

German Vote

Fewer Delegates but Increased Numbers by 240,000—Bureaucrats Are Disheartened

The result of the German Reichstag elections has been a disappointment to the Socialist and a surprise to everybody. We were not alone in expecting a socialist victory as a matter of fact, the correspondents for the capitalist papers predicted larger Socialist gains than the Socialist press ventured to expect.

The outcome of the voting on Jan. 25 is that only 29 Social Democrats were elected to the Reichstag getting a majority over all in their respective districts—and that our candidates in 76 other districts, running first or second but not getting a clear majority, will be voted for in the second ballot to decide between the two highest in each district, which will take place next Tuesday.

In the last preceding election, held in 1903, we elected 56 members on first ballot and entered the second ballot in 122 districts, carrying 25, so that we had 81 members in all. In 1898 we elected 56 members altogether.

Of the 76 districts in which the Socialist candidates enter this second ballot, we face National Liberals in 26, Radicals in 23, Conservatives in 10, Clericals in 5, and various parties in the others.

The latest dispatches show that the Liberals, Conservatives, Clericals and some of the Radicals have formed an agreement to cast all their influence together in the second ballot against the Social Democrats. Our comrades, on the other hand, have decided that in those districts where a second ballot is to be held and the Socialist is not one of the two candidates, Socialist voters should stay at home, except in cases where a Radical is in the field and the comrades of the district may deem it best to support him against the reactionary alliance.

This means that the capitalist, landholding, official, and electoral elements are more solidly combined against the Social Democracy than they ever were before. It also means that we shall probably have less than 50 members in the new Reichstag.

This is not the first time in the history of the movement in Germany that we have sustained such reverses. In the first Reichstag of the Empire, elected in 1871, we had fewer members than in the parliament of the Confederation elected in 1867. Then our representation rose from 2 in 1871 to 9 in 1874 and to 12 in 1877. Then, in 1878, it fell to 9. In 1881 it rose again to 12 and in 1884 to 24. But in 1887 it was reduced to 11. Since then, in 1890, 1893, 1898 and 1903, our delegation grew to 35, to 44, to 56 and to 81.

Twice in these thirty-six years our popular vote has fallen off—in 1878, when lost 56,000, or 15 per cent of our total; and in 1881, when we lost 123,000, or about 35 per cent.

This time, although we have as yet no full and definite report, it seems fairly certain that the decrease in our representation is not due to any loss in the popular vote. According to all the dispatches so far received, the Socialist vote is at least as large now as in 1903 and probably somewhat larger. The total vote is largely increased. The various capitalist or reactionary parties made an extraordinary good campaign, following methods learned from the Social Democracy. They got out hundreds of thousands of voters who have hitherto stayed at home. Also, in critical districts, they made combinations in advance to an extent unknown in past years.

The principal gain was made by the National Liberals; so far they have gained 15 new seats and will undoubtedly get still more next Tuesday. The Conservatives have gained 10, the Radicals 7, the Clericals one, and some of the numerous smaller parties have also made gains.

As in 1903, we carried five of the six districts in Berlin and all the three in Hamburg. Richard Fischer Heine, Singer, Robert Schmidt, and Ledebour are our representatives from the former city and Bebel, Dietz, and Metzger from the latter. Bernstein was defeated in Breslau. Von Vollmar was elected from Munich II, Auer from Glauchau, and Legien from Kiel.

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A VOICE FROM OREGON

Comrade John Beard writes us from Astoria, Oregon:

"Enclosed please find express order for \$1 to extend our subscription. Have been somewhat slow, but presume it is better to be late than not at all. Have been moving (as usual) and that has kept us both pretty busy, so that really haven't had much time.

"I guess according to the papers there is quite a socialist vote in Oregon, but the neck of the woods I am in, it doesn't show up very strong to me. The discontent is here alright, and speakers and literature enough would do the work, but that seems to be all there is to it simply discontent and no education whatever along the socialist lines.

"A man that writes and reads for the company in an office all day isn't going to continue the same kind of exercise for himself after he gets through. My experience is that office workers are the hardest class in the world to reason with or get them to do any reading for themselves.

"The way it looks to me that people learn their socialism is, they find something that doesn't please them and studying back to find out where the trouble is, they finally get down to the cause of it and then know that much on that point about socialism. Then they find something else and study back in the same old way and know that. Finally they have found out enough that they begin to suspect that everything on the earth isn't just as it should be and they begin telling someone else what they know. Pretty soon this interchange of knowledge teaches them still more and they find some one that begins trying to explain socialism to them and they discover that possibly they are somewhat of a socialist themselves. Well, this way of discovering what the socialist is teaching is better than not discovering it at all, but it is slow. Of course, this kind of study is caused by necessity, and as 99 out of a hundred never study anything only from necessity, I guess we will have to put up

with it. But how much faster we could do the work if we could explain the principal of it and let them study out why the effects are what they are, instead of working from the separate effects back to the one cause.

"We have some speakers and some literature that I think follow along this kind of reasoning, but it seems to me the great majority go the other way, simply take some subject of discontent and try to tell what the cause of it is, when to take the cause and tell why it is bound to produce conditions that we will be discontented with would be far superior and would awaken a desire on the part of the hearers to wish to do away with the cause and not try to patch things up to do away with the one effect they have been shown by the other method of reasoning. In fact what most of our speakers are speaking and what most of our literature is teaching is simply something to make the people vote for Hearst or any other reform fakir of that class that may come along. But as I said before necessity compels this kind of study. They will study this without our help. Let us get at the bottom of things and show them where the trouble that they are trying to locate really is.

"I would like to see a socialist newspaper, that is a paper, that gave the news from a socialist standpoint. A newspaper with socialist editorials and the rest of it capitalistic hash wouldn't be worth a cent. Of course such a paper would cost a lot of money to get the news and be able to compete with the capitalist papers. I suppose it is out of our reach for a while yet, and when it is in our reach we won't be very far from being in the majority. Still one good article in every edition of every socialist paper that we already have, that got right down and taught something of the foundation of socialism would help, like for instance the one from Olive Schreiner's 'Dreams' in a late Montana News."

