



latter was not an official visit in the name of the Social and Trade-union movement at home.

The Offices of "Vorwärts."

The offices of the German Party are quite as sumptuous in their equipment as those of many of our city councils, and I amused our German comrades by declaring that they had no need for any further Socialism so far as their official quarters are concerned.

I have no space to describe more this week. I must not, however, omit to say that on the Thursday evening, after having supper with Mr. and Mrs. Bernstein, I returned with Bernstein to the city and met by appointment Legien, Saccenbach, Muller and Ebert.

I left Berlin before the deputation of Labour M. P.'s arrived, but I cherish the hope that my own little mission of peace and fraternity will linger in the memory of our German Socialist comrades.

WHAT OUR PARTY STANDS FOR

The Socialist Party is primarily an economic and political movement. It is not concerned with matters of religious belief.

In the struggle for freedom the interests of all modern workers are identical. The struggle is not only national but international. It embraces the world and will be carried to ultimate victory by the united workers of the world.

To unite the workers of the nation and their allies and sympathizers of all other classes to this end, is the mission of the Socialist Party. In this battle for freedom the Socialist Party does not strive to substitute working class rule for capitalist class rule, but by working class victory to free all humanity from class rule and to realize the international brotherhood of man.

The Socialist Party, in national convention assembled, again declares itself as the party of the working class, and appeals for the support of all workers of the United States and of all citizens who sympathize with the great and just cause of labor.

We are at this moment in the midst of one of those industrial breakdowns that periodically paralyze the life of the nation. The much boasted era of our national prosperity has been followed by one of general misery. Factories, mills and mines are closed. Millions of men, ready, willing and able to provide the nation with all the necessaries and comforts of life, are forced into idleness and starvation.

Within recent times the trusts and monopolies have attained an enormous and menacing development. They have acquired the power to dictate the terms upon which we shall be allowed to live. The trusts fix the prices of our bread, meat and sugar, of our coal, oil and clothing, of our raw material and machinery, of all the necessities of life.

The present desperate condition of the workers has been made the opportunity for a renewed onslaught on Organized Labor. The highest courts of the country have within the last year rendered decision after decision depriving the workers of rights which they had won by generations of struggle.

The attempt to destroy the Western Federation of Miners, although defeated by the solidarity of Organized Labor and the Socialist movement, revealed the existence of a far-reaching and unscrupulous conspiracy by the ruling class against the organizations of labor.

In their efforts to take the lives of the leaders of the miners the conspirators violated state laws and the federal constitution in a manner seldom equaled even in a country so completely dominated by the profit-seeking class as is the United States.

The Congress of the United States has shown its contempt for the interests of labor as plainly and unmistakably as have the other branches of government. The laws for which the labor organizations have continually petitioned have failed to pass. Laws ostensibly enacted for the benefit of labor have been distorted against labor.

The working class of the United States can not expect any remedy for its wrongs from the present ruling class or from the dominant parties. So long as a small number of individuals are permitted to control the sources of the nation's wealth for their private profit in competition with each other and for the exploitation of their fellowmen, industrial depressions are bound to occur at certain intervals. No currency reforms or other legislative measures proposed by capitalist reformers can avail against these fatal results of utter anarchy in production.

Individual competition leads inevitably to combinations and trusts. No amount of government regulation, or of publicity, or of restrictive legislation will arrest the natural course of modern industrial development.

While our courts, legislative and executive offices remain in the hands of the ruling classes and their agents the government will be used in the interests of these classes as against the toilers.

Political parties are but the expression of economic class interests. The Republican, the Democratic, and the so-called "Independence" parties and all parties other than the Socialist Party, are financed, directed and controlled by the representatives of different groups of the ruling class.

In the maintenance of class government both the Democratic and Republican parties have been equally guilty. The Republican party has had control of the national government and has been directly and actively responsible for these wrongs. The Democratic party, while saved from direct responsibility by its political impotence, has shown itself equally subservient to the aims of the capitalist class whenever and wherever it has been in power.

The old chattel slave owning aristocracy of the South, which was the backbone of the Democratic party, has been supplanted by a child slave plutocracy. In the great cities of our country the Democratic party is allied with the criminal element of the slums as the Republican party is allied with the predatory criminals of the palace in maintaining the interests of the possessing class.

The various "reform" movements and parties which have sprung up within recent years are but the clumsy express of widespread popular discontent. They are not based on an intelligent understanding of the historical development of civilization and of the economic and political needs of our time. They are bound to perish as the numerous middle class reform movements of the past have perished.

New York's Population Growth.

The city of New York is said to be increasing in population at the rate of 300,000 per year, or in other words, in every two years New York gains a population nearly equal to the population of Boston.

Better Municipal Government.

Better municipal government is necessary in any plan to abate the curse of the city, but while struggling for better government, as every good citizen is bound to do, let every wage earner remember that the Union has always been on the right side of every big human question and is sure to be right in the struggle against the curse of the city.

Justice or Chivalry.

Justice would be worth more to women than chivalry, if they could not have both. A working girl put the case in a nutshell when she said: "I would gladly stand for twenty minutes in the street car going home, if by doing so I could get the same pay that a man would have had for doing my day's work."

Be Not Deceived by Figures.

Let us not be deceived by statistics here. There was an apparent growth of the middle class from 1880 to 1890; a growth in quantity, but a decrease in quality. Those entering the mercantile middle class were not attracted there by any enlargement of its field of opportunities; they were driven there by the closing up of other avenues of employment and enter only to feed the fire of bankruptcy.

The Outcry Against the Trust.

The laboring class need clearly to understand that this outcry against the trust does not imply a betterment of labor conditions. It does not mean the independence of the laborer. The tools of production today are social, and can only be operated by co-operative labor. This fact precludes the possibility of individual ownership of the tools by the laborers.

Our Book Department

Books On Socialism, Labor, Science and Nature

Table listing authors and titles of books such as 'The Student's Marx', 'The Religion of Socialism', 'Woman and Socialism', etc., with corresponding prices.

Table listing various books and pamphlets such as 'Rights of Man', 'Crisis', 'The Republic', etc., with prices.

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