and the additional expense to the city would only be \$5 per month or \$60 a year.

The workingmen of St. Louis will no doubt be delighted with the eagerness of the Mayor (whom they elected) to cut down the wages of the members of their class, their fellow-workingmen. We hear no rumor of Mayor Wells having his own salary reduced from five thousand to the fifty dollars a month he thinks sufficient for a common workingman. It is only the laborers (the janitors who are doing all that is done to keep the City Hall clean), whose wages must be cut. The business men of the city pay the taxes to support the city government, and they don't want their burden increased. If it is necessary to have twelve men employed instead of nine in order to get more votes for the political machine it must be done by cutting the wages of the men already employed. Verily, Mayor Wells is a "business" man.

If the workingmen of St. Louis learn anything by object lesson, they will be convinced before the present Mayor's term is out that the wisest thing for them to do is to elect a Mayor who does not believe that fifty dollars a month is enough for any man, and they will go to the polls and elect a complete Socialist administration.

A Workingman's Celebration
 OF THE
 4th of July
 OF THE
At Rinkel's Grove, 5858 Easton Ave.
 OF THE
Social Democratic Party.
 Games of All Kinds. Prizes for Ladies.
 Do Not Make Any Other Engagement for the 4th.
 Complimentary Tickets can be had at Headquarters.
ROOM 9, 22 NORTH 4TH STREET.

Honorarium.
 Press dispatches from London report the appearance of the following advertisement in the London Times of June 13th.

"An American gentleman desires the services of an English lady of title as chaperon for his daughter during a three months' visit to England. Honorarium, \$25,000."

It is very probable that most of the wage slaves who supplied the wherewithal to enable the "gentleman" to make the above offer, have a hearty contempt for aristocratic titles, which is not shared by their exploiter. There must be something radically wrong with the idea that the members of a titled aristocracy are useless parasites, when a shrewd American capitalist values the "services" of one of them (and a woman at that) for 3 months only, at \$25,000. A great deal also depends upon the wording of an advertisement. It would be rather difficult to imagine the "gentleman" in question putting an advertisement in an

American newspaper, running something like this:

WANTED 200 laborers immediately to produce by their labor, wealth amounting to \$25,000 so that the advertiser may secure the services of an English lady of title as chaperon for his daughter for a term of three months. Job will last at least until the above sum has been produced. No mental qualifications required from applicants, but muscle indispensable. Usual honorarium, \$150 per diem. Come early and avoid the rush.

Apply X. Y. Z.

Never saw an advertisement worded in this manner, did you? No. Well try a pair of Socialist spectacles and you will discover not only many ads similar to the above, but also the fact that you were not able to read before procuring these valuable glasses. Make a start by subscribing for a Socialist paper. You can have one delivered regularly every week for the period of one year for the small "honorarium" of 50 cents.—The Workers' Call.

SHOW YOUR UNION CARD.

It Will Admit You to the Fourth of July Picnic at Rinkel's Grove.

Well, we're going to have a jolly time next Thursday at Rinkel's Grove, 5858 Easton Avenue. The jingo celebration arranged by the "business" interests will make much noise and consume enormous quantities of fireworks, but it will not attract the trade unionists of St. Louis. The trade unions of St. Louis are not going to march with the enemy. They remember the Fourth of July, 1876 as a day on which important truths were proclaimed, as a day on which the political liberty of American workingmen came in sight, but they are not going to be carried away by the screeching of an eagle into the belief that all's well to-day. They will gather at Rinkel's Grove next Thursday, and while they hear the Declaration of Independence discussed they will also consider plans for emancipating themselves industrially.

The indications are that a monster crowd will attend the Social Democratic Party Picnic Thursday. A large number of unions have taken the pains to formally notify the Central Committee that they will attend the picnic. Many of them desired that a parade be arranged, but as the distance to the grove is too great and the time was rather short, the idea was abandoned. The members of Team Drivers' Union, No. 170, were much disappointed when they learned this. They had decided to parade, 300 strong, with a number of floats, and had ordered 200 badges especially for the occasion. In addition to the many unions that have formally notified the Secretary, word has been received that in practically all the unions that have met since receiving the circular letter the sentiment was unanimous for attending.

Here is a sample of the letters received by Secretary Murphy:

Local Union No. 1 of the Tobacco

Workers' International Union.
 St. Louis, Mo., June 23, 1901.
 City Central Committee, S. D. P., R. Murphy, Secretary.

Dear Sir—Yours of June 4 received and read at last meeting of our local, and I am instructed to state that we will not participate in either of the parades on the 4th of July. We feel that it would be a sacrifice of union principles to have anything to do with anything with which such a squad of assassins as the posse comitatus is connected, and will not accept the invitation from them on these grounds. But in connection with your invitation we deem it the part of wisdom not to take part in the parade, but will attend your festivities, and tender you our best wishes for a grand success in your attempt to celebrate this greatest of all days to the American citizen.

Yours for Liberty,
 THOS. J. SANDEFUR,
 Recording Secretary.

The City Central Committee has arranged a programme for the day, including speeches, songs and athletic contests. MISSOURI SOCIALIST will take it as a special favor if everyone of its readers will attend this picnic and help to give three rousing cheers for international Socialism.

Complimentary tickets can be secured at this office. Members of trade unions will be admitted free upon showing their union cards.

With this issue MISSOURI SOCIALIST completes the first six months of its existence. As a number of subscriptions will expire every week hereafter we urge our readers to renew promptly in order that they may not miss a single number. Things are getting interesting now, and you want to keep right up with the procession.

Thirty-five cents a year in clubs of ten outside of St. Louis.