BRUTAL OFFICIAL NEGLIGENCE

A condition of affairs is prevailing in official circles in Butte, that for low down, contemptible graft, and the infliction of brutal murder and suffering on the working class, and the submerged unfortunates of society, is the equal of the atrocities of the "dark ages." The Milwaukee railroad is building in Butte. Their people have had about 1,000 men working between Butte and Lombard. They collect \$1 a month from these men for hospital dues. If a man quits the job, whether he has worked one day or ten, it makes no difference; he pays the dollar just the same. When he is discharged he has no standing at the hospital, so if he is taken sick the county has to take care of him. One deplorable case has come to the surface in connection with one of the vast army of the workers of the world, sick, helpless and friendless. He was feeling bad, quit his job and came to town, and was taken down with pneumonia. He lay four days in the back end of a saloon on the floor. The saloon tried to have the county doctor come down and see him and he refused. The police tried to get a doctor and could not. After four days complaint was made to Alderman Ambrose. He told the informants to get the county doctor, but he could not be obtained. Alderman Ambrose then called up the city doctor, and asked him as a special favor if he would not go and see the man. The city physician did so and sent the sick man to the sisters' hospital, and charged it to the city. Now the city has no jurisdiction in a case of this sort, and no funds for such work; and the state law is such that the city cannot use the city funds for an emergency hospital. Here is a case of cold, brutal shirking of duty and humanity by city, county and corporation.

Alderman Ambrose, the socialist of course, had another similar case come under his consideration. A man was working on the Butte, Anaconda and

Pacific road on the section, and the road collected 50 cents a month from him for sick benefits. He was taken sick and came to the saloon next to Ambrose' barber shop. On being asked what was the matter with him he said he did not know, that he was sick and was waiting for an order from the road to go to the hospital. He lay in the saloon eight days before he got the order, and the yard master of the Great Northern had to get the order for him. The saloon keeper sent him to the hospital, and the mercy hospital refused to receive him on an order from the B. A. P. road, sending a telegram to the superintendent that the man was drunk, which is a lie that can be proven by fifty men. He was not drunk. He was sick and dying, and they turned the man out without medical care of any kind. And he had to walk back down to the saloon because he had no place to go, and he fainted when he reached the saloon door. Alderman Ambrose took the matter in hand, and went and saw the agent at the B. A. P. depot. He wired to the superintendent at Anaconda and stated the case. The superintendent replied that the doctor at the hospital said that the man was drunk, and that settled it. Alderman Ambrose took the matter up with the county, but could accomplish nothing. All that could be done was to arrest the man for a vag and send him to the county jail to have him treated there. Upon taking him to the jail it was discovered that he had Bright's disease. The Butte reporter states that there are hundreds of cases in that city just like these quoted. The county collects \$65,000 a year on the poor fund. The county doctor receives \$300 a month and people are dying in saloons, the only mercy hospital that will give them a harborage. The Butte papers refuse to print a thing about the facts. Perhaps the working men will get their eyes open some day and vote instead of die.

DIVIDE WORKING CLASS VOTE

The legislature has formed a new judicial district by cutting Carbon county off from Park and Sweetgrass, and uniting it with Yellowstone and Rosebud. Sidney Fox, a young striping of a lawyer from Red Lodge has been made judge of the new district. The division has been made solely with a view to the re-election of Judge Henry in the Sixth judicial district. Judge Henry's unfriendly attitude to labor received a severe blow with the supreme court's decision on the eight-hour law. The large increase in the socialist and labor vote, and the pulling down of the republican majorities in Park and Carbon counties has affected the business and capitalist interests of this district with consternation. Henry by his antagonism of the labor interests has created a bitter opposition among the working class vote; and this to such an extent that his re-election under present conditions would be a matter of extreme doubt. The big corporation interests in Park and Carbon counties look upon it as a calamity that Henry should be forced to the rear, with the extremely unpleasant probability looming in the future of his place being taken by a socialist judge. And there is ample ground for their fears. The working class of Carbon and Park together could have put a socialist on the bench for the next term. But how the capitalist dispensers of government and "justice" rush to the defense of their servitors. They have every resource of "law" at their command, for they make the law themselves. Consequently

ly the two working class counties are separated and put with former counties to save a job for a judge that puts in most of his time lying around the Livingston clubs and violating the gambling law of Montana. Judge Henry is notorious through the state as the worst gambler in Livingston. But what difference does it make as to his breaking the law so long as he hands down the right kind of law to his friends, the corporations. The business men of Livingston are almost a unit in their bitter fight against organized action on the part of the laboring class, both economic and political. Storekeepers, bankers, editors, lawyers, doctors, all those supposed to be of the "smart set" of any little country town, patiently, persistently and assiduously patronize a scab barber shop in order to put the fair union shops out of existence. The barber claims to have a union charter, but he has broken the union regulations to smash, begins the day at seven o'clock instead of at eight, and continues his hours indefinitely. But he is the one the "business" element see on, and when a working man makes a prostitute of himself to serve the will of the high tones instead of the workers he is pretty low. But that makes no difference with the "uppers." He's the fellow they're going to keep up. And it is this silk stocking gang that are going to keep Henry at the bat if it takes the whole legislature of Montana to help them do it. Do you see where you're at horny handers? It's a wonder you wouldn't send some of your own people to the legislature.

Japan.

In spite of the Government's strenuous interference with newspapers to check the publishing of any article dealing with strikes, they are taking place continuously in every city and town of Japan at present. This phenomenon fully attests that the Japanese labourers are becoming awakened.—'Hikari.'

About 4 p. m. on November 28, the office of 'Hikari' (the Socialist organ) was visited by a police officer, who showed the subpoenaed warrant and went off with 22 volumes of the paper:—

'The 'Hikari' No. 28, Vol. I., issued on November 25, in the 39th year of Meiji, is recognized to have violated Art. 33 of the Press Law. It is prohibited to be sold or distributed according to Art. 23 of the same law, and is seized temporarily. Also the publication of articles similar to the article headed 'To the Conscripts' is prohibited, by order of the Minister

for Home Affairs.—Kanemichi Anraku, Inspector General of Metropolitan Police Office.'

