

VOLE FOR THE PARTY OF YOUR CLASS

ABOLISH THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM

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SPLENDID EXAMPLE OF SOCIALISTS AT WORK

The Old Order Changes. Graft and Waste Giving Way Before Active Socialist Measures. Keep your Eye on Milwaukee

The Milwaukee Socialists have begun their Congressional campaign with a whooping success! They have triumphantly invaded Waukesha, that rocked-ribbed republican stronghold which is united with a part of Milwaukee in one Congressional district. But for this handicap on Milwaukee, we should have sent a Socialist to Congress years ago. This is the district in which Victor L. Berger is now candidate for Congress. Of course, the first necessary step for the Milwaukee Socialists was in some way to break into Waukesha County. Mayor Seidel was assigned to this difficult task. And royally he performed it. He fired the first gun, or in other words, delivered the opening speech of the campaign, in Waukesha City Park. A great republican rally had been advertised with big posters for the same evening. But as only eight persons came to the republican "mass meetings", the republican orator announced that it was "postponed". Meanwhile, the crowd had all gone to the park to hear Seidel. One thousand persons stood all through his speech and listened most attentively. Mayor Seidel was at his best, his voice was in fine trim, his arguments frank, simple, and admirably adapted to his audience. He spoke on the fake issues of the "reform" republicans and exposed them clearly, impressively, and without the slightest bitterness. His evident sincerity made a deep impression on his hearers, and it is safe to say that very many of them have now voted the republican ticket for the last time. This initial victory has greatly encouraged the Waukesha Socialists and correspondingly disheartened the enemy. One of the most interesting projects now actually being worked out by the Milwaukee Socialist administration is the purchase of a municipal stone quarry. The city has a chance to buy a fine quarry of limestone on the shore of the lake. If this purchase is made most of the stone used in the public works of the city can be taken from this quarry. This will be a nucleus, in fact, for a municipal works department. As the Milwaukee charter, amid all its prohibitions and obstacles, does allow the city to buy and sell land, there is no legal obstacle to this purchase. It is therefore likely that stone quarrying will be the first real municipal industry inaugurated by the Socialist administration. This quarry contains enough stone to furnish the city for generations. The stone can be crushed and delivered on board a boat at a cost of 30 cents per cubic yard. If transported in the city scow, transportation will cost 5 cents per yard, and the unloading will cost 5 cents more. As Milwaukee is now paying \$1.25 to \$1.40 per cubic yard for crushed stone, it will readily be seen what will be the saving to the city. If, moreover, the city should use its own tug and its own machinery for unloading, there would be an additional saving of six cents per cubic yard. As the Socialists are planning many and extensive public works, this saving in building material is a most important matter, apart from the splendid example it will afford of municipal industry and Socialist efficiency. And speaking of Socialist efficiency, here is another example. The Milwaukee administration, not finding a Socialist at home who was an expert on street paving, imported one from New York City. The administration felt that for this important part of its work a Socialist was almost indispensable. Of course, quite a howl was raised by the non-Socialists about carpet-baggers and outsiders brought in to govern the city. But before this young Socialist had fairly taken off his coat and gotten to work, he saved the amount of his salary for seven or eight years. He exposed a deal which was on foot to make about 200 per cent profit out of the city by

