

SOCIALIST PARTY MANIFESTO

TORONTO MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1907

Fellow Workers,—Are you satisfied with the conditions under which you work and live—with the small fraction of the amount you earn which you receive? If you are, you will have no use for us, nor we for you. It is because we believe that the great majority of workers are not satisfied and ought not to be satisfied with present conditions that the Socialist party has sprung into existence as the party of the working class.

In every country of the civilized world the means of producing wealth, that is to say, the lands, forests, mines, factories and machinery, are owned by a few people. The workers, the great majority, can only exist by selling their labor—which is all they have—to the capitalist. Naturally the capitalist wishes to buy that labor as cheaply as possible. Competition among laborers for the chance to work tends to force down wages to the lowest point at which men can live and raise families. In the labor market every day is bargain day for the buyer.

Workers have sought to remedy these conditions through trade unions, strikes and boycotts, but owing to the perfection to which machinery has been brought the number of men needed for production grows continually fewer, and the proportion of the unemployed, or only partly employed, larger, so that these methods are no longer effective, even in giving temporary relief. As a permanent remedy, they never could be successful. An increase of wages all round, if it could be secured, would only result in increased prices for all necessities of life, so that the worker would be no better off than before.

The only cure is to completely abolish capitalism—that is, private ownership of the means of production, and with it the wage system. Let the whole people own all instruments of wealth production and the workers get all they earn instead of a mere fraction. This, in brief, is what the Socialist party stands for.

We realize that this cannot be accomplished until the mass of working men and women become class conscious; that is, until they thoroughly understand that their interests as a class are entirely opposed to the interests of the capitalist class, and are prepared to use their political power in their

own interest, and not in that of their masters.

The capitalists have always been class conscious. They have always used all the political and other influences which they possess to get and keep power in their own hands and to defeat every move that labor has made for its enfranchisement. More especially have they availed themselves of the power of the Government in making and enforcing laws. They control the Parliament, the Legislatures and the Muni-

As soon as any serious labor difficulty arises all these forces are thrown into the scale against labor. When the people are goaded by intolerable oppression into acts of violence, they are met by superior force wielded in the name of public order, and crushed into subjection. Recent occurrences at Buckingham, Que., and Hamilton, are sufficient object lessons, both as to the powerlessness of organized labor to contend against capitalism reinforced by the power of the State, and the brutality and ruthlessness with which that power is used on such occasions.



He Will Vote the Socialist Ticket—If He's Wise

cipal Councils. They appoint judges, sheriffs and police magistrates. They maintain soldiers, militiamen, detectives, constables, and jailers. They subsidize a host of intellectual parasites such as newspaper editors, college professors and preachers, to mislead the people and create a public opinion favorable to capitalism and capitalist Government.

The Socialist party, while it seeks to unite the working class to acquire political power in its own interests by the peaceful means of the ballot, fully recognizes the fact that in the final analysis all Government and society rest upon force. Behind the lawmaker and the judge there is always the bayonet of the soldier and the baton of a constable to carry out the behests of the

Toronto Local, Socialist Party, meets every Sunday, 3 p.m. in Davis' Hall, S. W. Corner Queen and Spadina. Workingmen and Women Welcome.

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ruling class. Those who hypocritically deprecate violence on moral grounds forget that force is nothing but legalized and organized violence. So long as this means of repression is at the command of the capitalist class, physical resistance on the part of the people should be discouraged, not because it is wrong, but because it is certain to fail. The working class must first obtain power by the use of their votes in their own interests, then the legalized force of the State will be at their disposal. When that day arrives we should not be true to principles of Socialism if we did not use it for the abolition of capitalism, as unsparing, as pitilessly and with as little regard for any other interests than our own as the ruling class has always done.

CAPITALISTS FIGHT ONLY FOR SPOILS

Workingmen should remember that so far as Liberal or Conservative candidates are concerned, there is no principle involved other than the desire to obtain office for the sake of the spoils. To gain office, the old party candidates are willing to promise everything in sight, from a free ferry service to the Island to a good job in the City Hall. To gain office they will join any lodge, profess any religion, wave any old flag, and pose as the workingman's "friend."