The 'Hikari' has ceased to exist, being swallowed up by the new Socialist daily, the 'Heimin Shimbum' which made its first appearance on January 15. The 'Hikari' in its last number to hand reports a considerable fermentation among the 16,000 workers in the Osaka Arsenal, and the suppression by armed police of the proposed strike, 40 of the leaders being arrested.

Labor Federations for Equal Suffrage

The Connecticut Federation of Labor has just adopted a resolution endorsing woman suffrage. Other State Federations which have recently taken similar action are California, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon and West Virginia.

Dan Hogan, Huntington, Ar., has been re-elected state secretary.

Lecture Course

Local Butte Arranges Series of Public Addresses on Socialism For Education

Complete arrangements have been made for the lecture course to be given by Local Butte.

Father Thomas McGrady of Kentucky will lecture on Feb. 25th. Comrade McGrady has been in Butte before, as he has been in nearly every state in the union, so he will need no introduction in Butte.

Geo. Goebel of New York will speak March 4th. Comrade Goebel was a member of the Indianapolis convention in 1900, which nominated Debs and Harriman, and an active worker in that campaign, both as a member of the New Jersey campaign committee and as a speaker for the cause in that and some twelve other states. Since that time he has spoken in twenty-eight states, two territories, and B. C. He was a member of the Chicago Executive Board; a tireless worker for union of the socialist forces of America, chairman of the first United States Convention of New Jersey and a delegate to the National Unity convention in Indianapolis, serving as a member and secretary of the committee on constitution there. He has been almost continuously a member of his state committee. His subject will be "Socialism What it is and what it is not."

Nicholas Klein, the boy orator of Ohio, will lecture on March 8th. Comrade Klein has done a great work in the east, obtaining a name which is known among the socialists around the world. He will leave Butte directly for Africa; from there he will go to Asia, thence to Europe. He is billed to be at the opening of the second Douma at St. Petersburg, Russia. If you don't hear him you will miss a treat.

Ben F. Wilson of California will speak on March 19th. His subject will be "The supreme call of the 20th century." Comment on him is unnecessary since he is well known in Butte.

Last but by no means least intellectually comes the Little Giant Walter Thomas Mills who will speak on March 27 and 28.

You can hear all these lectures for

\$1.00 by getting a season ticket which will be on sale at meetings of the local every Saturday night at Engineers' Hall, No. 3 W Broadway or from the committee.

The City Central committee has called the caucus for Saturday Feb. 16, primary on Feb. 27, and the convention on March 1.

At our last meeting J. M. Brown was elected literary agent, he will sell all kinds of socialist books, leaflets, etc., take subscriptions for the Montana News or any other socialist paper published and all other work along this line.

Miss H. Spegle is organizing a ladies' quartette and J. M. Brown is organizing a male quartette to furnish music at our meetings and on any occasion. Occasionally the two will unite and form a Glee club.

On Feb. 23 the local will hold a question box at which all present will be invited to ask questions about socialism. The same will be answered by the comrades.

At the meeting on Feb. 9 the collection for dues amounted to \$14.50, and a collection was taken up to purchase literature. The amount obtained was \$5.10. Also a committee which had taken up a collection to pay the expense of a meeting at which Daniel DeLeon of New York city will speak reported they had received \$24.00. Total collections one week \$43.50.

We expect the socialist band to be playing in a short while.

Have you joined the party yet? Don't you think it about time? Come to the next meeting, Saturday night at Engineers' Hall, No. 3 W Broadway.

Yours for the revolution,
M. A. GURLEY.

Morris Hillquit represented the Socialist party in a debate with President Shurman, of Cornell University, in New Rochelle Theatre, which was packed to the doors. All agree that Shurman had no business on the platform with Hillquit, as he does not even know what socialism is.

MUST CHANGE TACTICS

The Social-Democratic Herald of Milwaukee probably the ablest authority in America in its ability to analyze the German elections, gives the following summing up of the situation: There can be no doubt that our party in Germany, as a parliamentary party, has suffered a great deal. The Social-Democratic party of Germany, after the election of 1903, had 83 representatives, but during the last four years they have lost four seats by death, resignation, etc. At the time of the dissolution of the Reichstag there were still 79 Social Democrats in that body. January 25, 1907, the Social-Democrats elected only 29 members as compared with 55 in the general election of 1903. On Feb. 5 the party competes in 76 districts. In Germany an absolute majority is necessary for an election, and where this is not determined by the first election a Stichwahl (secondary election) is held between the two candidates having the highest number of votes. The chances are very slim that the Social-Democrats will get more than 20, or at the utmost 24 additional seats in the Stichwahl, because all the other parties usually unite against the Social-Democrats. Even the Centrists, who are in the opposition, have given this order. The strength of our party in the next Reichstag will not exceed 50 or possibly 52 seats. We have lost about three-eighths of our strength in the Reichstag.

This looks like a veritable disaster, but it is not if we know the conditions in Germany. In the first place a heavy vote was polled while the vote of 1903 was light. With a full vote the Social-Democrats could have lost two-thirds of their seats without receiving a single vote less than in 1903. The Berlin Vorwarts claims that our vote has increased 10 to 15 per cent. The antiquated method of distributing the representation gives no adequate measure of the strength of the Social-Democracy in Germany. The government by its cry of danger to the colonies, commercial prosperity, and "a full

dinner pail" brought a million voters to the polls who did not vote in 1903. Without doubt the Social-Democratic party in Germany will have to change its tactics in the future. Three million and more cannot be held in line very much longer with the mere promise of a socialist republic in the distant future. The socialists of France and of Italy have played a larger part in the life of the nation.