a firm selling "bitulithic" pavement. This firm asked an exorbitant price for this pavement, and if the graft had not been discovered, the city would have been out more than \$25,000. So much for having a Socialist on the job! But it must always be remembered that the Socialist's motive in saving public money is diametrically opposite to the bourgeois idea of public economy. The bourgeois wants municipal graft stopped in order to reduce taxes. The Socialist administration is not worrying about taxes. It aims at economy in order to have the means for great and beneficent public enterprises. And although the Milwaukee city treasury was left in an almost bankrupt condition by the former administration, it does appear that the Socialist administration will have the means for some of these enterprises in the near future. Even now, the Socialist member of the Council committee on Plats and the committee on streets and the Park Commission are working out the plan for re-platting the city, for the purpose of establishing the zone system. This system will exclude from the residential districts the factories and railroads which now make most districts of the working class homes unsanitary, unsafe, and noisy. The plan is also to solve the housing question by building and renting model workingmen's homes. While these projects take time for their proper working out and accomplishment, there are many improvements which the Socialists are now making for the benefit of the working people. For instance, the alleys in the slum districts are being carefully cleared, and rendered more sanitary than under any previous administration. While the Socialists deplore the fact that under capitalism jails and prisons are still necessary, they should at least be constructed on as humane lines as possible. The Milwaukee Socialists are following this principle in the erection of the new Central Police Station. According to an expert in such matters in fact, the professor of Sociology in the University of Chicago, this building, when finished, will be the best city prison in America, from the standpoint of sanitation and comfort, and as to light, and the size of the cells, the windows and the corridors. The committee to whom the plans were submitted, insisted that the cells must receive direct sunlight, for the health and comfort of the inmates, and in fact they demanded all the improved humane, and up-to-date arrangements for prisoners. These are some of the things which the Milwaukee Socialists are now doing and planning. For big things a good deal of time must first be spent in study, thought, and earnest work to bring the details of each project into proper form. And this work is what the Milwaukee Socialists have been and are still doing. But already they are taking the initial steps towards many of these measures, and the near future will begin to show some fruits. John I. Beggs, the Milwaukee street car czar and chief enemy of the Socialists, recently paid us a compliment. All former administrations of Milwaukee, said he, have planned for two years only. Each administration has not thought beyond the term of its own existence. But the Socialists, says Mr. Beggs, should be credited at least with one thing - with making plans for the future. We were not prepared for any praise from this quarter. "Sweet", says Heine, "is praise from the enemy". But whether it is sweet or not (and in fact we Socialists have learned not to pay much attention to what is said about us) it certainly is true. The Socialist plans are laid for the future of the race. Mayer Seidel of Milwaukee has issued a remarkable proclamation. In

proclaiming "Milwaukee Day" at the Wisconsin State Fair, as is the annual custom of the Mayors of Milwaukee, he recommends all citizens to make the day auspicious, all employers to give their employes an opportunity to attend the fair and the school authorities to grant the children a holiday. Then comes the unique part of the proclamation. The Mayor continues as follows: "As we pass the exhibits one by one, let the workers unite in a realization that their long and sacrificial hours have made these products by toil and by co-operation with the forces of nature. Let the legislature, the executive and the judge ask themselves, 'Are we in our acts of legislation, administration and interpretation doing all that is within our powers to extend justice to the men, women and children whose labor, vitality, skill health, whose very lives have been given to create the wealth displayed here?' Let patriots remember that attempts of organized labor to elevate the standard of American citizenship should receive the heartiest co-operation on the part of the authorities under whose auspices these exhibits are prepared. The cause of better social service and better citizenship will in this way be conserved." This is certainly the first time that an American Mayor has ever seized the occasion of a state fair to read the public a lesson on its duties to the working class. Milwaukee has now taken the first real step towards the establishment of

the "Zone System" proposed by the Socialist administration. The idea of the Zone System is to separate the factories with their smoke dust, fumes and noise, from the home district of the working men. It is intended in the future the factories will be in factory districts, and dwellings in the dwelling home districts. To protect the latter from the unsanitary atmosphere and the unsightly prospect of the factories, the two districts will be separated by strips of parks. Milwaukee made a beginning last Tuesday towards carrying out this plan. The county purchased forty acres of land on the western edge of the city. This land consists of three parts which will serve for the three purposes of the Zone System. It comprises a high wooded bluff, admirably adapted for a residence district. Another portion contains the flat land along the Menominee River - just the place for factory sites. Between these two divisions is an exquisitely beautiful little wood, a little remnant of the old primeval forest, which once surrounded Milwaukee, and still inhabited by lovely wild flowers, ferns, and flying squirrels. This, it is proposed, will be left for a natural park, to serve as a screen between the homes and the factories. Of course, this purchase is only the initial step. But much will follow from this beginning - including, we hope, model homes for the working men, owned and leased by the city. Thus the "dreams" of the Socialists

