

Toronto Municipal Elections 1906

SOCIALIST PARTY MANIFESTO

FELLOW WORKERS,—

The Organized Working Class, the Socialist Party, again appeals to you to assert your manhood and womanhood by voting for the Principles that party stands for, in the only way possible by placing your crosses opposite the names of their nominees for the School Board.

Property qualifications prevent us from running candidates for Mayor and Aldermen. We make no protest against these property qualifications as being wrong. Property qualifications are wrong from a working class standpoint but perfectly right from the capitalist view point. Our only appeal is to you workers who have the power, if you only had the knowledge, and the consequent will to make your own laws and to make them in your own interest. If you want anything done you must do it yourselves. Choose your own men and bind them by a cast-iron pledge to do your will as instructed by you, and as additional security insist on their signed undated resignation of the office they are nominated for. That is the method adopted by the Socialist Party of Canada, and it has succeeded well. Our elected comrade Trustee James Simpson, has faithfully carried out his instructions in every case during the past year.

If elected the Socialist candidates will stand shoulder to shoulder with Comrade Simpson and vote solidly together in every case. Their only consideration will be the welfare of the working class. We talk no clap-trap about "running in the interest of all classes." Those who say they are doing that are either fools or knaves, probably knaves, and it is time you were awake to that fact and ceased to be "deluded, frightened, or befooled."

Fellow workers, the interests of the working class and the capitalist class are NOT identical. Realize this fact and we are not afraid of the result. Don't take our word for it. You have been too prone to take other peoples words in the past. Study it out for yourselves and there is but one conclusion you can come to.

The Single Taxers and the Toronto Federation for Majority Rule have been doing considerable complaining lately because of the broken pledges of the Mayor and certain Controllers and Aldermen. What else did they expect? Did they think these men would vote against their class interests?

The point is, the Single Taxers supported men who were NOT Single Taxers and when elected they broke their pledge because it didn't suit them to keep it. On the other hand the Socialist Party ran and elected a Socialist and he has kept his pledge to the very letter. No need to enlarge on that, the moral is obvious.

The School Board is an out-post of the ruling class that we are trying to capture. We are asking and expecting no mercy of the class we are fighting and we will give none. We neither fuse nor compromise with any other organization, realizing that under the present system of private ownership for profit of the means of life, all organizations recognizing the so-called rights of capital are capitalistic in their nature and aims.

To us, as class-conscious workers, capital has no rights, only workers have rights and to the workers we appeal, to the workers who produce the best, but live on the poorest, to the workers who build all the fine houses, but never live in them, who weave the finest fabrics and fashion them in clothes for others to wear. To them alone we appeal, and in them alone is our hope.

Again, do not take what we say as correct without thoroughly studying it out and on the other hand do not reject it without careful consideration.

The Socialist Party invites all workers who realize the existence of a class struggle, and the necessity of ending it by bringing about the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution to join that Party, take its pledge and do their share in THEIR work and to do it now because they choose, rather than later because they must.

Socialist Party Candidates for the Board of Education:



PHILLIPS THOMPSON, Journalist
FRED. J. PEEL, Patternmaker.
W. H. RAWBONE, Street Railway Conductor.

SOME THINGS TO REMEMBER.—Each voter has six votes. Don't cast any of them for capitalist or so-called "labor" candidates. If you cannot vote a straight Socialist ticket don't vote for any of the Socialist nominees. Don't vote for the Socialist Party candidates for any personal reasons. Vote for them because they represent Socialist principles or don't vote for them at all. A vote for a principle is never lost.

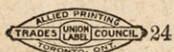
What a Socialist Party Representative has done during a year on the Board of Education :

Comrade James Simpson was elected a member of the Board of Education on the Socialist ticket at the municipal elections, January 1st, 1905. His term of office is for two years and during his first year he has worked and voted as a Socialist on all the measures that have come before the Board. Following are some of the votes cast in the interests of the working class :

1. Opposed abrogation of rights of employees of the Board to take part in election of trustees at municipal elections.
2. Supported promotion and appointment of men and women to vacant positions upon the basis of merit and strenuously opposed wire-pulling.
3. Moved for the abolition of examinations in the public schools and for the promotion of pupils (a) on record during term of year ; (b) recommendation of teachers ; (c) age of pupils ; (d) health of pupils ; (e) number of terms in classes from which they are promoted. The Board adopted the motion after adding clause (f) that tests be made in oral reading, writing, spelling, mechanical arithmetic and composition.
4. Opposed the reduction of \$15,000 in the estimates by the Board of Control as a move in the interests of the tax payers and against the interests of the working class.
5. Opposed all measures encouraging the spirit of militarism, including (a) the taking of a collection in the schools in aid of the South African Memorial Monument ; (b) expenditure for repairing armouries in Jarvis Street Collegiate Institute ; (c) celebration of Trafalgar Day in schools by pupils singing "patriotic" songs, writing essays on development of British Navy and its influence as civilizing force in development of the world, and Trustees delivering "patriotic" speeches.
6. Opposed setting apart a day for holiday in honor of the Governor-General.
7. Moved to award printing contract to strictly union printing firm as against a strictly non-union firm.
8. Opposed a recommendation of the Property Committee that the contract for the Board's express work be awarded to the lowest tenderer at 25 cents per hour for man, horse and wagon, because the wage was too small.
9. Moved to have lady teachers, lady specialists, and lady instructors in the public, high and technical schools paid the same salaries as men holding these positions.
10. Opposed piecemeal policy of superannuating teachers and principals and urged the introduction of a permanent scheme for superannuations.
11. Opposed the exclusive use of the Isaac Pitman system of shorthand in the public school commercial classes and urged a fair test of new and meritorious systems.
12. Moved in favor of ascertaining from the Minister of Education whether a system of Government Insurance could be inaugurated whereby all public, high and technical school property could be insured without reference to private insurance companies or corporations.
13. Moved that application be made to the Board of Control for a public swimming bath on the old Bathurst Street School property with stated hours to teach the pupils of the public, high and technical schools the art of swimming, how to rescue the drowning, and how to restore the rescued to consciousness.
14. Moved that application be made to the Board of Control for transference of vacant property immediately North of the Harbord Street Collegiate Institute to the Board of Education to be added to the present play ground of the Institute.
15. Moved in favor of purchasing all gymnasium and athletic equipment for the various schools out of special fund to be set apart in 1906 for that purpose.

In five of the above instances Comrade Simpson voted alone.

Do the Capitalist Candidates supply a review of their actions during the year? No. Why? The Socialist Party is the Party of the Working Class. It presents the record of its representative to the wage-workers, but it does not ask for votes from any except those who desire to abolish wage slavery and establish the Socialist commonwealth. From these it demands support.



For offices where no Socialist is nominated all true Socialists will refrain from voting for Capitalist Candidates and will write "for Socialism" across their ballots.