LEGISLATORS CLASS CONSCIOUS

It is not consonant with the socialist position to ask favors of a legislative body, elected by those who still favor the retention of the capitalist system, and for the purpose of carrying out a capitalist program. Those men who are now sitting in the Montana legislature would be untrue to the platforms on which they were elected, and the interests of those that they represent, and their own immediate interests if they did not produce legislation in behalf of capitalistic enterprises. They are elected upon programs inimical to the working class, and nothing else can be expected of them. If a few socialists were in the legislature it would be their legitimate function to introduce measures, and do battle for them, in the interest of the working class, even though in hopeless minority, for they would represent a vote and an influence that was backing them in their efforts. We, the working class, expect nothing from capitalist legislators. They have other fish to fry. If they give any legislation toward the laborers it is merely to keep them in good humor to get their votes the next time. There is nothing solid about it, and it is carefully guarded so as not to embarrass capitalist operations.

The mission of the socialist is to hold up these acts to the searchlight of the workers, that they may learn their folly and insufficiency and learn their own strength and possibilities. Out of nothing, nothing comes, and clear thinkers do not expect it.

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LEGISLATORS CLASS CONSCIOUS

It is not consonant with the socialist position to ask favors of a legislative body, elected by those who still favor the retention of the capitalist system, and for the purpose of carrying out a capitalist program. Those men who are now sitting in the Montana legislature would be untrue to the platforms on which they were elected, and the interests of those that they represent, and their own immediate interests if they did not produce legislation in behalf of capitalistic enterprises. They are elected upon programs inimical to the working class, and nothing else can be expected of them. If a few socialists were in the legislature it would be their legitimate function to introduce measures, and do battle for them, in the interest of the working class, even though in hopeless minority, for they would represent a vote and an influence that was backing them in their efforts. We, the working class, expect nothing from capitalist legislators. They have other fish to fry. If they give any legislation toward the laborers it is merely to keep them in good humor to get their votes the next time. There is nothing solid about it, and it is carefully guarded so as not to embarrass capitalist operations.

The mission of the socialist is to hold up these acts to the searchlight of the workers, that they may learn their folly and insufficiency and learn their own strength and possibilities. Out of nothing, nothing comes, and clear thinkers do not expect it.

German Vote

Fewer Delegates but Increased Numbers by 240,000—Bureaucrats Are Disheartened

The result of the German Reichstag elections has been a disappointment to the Socialist and a surprise to everybody. We were not alone in expecting a socialist victory as a matter of fact, the correspondents for the capitalist papers predicted larger Socialist gains than the Socialist press ventured to expect.

The outcome of the voting on Jan. 25 is that only 29 Social Democrats were elected to the Reichstag getting a majority over all in their respective districts—and that our candidates in 76 other districts, running first or second but not getting a clear majority, will be voted for in the second ballot to decide between the two highest in each district, which will take place next Tuesday.

In the last preceding election, held in 1903, we elected 56 members on first ballot and entered the second ballot in 122 districts, carrying 25, so that we had 81 members in all. In 1898 we elected 56 members altogether.

Of the 76 districts in which the Socialist candidates enter this second ballot, we face National Liberals in 26, Radicals in 23, Conservatives in 10, Clericals in 5, and various parties in the others.

The latest dispatches show that the Liberals, Conservatives, Clericals and some of the Radicals have formed an agreement to cast all their influence together in the second ballot against the Social Democrats. Our comrades, on the other hand, have decided that in those districts where a second ballot is to be held and the Socialist is not one of the two candidates, Socialist voters should stay at home, except in cases where a Radical is in the field and the comrades of the district may deem it best to support him against the reactionary alliance.

This means that the capitalist, landholding, official, and electoral elements are more solidly combined against the Social Democracy than they ever were before. It also means that we shall probably have less than 50 members in the new Reichstag.

This is not the first time in the history of the movement in Germany that we have sustained such reverses. In the first Reichstag of the Empire, elected in 1871, we had fewer members than in the parliament of the Confederation elected in 1867. Then our representation rose from 2 in 1871 to 9 in 1874 and to 12 in 1877. Then, in 1878, it fell to 9. In 1881 it rose again to 12 and in 1884 to 24. But in 1887 it was reduced to 11. Since then, in 1890, 1893, 1898 and 1903, our delegation grew to 35, to 44, to 56 and to 81.

Twice in these thirty-six years our popular vote has fallen off—in 1878, when lost 56,000, or 15 per cent of our total; and in 1881, when we lost 123,000, or about 35 per cent.

This time, although we have as yet no full and definite report, it seems fairly certain that the decrease in our representation is not due to any loss in the popular vote. According to all the dispatches so far received, the Socialist vote is at least as large now as in 1903 and probably somewhat larger. The total vote is largely increased. The various capitalist or reactionary parties made an extraordinary good campaign, following methods learned from the Social Democracy. They got out hundreds of thousands of voters who have hitherto stayed at home. Also, in critical districts, they made combinations in advance to an extent unknown in past years.

The principal gain was made by the National Liberals; so far they have gained 15 new seats and will undoubtedly get still more next Tuesday. The Conservatives have gained 10, the Radicals 7, the Clericals one, and some of the numerous smaller parties have also made gains.

As in 1903, we carried five of the six districts in Berlin and all the three in Hamburg. Richard Fischer Heine, Singer, Robert Schmidt, and Ledebour are our representatives from the former city and Bebel, Dietz, and Metzger from the latter. Bernstein was defeated in Breslau. Von Vollmar was elected from Munich II, Auer from Glauchau, and Legien from Kiel.

—Worker.

A VOICE FROM OREGON

Comrade John Beard writes us from Astoria, Oregon:

"Enclosed please find express order for \$1 to extend our subscription. Have been somewhat slow, but presume it is better to be late than not at all. Have been moving (as usual) and that has kept us both pretty busy, so that really haven't had much time.

"I guess according to the papers there is quite a socialist vote in Oregon, but the neck of the woods I am in, it doesn't show up very strong to me. The discontent is here alright, and speakers and literature enough would do the work, but that seems to be all there is to it simply discontent and no education whatever along the socialist lines.

