

to the tariff. Not so now. The mill managers contend that there has been an appreciable increase in the rate of wages paid in the mills, but the operatives point to the intensified conditions of labor and more than that to the increased cost of living, so that it is now hard to keep soul and body together. The feeling is that the tariff is largely to blame, and there is a strong reaction against it.

This feeling in the Manchester cotton mills showed itself in the meeting of the Economic Club, of which, however, only financial, business and professional men are members. I delivered myself in the same radical style against the tariff in toto, for the public taking over of every function of a public highway, and for the application of the Single Tax. I had the honor to divide the time with Professor Thomas Nixon Carver, one of the several professors in the department of Economics in Harvard University, at Cambridge. He revealed himself against the tariff and leaning toward the Single Tax, but, like Professor Gardner at Portland, he declared for the increased output of gold as accounting in the main for increasing prices by the cheapening of gold and the relative advance of everything else. The significant aspect of this occasion was manifest approval of most of the hearers of Professor Carver's indirect and of my direct assault upon the tariff. It was plain that even among these conservative men, the tide of radical thought was running.

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And as if to leave no room for doubt as to his own radical leanings, Professor Carver next morning as we traveled together to Boston, invited me to visit Harvard and address one of his more advanced classes in Political Economy. I gladly accepted for that afternoon, and for the space of an hour made an address and answered questions on the Single Tax.

This was in Harvard House, one of the oldest of the University buildings. Just a stone's throw outside the high ornate iron fence, and not far from the oak under which George Washington assumed formal command of the colonial army in the Revolutionary War, I had two days before made an address on the moral aspects of the British budget fight before the Unitarian congregation of Rev. Dr. Crothers, which is said to be one of the finest congregations in Cambridge.

This address was arranged by Professor Lewis J. Johnson, of the Department of Engineering at Harvard. Professor Johnson reports the very rapid headway of radical ideas in and about Cambridge—not alone for free trade and the Single Tax, but for the Initiative and Referendum and Recall. He himself has drawn up and presented to the legislature for its action a new charter for the city of Cambridge based upon the latter ideas.

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In Lynn, the center of the shoe industry, I met Mr. Fay Aldrich, president of the "Wage Earners' Political Club," the newly organized political end of the trade unions of the town. He was outspoken against protectionism. And in Boston, where I spoke briefly before the Twentieth Century Club, it was evident that "insurgency" had made deep inroads.

Indeed from what I heard there, in Cambridge and in Lynn, Senator Lodge may have to fight hard for his Bourbon Republicanism and re-election to his seat at Washington. The current that has forced Aldrich and Hale out of the running may force him out, too. At any rate, it will probably give him a hard battle—a thing that seemed least likely but a short time ago.

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At Washington, D. C., where I went a day or two after returning from my excursion into New England, I found the Democrats confident and the Republicans correspondingly doubtful of victory in the Congressional elections this fall. Hon. Champ Clark, the minority leader in the House, gave it as his judgment that if the elections were to be held now the Democrats would have a majority so big as to be unmanageable.

Senator LaFollette believes a tremendous reaction is imminent against all the exploiting of the people during the recent years, and he reads in current events the most pronounced confirmation of his own Insurgent operations.

In some quarters I heard urgent demands for the establishment of an information bureau at Washington, especially as to tariff information, which is now very hard to get since President Taft has issued an order that no departmental information shall be furnished to members of Congress—either Senators or Representatives—except through the Cabinet head of each Department. The Cabinet stands pat on the tariff and other measures and policies which the President has originated or approved—that is to say, is not furnishing any anti-administration information. I think myself that a small bureau of information for the supplying of facts on the tariff and other advanced subjects would be invaluable for the next four or six months to many of the active Democrats and most of the Insurgent Republicans in Congress. The men to get up the information could be found if the expense money was forth-coming.

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Finally I wish to report that I found not a few Democrats in Washington in a prayerful mood. They are offering up supplications like that which appeared in the Houston Post, which runs:

O Lord, now that everything is coming our way, purge every Democratic soul of hot air and vain-glory, and insert large installments of common sense in every Democratic cranium; and oh, remember, Lord, our proneness to make fools of ourselves just when we have the world by the tail and a downhill pull, and see that we don't get in bad this time.