TIMES' PLOT BLAMED TO GOMPERS

(By Pan-American Press) WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 12. - Samuel Gompers and the officers of the American Federation of Labor are charged in the current issue of the American Industries with furnishing the "murderous inspiration" which caused the destruction of the Los Angeles Times office. In an editorial paragraph which leaves no question as to the nature of the accusation, American Industries says: "The actual deed is the least important. Of greater moment is the punishment of those whose leadership furnished the murderous inspiration, whose attitude toward the law of the land set the example of unbridled and ferocious hatred, whose public harangues and private councils, and whose printed words emboldened the wretches to send to their deaths a score of their fellow men. This is not the first instance of assassination incited in inflammatory teachings. It is not the first time in our history when incendiary words brought deliberate murder. In that fact is this Los Angeles disaster similar to that other national crime which lost to us a good man and a great president. Evidence at Any Cost Labor leaders in Washington, while freely denouncing the outrageous

charges in American Industries, are loth to believe that an actual attempt to "orchardize" the American Federation of Labor officers is being plotted. And yet they acknowledge that the enormous rewards offered by the Merchants and Manufacturers association of Los Angeles has incited detective agencies to get evidence at any cost and started a man-hunt over the United States that may end anywhere. A this time of writing, says American Industries, "there is full evidence that the wrecking of the Times building by a powerful explosive, and the attempted wrecking of General Harrison Gray Otis' residence, and the residence of F. J. Zeelandier, secretary of the Merchants and Manufacturers' association of Los Angeles, were part and parcel of a diabolical plot concocted because the score of victims had committed the crime of working for their families and for themselves in defiance of union rules." That American Industries does not confine itself to mere abstract accusations but attempts to offer evidence as to the direct connection between the American Federation of Labor is shown in its printing, verbatim, resolutions passed at the Norfolk convention which provided, asserts American Industries, "a war fund for use in attacking the Los Angeles Times."

LABOR CONDITIONS IN MILWAUKEE

The morning newspapers have made an immediate raise of \$1.00 per week, from \$24 to \$25. The officials of the printers organizations who conducted the conferences relative to these increases, remark that in all of these conferences it was the fact that the laboring administration was in control of the city that seemed to be the deciding factor. And it is not only the printers that have reason to rejoice because of the Socialist victory in Milwaukee. Within ten days of the time that Mayor Seidel and his comrades were elected to office, the following things occurred: The Brand Stove Works settled a strike with its employes to the advantage of the men. The contractors of the big Auditorium came to terms with the unions and the building was made "Fair." The street car company voluntarily raised the wages of its men from \$3.00 to \$3.00 per month and allowed a \$10.00 increase to apprentices. The International Harvester Trust, which has a very large plant in Milwaukee, announced that hereafter it would compensate all workmen for injuries received in their employ. These are a few of the direct and indirect results of the Socialist administration in Milwaukee during the

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A CHAT WITH EDISON ON MUNICIPAL PROGRESS

How Wizard of America Stands Towards Socialists of Milwaukee. Scientific Rebuilding of Cities by Walter Thomas Mills