"A man that writes and reads for the company in an office all day isn't going to continue the same kind of exercise for himself after he gets through. My experience is that office workers are the hardest class in the world to reason with or get them to do any reading for themselves.

"The way it looks to me that people learn their socialism is, they find something that doesn't please them and studying back to find out where the trouble is, they finally get down to the cause of it and then know that much on that point about socialism. Then they find something else and study back in the same old way and know that. Finally they have found out enough that they begin to suspect that everything on the earth isn't just as it should be and they begin telling someone else what they know. Pretty soon this interchange of knowledge teaches them still more and they find some one that begins trying to explain socialism to them and they discover that possibly they are somewhat of a socialist themselves. Well, this way of discovering what the socialist is teaching is better than not discovering it at all, but it is slow. Of course, this kind of study is caused by necessity, and as 99 out of a hundred never study anything only from necessity, I guess we will have to put up

with it. But how much faster we could do the work if we could explain the principal of it and let them study out why the effects are what they are, instead of working from the separate effects back to the one cause.

"We have some speakers and some literature that I think follow along this kind of reasoning, but it seems to me the great majority go the other way, simply take some subject of discontent and try to tell what the cause of it is, when to take the cause and tell why it is bound to produce conditions that we will be discontented with would be far superior and would awaken a desire on the part of the hearers to wish to do away with the cause and not try to patch things up to do away with the one effect they have been shown by the other method of reasoning. In fact what most of our speakers are speaking and what most of our literature is teaching is simply something to make the people vote for Hearst or any other reform fakir of that class that may come along. But as I said before necessity compels this kind of study. They will study this without our help. Let us get at the bottom of things and show them where the trouble that they are trying to locate really is.

"I would like to see a socialist newspaper, that is a paper, that gave the news from a socialist standpoint. A newspaper with socialist editorials and the rest of it capitalistic hash wouldn't be worth a cent. Of course such a paper would cost a lot of money to get the news and be able to compete with the capitalist papers. I suppose it is out of our reach for a while yet, and when it is in our reach we won't be very far from being in the majority. Still one good article in every edition of every socialist paper that we already have, that got right down and taught something of the foundation of socialism would help, like for instance the one from Olive Schreiner's 'Dreams' in a late Montana News."

BRUTAL OFFICIAL NEGLIGENCE

A condition of affairs is prevailing in official circles in Butte, that for low down, contemptible graft, and the infliction of brutal murder and suffering on the working class, and the submerged unfortunates of society, is the equal of the atrocities of the "dark ages." The Milwaukee railroad is building in Butte. Their people have had about 1,000 men working between Butte and Lombard. They collect \$1 a month from these men for hospital dues. If a man quits the job, whether he has worked one day or ten, it makes no difference; he pays the dollar just the same. When he is discharged he has no standing at the hospital, so if he is taken sick the county has to take care of him. One deplorable case has come to the surface in connection with one of the vast army of the workers of the world, sick, helpless and friendless. He was feeling bad, quit his job and came to town, and was taken down with pneumonia. He lay four days in the back end of a saloon on the floor. The saloon tried to have the county doctor come down and see him and he refused. The police tried to get a doctor and could not. After four days complaint was made to Alderman Ambrose. He told the informants to get the county doctor, but he could not be obtained. Alderman Ambrose then called up the city doctor, and asked him as a special favor if he would not go and see the man. The city physician did so and sent the sick man to the sisters' hospital, and charged it to the city. Now the city has no jurisdiction in a case of this sort, and no funds for such work; and the state law is such that the city cannot use the city funds for an emergency hospital. Here is a case of cold, brutal shirking of duty and humanity by city, county and corporation.

Alderman Ambrose, the socialist of course, had another similar case come under his consideration. A man was working on the Butte, Anaconda and

Pacific road on the section, and the road collected 50 cents a month from him for sick benefits. He was taken sick and came to the saloon next to Ambrose' barber shop. On being asked what was the matter with him he said he did not know, that he was sick and was waiting for an order from the road to go to the hospital. He lay in the saloon eight days before he got the order, and the yard master of the Great Northern had to get the order for him. The saloon keeper sent him to the hospital, and the mercy hospital refused to receive him on an order from the B. A. P. road, sending a telegram to the superintendent that the man was drunk, which is a lie that can be proven by fifty men. He was not drunk. He was sick and dying, and they turned the man out without medical care of any kind. And he had to walk back down to the saloon because he had no place to go, and he fainted when he reached the saloon door. Alderman Ambrose took the matter in hand, and went and saw the agent at the B. A. P. depot. He wired to the superintendent at Anaconda and stated the case. The superintendent replied that the doctor at the hospital said that the man was drunk, and that settled it. Alderman Ambrose took the matter up with the county, but could accomplish nothing. All that could be done was to arrest the man for a vag and send him to the county jail to have him treated there. Upon taking him to the jail it was discovered that he had Bright's disease. The Butte reporter states that there are hundreds of cases in that city just like these quoted. The county collects \$65,000 a year on the poor fund. The county doctor receives \$300 a month and people are dying in saloons, the only mercy hospital that will give them a harborage. The Butte papers refuse to print a thing about the facts. Perhaps the working men will get their eyes open some day and vote instead of die.

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LEGISLATORS CLASS CONSCIOUS

It is not consonant with the socialist position to ask favors of a legislative body, elected by those who still favor the retention of the capitalist system, and for the purpose of carrying out a capitalist program. Those men who are now sitting in the Montana legislature would be untrue to the platforms on which they were elected, and the interests of those that they represent, and their own immediate interests if they did not produce legislation in behalf of capitalistic enterprises. They are elected upon programs inimical to the working class, and nothing else can be expected of them. If a few socialists were in the legislature it would be their legitimate function to introduce measures, and do battle for them, in the interest of the working class, even though in hopeless minority, for they would represent a vote and an influence that was backing them in their efforts. We, the working class, expect nothing from capitalist legislators. They have other fish to fry. If they give any legislation toward the laborers it is merely to keep them in good humor to get their votes the next time. There is nothing solid about it, and it is carefully guarded so as not to embarrass capitalist operations.