The Socialist party candidates, on the other hand, have a principle to fight for. They stand pledged to always and everywhere use their votes and influence towards improving the conditions of living of the working class—the only useful class in society. Their ultimate aim is the abolition of wage slavery, and their motto is "no compromise." As wage slavery cannot be abolished, however, by any act of the Municipal Council or Board of Education, but can only be ended by the workers of the whole world becoming sufficiently intelligent to overthrow all capitalist Governments, the Socialist party's aim is to help in this work of education, and while endeavoring to reach our final goal, to gain every concession possible for the working class while the capitalist system lasts.

Education, like politics and ethics, are determined by the forms of industry, and prescribed studies for pupils in public and high schools merely reflects the thought of a capitalist class,

whose very existence depends upon a satisfied subject class. This being the case, economic classes in society dictate that a part of the children in the schools shall be trained for lives of idleness, and the great majority to act as docile laborers. Any system of education that will teach the youth to think is kept from the children of the workers, because an educated working class is a menace to the power of any ruling class. If laborers are to be kept servile they must be kept as workers with the hand, and not with the brain. To turn out quantity and not quality, to encourage acceptance of facts without authority, and not critical thought has been the method of training the children of the workers. The Socialists stand for freedom of thought, for individual initiative, and for the abolition of class education. To this end it is the object of the Socialist party, when elected to the Board of Education, to oppose a system of education that fails to recognize the significance of economic conditions and their influence upon the intellectual, social and ethical condition of the pupils in our schools. Free and compulsory secular education that will fit the children of the working class to democratically control and manage all the machinery of production and distribution is the demand of the Socialist party. Any system of education promoted with a view to perpetuating the present system of capitalist exploitation and wage slavery is a menace to the working class, and as such cannot be supported by the elected candidates of the Socialist party.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY'S PLEDGE

We pledge ourselves, as the party of the working class, to use all political power, as fast as it shall be entrusted to us by our fellow workers, both for their immediate interests and for their ultimate and complete emancipation.

If municipal ownership will increase the wages or shorten the hours of any part of the working class, we are for municipal ownership. If three-cent street car fares or \$700 exemption from taxes will make it easier for any part of the working class to live, we are for these palliatives. But, realizing that the working class in Glasgow and other places where these palliatives have

been tried, are, as a whole, in no better or worse position than the workers of Toronto, the Socialist party declines to make its fight upon these issues of doubtful efficacy, and demands the complete abolition of wage slavery, the collective ownership of all the lands and machinery used in producing the means of life for all who do useful labor.

A WORLD WIDE AWAKENING

That the working class are at last awakening to a realization that their emancipation can only be brought about through an uncompromising political party is amply shown by recent developments in Russia, Japan, Germany and France, by the awakening of the British wageworkers in the recent British elections by the steady progress of the Socialist movement in the United States, in spite of such middle class reformers as Hearst and Bryan, and by the decision of the recent trades union convention in British Columbia to endorse the Socialist party (organized in the interests of the working class alone), instead of following the "will o' the wisp" of a "labor" party, whose slogan is "get something now," and which is ready to compromise with any old party or accept any endorsement in order to gain office or jobs for the "labor leaders."

Handicapped as we are by the unfair legislative enactments—the work of both political parties—requiring property qualifications for municipal candidates, such as few workingmen possess, we have not been able to put a full ticket in the field. We have, however, nominated candidates for some positions, whose names will be found below. If elected, they will owe no allegiance except to the Socialist party, and on any measure which may seem of doubtful import it will be their duty to ask themselves the question, "Is this proposal in the general and permanent interests of the working class?" and to decide accordingly, without regard to the interests of the taxpayers or any other consideration.

If you believe in Socialism, we ask your votes, not for our candidates as individuals, but for the cause they represent.

SOCIALIST PARTY CANDIDATES

FOR MAYOR—JAMES LINDELLA, Journeyman Tailor.

FOR BOARD OF CONTROL AND ALDERMAN.—The capitalist law-makers have enacted a property qualification law which prevents the wealth producing working class from nominating candidates for these positions. Socialists make no choice between and refuse to vote for the capitalist candidates for these positions.

FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION—six to be elected—each voter has six votes.

JAMES SIMPSON, Reporter
W. G. GRIBBLE, Carpenter
F. J. SYRLJA, Journeyman Tailor



PHILLIPS THOMPSON, Journalist
W. H. RAWBONE, St. Ry. Conductor
EMIL TIGERT, Journeyman Tailor