For some years I have contended that Thomas A. Edison and Luther Burbank are the two greatest men of this generation. Discovery and invention have been the principal means of human progress. Sometime the world's history is to be told with this fact in view. Then the historical accidents will disappear and the creators of new eras will come to the fore. When this shall happen, it will be seen how spasmodic and irregular have been the movements in all lines of human progress. At best discovery and invention are a continuous part of the world's serious business. Among those in the study of living forces, Burbank has no equal. Among those in the study of mechanical powers Edison's is easily the master mind of all. These two have equipped for the work with great care—great expense and are giving their best and ripest years to the common good. When Burbank had so improved the cactus that its food value was no longer in question a syndicate tried to buy and monopolize the plant. Burbank replied that there was no money enough to make the purchase. He was not trying to make money but to make an end of hunger. When Edison had worked out his plan for cement structures to be cheaply made, again a syndicate tried to purchase and monopolize the process. Mr. Edison replied that he was not making this invention in order to make money but with the hope of placing clean, modern, sanitary and beautiful homes within the reach of all. I have not cared to put myself in the way of "the great" or "the near great." I was never present at an inauguration of a new president in America. The chief of figures in such ceremonies does not interest me. Many times I have passed a block away from the president's train without taking the trouble to walk the block to see the man helping to do the things which ought not to be done. Once I even turned my face away when the president was going by. I was more comfortable looking the other way. Recently I met George Westinghouse on a public street. A mutual friend had suggested a meeting but I had no errand and made no call. But I stood for sometime after he had passed, watching his faltering steps. He had been a great organizer of other men's ideas. He had absorbed the fruits of the activities of many brains. He had ruthlessly dealt with inventors of my acquaintance. He had built up enormous business enterprises. He was just then home from New York where the mastery of the business his mind had built had been taken away from him by the speculators who had shared the fruits of his labors but were at last convinced there would be more in the business for the shareholders if there were less in the business of Westinghouse. He too was an inventor. To the end he had been a money maker. He was used by the money makers while they could use him and had been dumped by the money makers just as he had dumped so many workers when keeping them longer would not pay. Not so with Edison. He had been the master among inventors but his greatest interest in what he believes will be his greatest invention is in its service to the common good. I had often wished I might see the face hear the voice and feel the pressure of the personality of both Luther Burbank and Thomas A. Edison. Recently I was made a special commissioner for the city of Milwaukee. Our city had purchased four thousand acres of land—expects to purchase more. It is planning workingmen's homes on a large scale and under more rational and practicable plans than have ever before been undertaken. The land will be laid out with wide boulevards—with grass and trees and flowers and fountains of

water everywhere. The houses will be real houses and they are to be provided to the workers at the cost of production and that when the production shall be large scale production as well. It seemed to me that Milwaukee and Edison could work together. Any way I went to West Orange, New Jersey—found my way to the great manufacturing plant he calls his laboratory and sent in my card. Very soon I was told that Mr. Edison would see me and I was directed which way to go. In a large room with a twenty foot ceiling, a balcony all the way around and half way up and cases for models shelves for books and keepsakes and suggestions everywhere—at convenient points were working tables, but in the center of it all sat the man I was looking for. His swinging chair reached both ways to well equipped working desks and he was absorbed in his work. As I approached him he suddenly looked up and said, "My ears are failing me. You will need to speak very distinctly." And then "This is Mr. Mills. Yes, you are a Scotchman." I touched the proper spots on my vocal organs and he seemed pleased with the result. "I can hear you perfectly," he said, renewing his assertion that I was a Scotchman—after I had said I was a Yankee. "But I have been born nine times over in the United States," I said. "Doesn't matter, the tenth time backward was in Scotland." No, my ancestors were from England. That's probably true. All the Mills family are the same family and they all came from Scotland before they ever came from anywhere else." Admitting that I could not disprove his statement I stated the nature of my errand and without interruption until I had told my story of our city's plans. Then I said, "I am here especially to learn about the progress of your plans for cement houses and if it be found that our city could make use of your plans whether we could deal with you as a direct municipality." He was on his feet instantly. "Let me show you what I am doing," he said, and at once turned to a nearby table with a model of the cement house completed in full. Every room with double lights and cross ventilation, all high, light, beautiful—the porch a model of comfort. The roof of red tile, the cement work including foundations, walks all completely reinforced, floors, stairways and roofs, the joints in the house pipes of every kind, effected by electric welding, all modern comforts and conveniences in a working man's home. He showed me samples of the stone as it will show in the completed wall, called attention to the extensive art work in design for both exterior and interior decoration. He showed me the men working in clay whose designs are afterwards made into plaster and finally cast into solid iron. Doors, ceilings, windows, the cornices, all portions of the house where ornamentation would be in order—none are being neglected. When it is remembered that the men still engaged on this work had been two years busily producing these designs, it can be understood how varied are these models. He showed me where the casting into iron was taking place and finally on a great machine of his own invention, the cast iron forms are so carefully milled that the parts are made to fit together with such accuracy that not a cross line will be visible in the finished work. He showed me the half finished structure rising as rapidly as the forms are ready. He explained how the cement would be machine mixed, machine carried to the molds, how completely the cement was protected from bubbles, and finally how in process of use the forms would not be completely unbolted in

Continued on Page 4.