The mission of the socialist is to hold up these acts to the searchlight of the workers, that they may learn their folly and insufficiency and learn their own strength and possibilities. Out of nothing, nothing comes, and clear thinkers do not expect it.

German Vote

Fewer Delegates but Increased Numbers by 240,000—Bureaucrats Are Disheartened

The result of the German Reichstag elections has been a disappointment to the Socialist and a surprise to everybody. We were not alone in expecting a socialist victory as a matter of fact, the correspondents for the capitalist papers predicted larger Socialist gains than the Socialist press ventured to expect.

The outcome of the voting on Jan. 25 is that only 29 Social Democrats were elected to the Reichstag getting a majority over all in their respective districts—and that our candidates in 76 other districts, running first or second but not getting a clear majority, will be voted for in the second ballot to decide between the two highest in each district, which will take place next Tuesday.

In the last preceding election, held in 1903, we elected 56 members on first ballot and entered the second ballot in 122 districts, carrying 25, so that we had 81 members in all. In 1898 we elected 56 members altogether.

Of the 76 districts in which the Socialist candidates enter this second ballot, we face National Liberals in 26, Radicals in 23, Conservatives in 10, Clericals in 5, and various parties in the others.

The latest dispatches show that the Liberals, Conservatives, Clericals and some of the Radicals have formed an agreement to cast all their influence together in the second ballot against the Social Democrats. Our comrades, on the other hand, have decided that in those districts where a second ballot is to be held and the Socialist is not one of the two candidates, Socialist voters should stay at home, except in cases where a Radical is in the field and the comrades of the district may deem it best to support him against the reactionary alliance.

This means that the capitalist, landholding, official, and electoral elements are more solidly combined against the Social Democracy than they ever were before. It also means that we shall probably have less than 50 members in the new Reichstag.

This is not the first time in the history of the movement in Germany that we have sustained such reverses. In the first Reichstag of the Empire, elected in 1871, we had fewer members than in the parliament of the Confederation elected in 1867. Then our representation rose from 2 in 1871 to 9 in 1874 and to 12 in 1877. Then, in 1878, it fell to 9. In 1881 it rose again to 12 and in 1884 to 24. But in 1887 it was reduced to 11. Since then, in 1890, 1893, 1898 and 1903, our delegation grew to 35, to 44, to 56 and to 81.

Twice in these thirty-six years our popular vote has fallen off—in 1878, when lost 56,000, or 15 per cent of our total; and in 1881, when we lost 123,000, or about 35 per cent.

This time, although we have as yet no full and definite report, it seems fairly certain that the decrease in our representation is not due to any loss in the popular vote. According to all the dispatches so far received, the Socialist vote is at least as large now as in 1903 and probably somewhat larger. The total vote is largely increased. The various capitalist or reactionary parties made an extraordinary good campaign, following methods learned from the Social Democracy. They got out hundreds of thousands of voters who have hitherto stayed at home. Also, in critical districts, they made combinations in advance to an extent unknown in past years.

The principal gain was made by the National Liberals; so far they have gained 15 new seats and will undoubtedly get still more next Tuesday. The Conservatives have gained 10, the Radicals 7, the Clericals one, and some of the numerous smaller parties have also made gains.

As in 1903, we carried five of the six districts in Berlin and all the three in Hamburg. Richard Fischer Heine, Singer, Robert Schmidt, and Ledebour are our representatives from the former city and Bebel, Dietz, and Metzger from the latter. Bernstein was defeated in Breslau. Von Vollmar was elected from Munich II, Auer from Glauchau, and Legien from Kiel.

—Worker.

A VOICE FROM OREGON

Comrade John Beard writes us from Astoria, Oregon:

"Enclosed please find express order for \$1 to extend our subscription. Have been somewhat slow, but presume it is better to be late than not at all. Have been moving (as usual) and that has kept us both pretty busy, so that really haven't had much time.

"I guess according to the papers there is quite a socialist vote in Oregon, but the neck of the woods I am in, it doesn't show up very strong to me. The discontent is here alright, and speakers and literature enough would do the work, but that seems to be all there is to it simply discontent and no education whatever along the socialist lines.

"A man that writes and reads for the company in an office all day isn't going to continue the same kind of exercise for himself after he gets through. My experience is that office workers are the hardest class in the world to reason with or get them to do any reading for themselves.

"The way it looks to me that people learn their socialism is, they find something that doesn't please them and studying back to find out where the trouble is, they finally get down to the cause of it and then know that much on that point about socialism. Then they find something else and study back in the same old way and know that. Finally they have found out enough that they begin to suspect that everything on the earth isn't just as it should be and they begin telling someone else what they know. Pretty soon this interchange of knowledge teaches them still more and they find some one that begins trying to explain socialism to them and they discover that possibly they are somewhat of a socialist themselves. Well, this way of discovering what the socialist is teaching is better than not discovering it at all, but it is slow. Of course, this kind of study is caused by necessity, and as 99 out of a hundred never study anything only from necessity, I guess we will have to put up

with it. But how much faster we could do the work if we could explain the principal of it and let them study out why the effects are what they are, instead of working from the separate effects back to the one cause.

"We have some speakers and some literature that I think follow along this kind of reasoning, but it seems to me the great majority go the other way, simply take some subject of discontent and try to tell what the cause of it is, when to take the cause and tell why it is bound to produce conditions that we will be discontented with would be far superior and would awaken a desire on the part of the hearers to wish to do away with the cause and not try to patch things up to do away with the one effect they have been shown by the other method of reasoning. In fact what most of our speakers are speaking and what most of our literature is teaching is simply something to make the people vote for Hearst or any other reform fakir of that class that may come along. But as I said before necessity compels this kind of study. They will study this without our help. Let us get at the bottom of things and show them where the trouble that they are trying to locate really is.

