

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-

tion of a municipal coal and wood yard, adoption of State laws authorizing the removal of city employes for just cause, use of public school buildings for dances, amalgamation of a number of city offices for financial reasons, creation of public comfort stations, and limitation of use of city automobiles to municipal purposes.

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A Blossoming World Stormswept.

With a "March spring" the crops of the Central West and the Mississippi Valley have been prematurely advanced from a month to six weeks. On the 23d, what has been described as "the most disastrous and far-reaching storm experienced in a generation," swept with snow and a bitter wind over the North Central States, and in the days immediately following, through the Southern Mississippi Valley States, while but slightly abating its rigors in the North. The frost in Illinois varied from 18 degrees to 30 degrees and the snow blew in drifts that were slow to melt. Fruit trees that had already blossomed, shrubs in flower, and shade trees in leaf, hung thick with the snow, and the staple crops of fields and gardens were buried deep. The following estimate of crop losses is taken from the Chicago Inter Ocean of the 26th:

Cotton	\$225,000,000
Tobacco	50,000,000
Fruits	125,000,000
Vegetables	50,000,000
Wheat	100,000,000
Oats	70,000,000
Total	\$620,000,000

Georgia—Fifty per cent of the cotton crop destroyed.

Alabama—Cotton crop practically ruined. Fruits and vegetables also have suffered heavy loss.

Missouri—Fruit crop seriously damaged. Killing frosts prevailing.

Louisiana—Thousands of acres of cotton destroyed.

Kentucky—Fruit and vegetables either killed or damaged. Tobacco crop will be seriously impaired.

Ohio—Fruits and early vegetables badly damaged. Grape crop loss will be heavy.

Arkansas—Crop loss heavy. Cold wave unprecedented.

Tennessee—Loss in early cotton, fruits, tobacco and vegetables heaviest in many years.

Indiana—Fruit crop badly damaged. Full extent will not be known until weather changes.

Illinois—Fruit crop practically ruined. Early vegetables almost total loss. Truck gardeners in vicinity of Chicago suffer loss of thousands of dollars.

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The Ten-Hour Labor Law for Women in Illinois.

By the Supreme Court of Illinois on the 21st the statute limiting the hours of labor for women in factories, laundries, etc. (p. 156) was held to be Constitutional. This law, which was secured

and championed by the Women's Trade Union League, was attacked on the ground that it interferes with freedom of contract; it is upheld by the Court on the ground that it is a legitimate exercise of the police power for the protection of the public health. In their opinion the Court says:

As weakly and sickly women cannot be the mothers of vigorous children, it is of the greatest importance to the public that the State take such measures as may be necessary to protect its women from the consequences produced by long-continued manual labor in those occupations which tend to break them down physically. It would seem obvious, therefore, that legislation which limits the number of hours which women shall be permitted to work to ten hours in a single day in such employments as are carried on in mechanical establishments, factories and laundries would tend to preserve the health of women and assure the production of vigorous offspring by them and would conduce directly to the health, morals and general welfare of the public, and that such legislation would fall clearly within the police powers of the State.

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A Possibly Factitious Race Movement in Cuba

The organization of an Independent Party of Color is creating for the first time the race question in Cuba. The Negroes are demanding official recognition and privileges of land grants. Inflammatory speeches have been made by their leaders in the several provinces. General Entendoz, a Jamaica Negro, after rousing Santiago province, went to Havana, where on the 22d he was arrested with four of his followers; and on the day following 24 more Negroes were placed under arrest. By the 24th 70 Negroes were in jail and the authorities declared that the disturbances had been quelled. General Entendoz and 22 others were indicted on the 26th, on charges of inciting rebellion. It is asserted that President Gomez (vol. xii, pp. 130, 253), during his campaign, made promises to the Negroes he could not fulfill. Dispatches of the 18th stated that every one was wondering who was financing Entendoz, and the two Haytian Negroes who were accompanying him. They traveled in special trains for which they had no means of their own to pay. The Chicago Tribune of the 22d says editorially:

One of those inflammatory orators is a Jamaican, and two are Haytians. The white Cubans would like to know who are paying their expenses. There are some Americans who will say that it is the Sugar Trust. Their reason for saying so is that it would be the greatest gainer by a revolution, intervention, and annexation. The output of its sugar plantations would enter the United States duty free. Its overzealous employes would no longer attempt to falsify weights to add to its profits. Just what the Cuban holdings of the Trust are is not known, but they are extensive and its gain through annexation would be great.