

CAMPAIGN COMMENTS

"Many hearts rejoiced when after a great struggle Congress finally passed a Child Labor Law in 1916, which was signed promptly by the President, and which, though far from perfect, bid far to relieve many untoward conditions in our industrial life and to release from slavery many boys and girls whose childhood has been murdered through human cupidity and ignorance. It is, we believe, another five to four decision. Like good Americans, we must yield to the will of the majority and be amenable to the "court of last resort." However, it is justifiable to remember that it is really by the decision of one man that this legislation, which promised so many blessings, has been ruled out."—Reformed Church Messenger.

What has become of the government of the people, when it is in the power of one man to annul the will of the people, enacted into law by their representatives?

Is it not time for the people to awaken to the idea that they collectively should be "the court of last resort" rather than that one man should have that power, and by the improper exercise thereof use it to keep in slavery our children and impose his will upon the rest of the people?

Are we not, in our sleepy condition, in danger of losing all the liberties for which our forefathers contended in 1776 and laid down their lives to gain? Let us again turn to that immortal document, the Declaration of Independence, as our one hundred and forty fourth anniversary of Independence is celebrated and again declare that "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

Let all men and women who have the right to vote recognize their great responsibility in the coming election and so use their ballot that men who will serve them will be placed in office, men who will enact the will of the people into laws and not the will of special interests whose main purpose it is to exploit the people and make game out of them.

Let us make our will so profoundly felt at the next election that no judge of the supreme court will have the audacity to annul a law that has for its object the protection of our children. To protect their bodies from being fed into the industrial machines of millionaire owners to have their lives ground into profits for the owner of those machines. Are you not guilty of a great neglect of duty if you maintain in office those who are feeding on your own lives and the lives of your little ones by maintaining a system of industry which has that result?

You would resent with all the manhood that is within you the tearing away from you by some cruel beast the child for whose life you are responsible. You would do all in your power to prevent it from being devoured by that beast. Capitalism as it exists is such a beast and is devouring you and your child in order to maintain itself.

You farmers, you laboring men, you small merchants and business men, you are not the beneficiaries of such a system. You are its victims—your trials, your worries, your anxieties in the effort to maintain yourselves and make the future secure for yourselves and children amounts in many instances to the same thing as a man fighting the air. The individual is helpless. He represents the unit of power that in combination with other units of power will become all-powerful in overcoming the beast of Capitalism and freeing himself from its cruel sway.

The cruel beast of capitalism has many heads and as many mouths. It also has piercing eyes, and great brain capacity. Out of its mouths go the sayings which have deceived the common people of the world and made many of them willing even to be devoured by the great mouths of this beast. There have been times when this beast has suffered with indigestion, but its intelligence overcame the disease for the time being.

Its eyes have been used and are being used to spy out every source of knowledge which might awaken the common people and arouse them to see their plight and have it removed. It tries to have them believe all the time that its interest is their interest.

Just now there is danger that the beast may die from over exertion in its effort to maintain itself and the common people of the world will then everywhere be free to use their own brains to maintain themselves, rather than that they should be allowed to come to certain stages of life only to be food to nourish a great beast.

You can overcome this beast in this country by your votes. While fighting for political democracy to obtain the world over, use your political democracy here to secure industrial democracy. As long as you allow the industries in which the people labor to be owned and controlled by a few industrial lords you are feeding the beast and being starved yourself. When once as a united people you determine to own and control the industries to feed yourselves—and use them to supply your needs rather than pile up profits for others—you can do so, and starve the beast in this country.

There is only one political party entirely devoted to the task of getting the earth and its resources back from the profiteers and restoring it to the whole people who live on it saying to them, "Here is the earth and its resources; it is as free to you as the air you breathe. Take it; till its soil, dig its minerals, fell its trees, manufacture its raw materials into anything you please. You will have any privilege any one else has. You will not be allowed to appropriate the work of others to your own use without rendering an equivalent. You shall have the fruits of your own labor, and equal rights and opportunities with all others. Your rights stop where another man's begin. Your government will rest on the consent of all the people—men and women of mature age. This party's purpose is to make it possible for you to own every thing you need, and securing you in such ownerships long as you live. It proposes that the people shall own collectively or in common everything that they need collectively or in common, such as roads, rivers, schools, factories, ships, railroads, in fact all the tools of production and distribution that are collectively used, and exercise democratic control over them."

No laboring man, no farmer, no small business man, no small manufacturer, in fact no man who desires to live by his own honest efforts has anything to lose by this program except his worries, his anxieties, in other words, "nothing to lose but his chains." He has a world to gain.

Think over this program, examine it in all its details, think for yourself—talk it over with your neighbor. Then ask yourself whether you like the way things are just now, and whether you think you would like to have every thing continue as it is now. Then ask yourself whether the Republican party politicians told you the truth as to what the Republican party would do if they were in power. Then ask yourself whether the high cost of living came down when the Democrats took control of the government as they said it would. Then ask yourself the question why the Democratic party and Republican party politicians are so much opposed to the Socialist program, and by the time you come to think this over your eyes may open so that you can see.

By this time you should be ready to examine carefully the

FOR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Eber K. Cockley and Herman G. Lepley
"REPRESENTING THE VIEWPOINT OF PLAIN PEOPLE EVERYWHERE"

Socialist party program. You should be ready to read its platform and find out for yourself just what it contains that gives the old party politician the cold shivers, that causes the cold sweat to come out all over his body for fear the common people might make use of the dynamite contained in it and blow up the old party machines.