"I would like to see a socialist newspaper, that is a paper, that gave the news from a socialist standpoint. A newspaper with socialist editorials and the rest of it capitalistic hash wouldn't be worth a cent. Of course such a paper would cost a lot of money to get the news and be able to compete with the capitalist papers. I suppose it is out of our reach for a while yet, and when it is in our reach we won't be very far from being in the majority. Still one good article in every edition of every socialist paper that we already have, that got right down and taught something of the foundation of socialism would help, like for instance the one from Olive Schreiner's 'Dreams' in a late Montana News."

BRUTAL OFFICIAL NEGLIGENCE

A condition of affairs is prevailing in official circles in Butte, that for low down, contemptible graft, and the infliction of brutal murder and suffering on the working class, and the submerged unfortunates of society, is the equal of the atrocities of the "dark ages." The Milwaukee railroad is building in Butte. Their people have had about 1,000 men working between Butte and Lombard. They collect \$1 a month from these men for hospital dues. If a man quits the job, whether he has worked one day or ten, it makes no difference; he pays the dollar just the same. When he is discharged he has no standing at the hospital, so if he is taken sick the county has to take care of him. One deplorable case has come to the surface in connection with one of the vast army of the workers of the world, sick, helpless and friendless. He was feeling bad, quit his job and came to town, and was taken down with pneumonia. He lay four days in the back end of a saloon on the floor. The saloon tried to have the county doctor come down and see him and he refused. The police tried to get a doctor and could not. After four days complaint was made to Alderman Ambrose. He told the informants to get the county doctor, but he could not be obtained. Alderman Ambrose then called up the city doctor, and asked him as a special favor if he would not go and see the man. The city physician did so and sent the sick man to the sisters' hospital, and charged it to the city. Now the city has no jurisdiction in a case of this sort, and no funds for such work; and the state law is such that the city cannot use the city funds for an emergency hospital. Here is a case of cold, brutal shirking of duty and humanity by city, county and corporation.

Alderman Ambrose, the socialist of course, had another similar case come under his consideration. A man was working on the Butte, Anaconda and

Pacific road on the section, and the road collected 50 cents a month from him for sick benefits. He was taken sick and came to the saloon next to Ambrose' barber shop. On being asked what was the matter with him he said he did not know, that he was sick and was waiting for an order from the road to go to the hospital. He lay in the saloon eight days before he got the order, and the yard master of the Great Northern had to get the order for him. The saloon keeper sent him to the hospital, and the mercy hospital refused to receive him on an order from the B. A. P. road, sending a telegram to the superintendent that the man was drunk, which is a lie that can be proven by fifty men. He was not drunk. He was sick and dying, and they turned the man out without medical care of any kind. And he had to walk back down to the saloon because he had no place to go, and he fainted when he reached the saloon door. Alderman Ambrose took the matter in hand, and went and saw the agent at the B. A. P. depot. He wired to the superintendent at Anaconda and stated the case. The superintendent replied that the doctor at the hospital said that the man was drunk, and that settled it. Alderman Ambrose took the matter up with the county, but could accomplish nothing. All that could be done was to arrest the man for a vag and send him to the county jail to have him treated there. Upon taking him to the jail it was discovered that he had Bright's disease. The Butte reporter states that there are hundreds of cases in that city just like these quoted. The county collects \$65,000 a year on the poor fund. The county doctor receives \$300 a month and people are dying in saloons, the only mercy hospital that will give them a harborage. The Butte papers refuse to print a thing about the facts. Perhaps the working men will get their eyes open some day and vote instead of die.

DIVIDE WORKING CLASS VOTE

The legislature has formed a new judicial district by cutting Carbon county off from Park and Sweetgrass, and uniting it with Yellowstone and Rosebud. Sidney Fox, a young striping of a lawyer from Red Lodge has been made judge of the new district. The division has been made solely with a view to the re-election of Judge Henry in the Sixth judicial district. Judge Henry's unfriendly attitude to labor received a severe blow with the supreme court's decision on the eight-hour law. The large increase in the socialist and labor vote, and the pulling down of the republican majorities in Park and Carbon counties has affected the business and capitalist interests of this district with consternation. Henry by his antagonism of the labor interests has created a bitter opposition among the working class vote; and this to such an extent that his re-election under present conditions would be a matter of extreme doubt. The big corporation interests in Park and Carbon counties look upon it as a calamity that Henry should be forced to the rear, with the extremely unpleasant probability looming in the future of his place being taken by a socialist judge. And there is ample ground for their fears. The working class of Carbon and Park together could have put a socialist on the bench for the next term. But how the capitalist dispensers of government and "justice" rush to the defense of their servitors. They have every resource of "law" at their command, for they make the law themselves. Consequently

ly the two working class counties are separated and put with former counties to save a job for a judge that puts in most of his time lying around the Livingston clubs and violating the gambling law of Montana. Judge Henry is notorious through the state as the worst gambler in Livingston. But what difference does it make as to his breaking the law so long as he hands down the right kind of law to his friends, the corporations. The business men of Livingston are almost a unit in their bitter fight against organized action on the part of the laboring class, both economic and political. Storekeepers, bankers, editors, lawyers, doctors, all those supposed to be of the "smart set" of any little country town, patiently, persistently and assiduously patronize a scab barber shop in order to put the fair union shops out of existence. The barber claims to have a union charter, but he has broken the union regulations to smash, begins the day at seven o'clock instead of at eight, and continues his hours indefinitely. But he is the one the "business" element see in, and when a working man makes a prostitute of himself to serve the will of the high tones instead of the workers he is pretty low. But that makes no difference with the "uppers." He's the fellow they're going to keep up. And it is this silk stocking gang that are going to keep Henry at the bat if it takes the whole legislature of Montana to help them do it. Do you see where you're at horny handers? It's a wonder you wouldn't send some of your own people to the legislature.

Japan.

In spite of the Government's strenuous interference with newspapers to check the publishing of any article dealing with strikes, they are taking place continuously in every city and town of Japan at present. This phenomenon fully attests that the Japanese labourers are becoming awakened.—'Hikari.'