HENRY GEORGE.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

SOCIALISTS AND SINGLE TAXERS.

New York, April 18th, 1910.

I do not entirely agree with Mr. Harry George (p. 344), that debates with Socialists are, on the whole, injurious as creating a division between reform forces. I think I have done as much work as anyone

in bringing Socialists and Single Taxers together, and in combatting the stupid desire of reformers to rip each other down the back. I have frequently debated with Socialists and often addressed Socialist meetings: I debated with Mr. Lewis in Chicago and found no antagonism, and I think the debate resulted in clearing up ideas. I find at Socialist meetings, after an explanation of the Single Tax along the line of their thought, and emphasizing the points where we can go together, there is ordinarily no objection and usually few questions from the audience. I am inclined to think that it is more the Single Taxers who are opposed to the Socialists than it is the Socialists who are opposed to the Single Taxers. We are Individualistic and they are Collectivist—so that perhaps it is natural.

BOLTON HALL.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, April 26, 1910.

Socialism in Milwaukee.

In his inaugural message, which was published too late for our use last week, Mayor Seidel of Milwaukee (p. 369) said that the promises of the Socialist platform, such as can be carried out under the provisions of the present charter, should be taken up at once, and "where the charter interferes, proper bills should at once be drafted to be presented to the next legislature." Putting home rule for Milwaukee before all other things, he also urged the passage of such measures as will promote the well being of the workers, check any tendency to encroach upon such few rights as the workers still enjoy, and whenever possible extend for them the opportunities of life. Specifically he said that the administration should constantly watch over the conditions prevailing in factories, workshops and places of employment with regard to sanitation; there should at all times be a full and hearty co-operation with State factory inspectors in the enforcement of measures providing for industrial hygiene. As to contracts to be let by the city, he argued that as the quality and treatment of materials may be specified to insure economy, it is the height of absurdity to contend that this should not hold good with regard to labor, and therefore the specifications should provide for hours of labor that are not exhausting, that leave a margin of time for rest and development; should provide for sufficiency of light and ventilation, and should prohibit child labor, prop-

erly protect woman labor, and prevent the imposition upon workers of degrading conditions. He proposed also a municipal survey, to furnish accurate and adequate knowledge of social, industrial and economic conditions leading to specific and practicable plans for city betterment. Other suggestions were of the more familiar kind. Regarding the extraordinary occasion and the goal before them, he said, as reported by the Chicago Tribune:

The whole spirit of this day here and now is one of resolve and consecration to the task of making Milwaukee a safe place for its men, women and children—a home for its people. By toiling patiently with one series of problems after another, by fighting battle after battle with never lessening enthusiasm, by moving forward from one point of victory to another, with confidence that we are in accord with the trend of civilization and the highest ideals of humanity, out of such struggles as we are called by an irresistible summons to engage in, advancement will be made and progress will be realized toward a great city, with a free, independent civic spirit.

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As Commissioner of the public debt, Mayor Seidel appointed Joseph Uihlein, the head of the Schlitz Brewing Company, one of the wealthiest men in Milwaukee and not a Socialist. He refused to re-appoint the health commissioner, a physician, but appointed to this place (temporarily until an expert can be secured) Walter P. Stroesser, a tailor. For commissioner of public works, in place of three commissioners, he appointed Harry E. Briggs, an instructor in the trade school, his purpose being to put this department in the hands of one expert. An eight-hour day was fixed by general order for all servants of the city, not only those who are usually expected to work longer than eight hours, but those also who are usually allowed to work less. The heads of departments themselves are to be on duty from 8 in the morning till 5 at night, with an hour for luncheon in the middle of the day.

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At the first thorough-going business meeting of the Council held on the 25th, committee chairmen and vice-chairmen of committees were appointed. A Democrat, Frederick Bogk, was retained as chairman of the special committee on harbors; but all the other chairmen as well as the vice-chairmen were Socialists. In explanation of this, Socialist leaders are reported as saying that "the Socialists are determined to carry out their campaign pledges," and that "the only way in which they can make progress is by having the power in the Council absolutely in their own hands." In redemption of those pledges, resolutions and ordinances were introduced at this meeting of the Council to secure home rule, improved housing conditions, a bureau of municipal research, preference for union labor on all bridge work, acquisi-