About 4 p. m. on November 28, the office of 'Hikari' (the Socialist organ) was visited by a police officer, who showed the subpoenaed warrant and went off with 22 volumes of the paper:—

"The 'Hikari' No. 28, Vol. I., issued on November 25, in the 39th year of Meiji, is recognized to have violated Art. 33 of the Press Law. It is prohibited to be sold or distributed according to Art. 23 of the same law, and is seized temporarily. Also the publication of articles similar to the article headed 'To the Conscripts' is prohibited, by order of the Minister

for Home Affairs.—Kanemichi Anraku, Inspector General of Metropolitan Police Office."

The "Hikari" has ceased to exist, being swallowed up by the new Socialist daily, the "Heimin Shimbum" which made its first appearance on January 15. The "Hikari" in its last number to hand reports a considerable fermentation among the 16,000 workers in the Osaka Arsenal, and the suppression by armed police of the proposed strike, 40 of the leaders being arrested.

Labor Federations for Equal Suffrage

The Connecticut Federation of Labor has just adopted a resolution endorsing woman suffrage. Other State Federations which have recently taken similar action are California, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon and West Virginia.

Dan Hogan, Huntington, Ar., has been re-elected state secretary.

Lecture Course

Local Butte Arranges Series of Public Addresses on Socialism For Education

Complete arrangements have been made for the lecture course to be given by Local Butte.

Father Thomas McGrady of Kentucky will lecture on Feb. 25th. Comrade McGrady has been in Butte before, as he has been in nearly every state in the union, so he will need no introduction in Butte.

Geo. Goebel of New York will speak March 4th. Comrade Goebel was a member of the Indianapolis convention in 1900, which nominated Debs and Harriman, and an active worker in that campaign, both as a member of the New Jersey campaign committee and as a speaker for the cause in that and some twelve other states. Since that time he has spoken in twenty-eight states, two territories, and B. C. He was a member of the Chicago Executive Board; a tireless worker for union of the socialist forces of America, chairman of the first United States Convention of New Jersey and a delegate to the National Unity convention in Indianapolis, serving as a member and secretary of the committee on constitution there. He has been almost continuously a member of his state committee. His subject will be "Socialism What it is and what it is not."

Nicholas Klein, the boy orator of Ohio, will lecture on March 8th. Comrade Klein has done a great work in the east, obtaining a name which is known among the socialists around the world. He will leave Butte directly for Africa; from there he will go to Asia, thence to Europe. He is billed to be at the opening of the second Douma at St. Petersburg, Russia. If you don't hear him you will miss a treat.

Ben F. Wilson of California will speak on March 19th. His subject will be "The supreme call of the 20th century." Comment on him is unnecessary since he is well known in Butte.

Last but by no means least intellectually comes the Little Giant Walter Thomas Mills who will speak on March 27 and 28.

You can hear all these lectures for

\$1.00 by getting a season ticket which will be on sale at meetings of the local every Saturday night at Engineers' Hall, No. 3 W Broadway or from the committee.

The City Central committee has called the caucus for Saturday Feb. 16, primary on Feb. 27, and the convention on March 1.

At our last meeting J. M. Brown was elected literary agent, he will sell all kinds of socialist books, leaflets, etc., take subscriptions for the Montana News or any other socialist paper published and all other work along this line.

Miss H. Spegle is organizing a ladies' quartette and J. M. Brown is organizing a male quartette to furnish music at our meetings and on any occasion. Occasionally the two will unite and form a Glee club.

On Feb. 23 the local will hold a question box at which all present will be invited to ask questions about socialism. The same will be answered by the comrades.

At the meeting on Feb. 9 the collection for dues amounted to \$14.50, and a collection was taken up to purchase literature. The amount obtained was \$5.10. Also a committee which had taken up a collection to pay the expense of a meeting at which Daniel DeLeon of New York city will speak reported they had received \$24.00. Total collections one week \$43.50.

We expect the socialist band to be playing in a short while.

Have you joined the party yet? Don't you think it about time? Come to the next meeting, Saturday night at Engineers' Hall, No. 3 W Broadway.

Yours for the revolution,
M. A. GURLEY.

Morris Hillquit represented the Socialist party in a debate with President Shurman, of Cornell University, in New Rochelle Theatre, which was packed to the doors. All agree that Shurman had no business on the platform with Hillquit, as he does not even know what socialism is.

MUST CHANGE TACTICS

The Social-Democratic Herald of Milwaukee probably the ablest authority in America in its ability to analyze the German elections, gives the following summing up of the situation: There can be no doubt that our party in Germany, as a parliamentary party, has suffered a great deal. The Social-Democratic party of Germany, after the election of 1903, had 83 representatives, but during the last four years they have lost four seats by death, resignation, etc. At the time of the dissolution of the Reichstag there were still 79 Social Democrats in that body. January 25, 1907, the Social-Democrats elected only 29 members as compared with 55 in the general election of 1903. On Feb. 5 the party competes in 76 districts. In Germany an absolute majority is necessary for an election, and where this is not determined by the first election a Stichwahl (secondary election) is held between the two candidates having the highest number of votes. The chances are very slim that the Social-Democrats will get more than 20, or at the utmost 24 additional seats in the Stichwahl, because all the other parties usually unite against the Social-Democrats. Even the Centrists, who are in the opposition, have given this order. The strength of our party in the next Reichstag will not exceed 50 or possibly 52 seats. We have lost about three-eighths of our strength in the Reichstag.

This looks like a veritable disaster, but it is not if we know the conditions in Germany. In the first place a heavy vote was polled while the vote of 1903 was light. With a full vote the Social-Democrats could have lost two-thirds of their seats without receiving a single vote less than in 1903. The Berlin Vorwarts claims that our vote has increased 10 to 15 per cent. The antiquated method of distributing the representation gives no adequate measure of the strength of the Social-Democracy in Germany. The government by its cry of danger to the colonies, commercial prosperity, and "a full

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