Equal rights for all, special privileges to none, is the dominant note of the Socialist program. The old parties have been nearly beside themselves to find some popular sentiment on which to ride into office, and it seems they have discovered an animal named "Dry" which they may choose as an unsuspecting brute, willing to bear their burdens. Some odoriferous political tricksters will likely succeed in riding him into office. They will then proceed to get rid of the intoxicating liquors that befuddle men's minds. They will make all the people sober—because the people do not have sense enough to do the job themselves. After they have this accomplished the people will be able to think clearly and act for themselves. The political bosses have controlled the affairs of this country for many years in a way to deprive the people from voting on an issue like the liquor problem direct. You know they desire to have the honor of solving it for the people. It would be an awful thing for the people to find out how to do things for themselves. It will indeed be a very excellent thing for this problem to be solved. It will enable many to reason and think who would otherwise be deprived of this privilege by the demon strong drink, and it may be that they will rise to the occasion and do away with all the primary evils which tend to enslave them by voting the Socialist principles into power, taking control of the government politically and industrially, and forever doing away with minority rule, making it impossible for any one man to annul a law passed by a majority vote either of the people or their representatives.

EUGENE V. DEBS—THE MAN

Continued from first page.

You've seed him, 'fore now, when his liver was sound,
And his appetite notched like a saw,
A chaffin' you, mebbly, for romancin' 'round
With a big posey bunch in yer paw
But you ketch him, say, when his health is away,
And he's flat on his back in distress,
And then you can trow out your little bokay
And not be insulted, I guess!

You see, it's like this, what his weaknesses is,
Them flowers makes him think of the days
Of his innocent youth, and that mother o' his,
And the roses she used to raise;
So here all alone with the roses you send,
Bein' sick and all trimbly and faint;
My eyes is—my eyes is—my eyes is—old friend,
Is a—leakin'—I'm blamed if they ain't!

PRESS COMMENT

University Daily, Ann Arbor, Mich.—Newberry Hall was packed to the doors last night to hear Eugene V. Debs. His brilliant sallies of wit, and his glowing descriptions kept interest at a high pitch throughout the entire lecture.

Boston Advertiser—Some of Debs' utterances were of such lofty and ennobling nature that they would not have disgraced a Phillips Brooks. At the end of his lecture many hundred people stopped to shake hands with him.

San Francisco Examiner—Eugene V. Debs had tremendous audience at Metropolitan Hall last night. He is a terse and nervous speaker, lean in person, with the quick, eager movements of a panther; eager, insistent, earnest, full of matter, gifted with a neat turn of phrase, but never wasting time on ornament. He held his audience for two hours and over. He could have held them for two hours more.

An Arbor Evening Times—Through the efforts of the enterprising students of the University of Michigan Ann Arborites are being afforded the opportunity of hearing three of the five great orators of the world—Bryan, Cochran and Debs—and the greatest of these is Debs. Bryan is battling for the success of a political party, Cochran is the tool of the money power, while Debs is championing the cause of humanity.

Washington Gazette—Honesty and force of character are the chief qualities of Mr. Debs. In him one sees not only the true and consistent friend of the laboring element, but man in his noblest form. Intelligence and sincerity are stamped on his every feature and the traits of a born leader of men are dominant within him.

Columbus Evening Press—The greatest audience ever assembled in Columbus to listen to an address of a private citizen met in the new Auditorium to hear from Eugene V. Debs the greatest speech ever delivered in this city. Fully 4,500 persons greeted the orator. He announced no topic for the most remarkable discourse upon the rights and dignity of labor, and for equality and justice among men, that has ever been made in this country. His entire speech of two hours was a fervent appeal for justice and a higher humanity. It combined all the

THE SOCIALIST TICKET

FOR GOVERNOR

Charles Sehl, of Philadelphia.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,

Dalton T. Clarke, of Washington.

SECRETARY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS,

William Adams, of Pittsburgh.

REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS AT

LARGE,

Cora M. Bixler, of Lancaster.

John C. Euler, of Erie.

Henry W. Schlegel, of Allentown.

Harry T. Vaughn, of Wheatland.

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, 23RD

DISTRICT,

Louis S. Mellinger, of Dawson.

SENATOR IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Andrew Lindstrom, of Holsopple.

REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL AS-

SEMBLY,

Eber K. Cockley, of Garrett,

Herman G. Lepley, of Meyersdale, R. D.

"REPRESENTING THE VIEWPOINT OF

PLAIN PEOPLE EVERYWHERE."

THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT

ARE YOU A MEMBER?

President Woodrow Wilson has written in one of his scholarly works, Division and Reunion, page 13:

"There can be a moneyed aristocracy, but there can not be a moneyed democracy."

In the evolution of the American Republic we have reached the stage of "moneyed aristocracy." The revolution from this moneyed aristocracy, from this industrial despotism, to an industrial democracy MUST COME. And the Socialist Movement is the organized effort peacefully and legally to overthrow this industrial-moneyed despotism and secure industrial democracy.

If the Socialist Movement does not move forward fast enough to suit you, then get in and help make it move faster in your community.

The Monster Capitalism.

Remember that Capitalism grows more and more monstrous every day. To illustrate, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Sr., owns more wealth than he could have earned if he had gone to work the morning Jesus Christ was born and had worked every year since, three hundred days in the year, and had received over \$1,700.00 PER DAY. His two children will receive, by inheritance, the equivalent of more than 550 TONS OF GOLD—a heavy load for 300 horses.

Remember that one-half of one per cent of the total population of the United States own 65 per cent of all the wealth of the entire nation.

At present we of the Socialist Party are doing the very best we can without your encouragement, without your small monthly dues, without your constant co-operation. We need the stimulus, the power and the courage of a large membership, the inspiring, conquering membership of which we should like to have you become a part.

It would make us glad indeed TO SEE YOU HELPING in the great struggle for the freedom of yourself, and your children, and your class.

learning of economists, all the sentiments of the poets, all the wisdom of philosophers and all the ethics of moralists and divines. The vast audience was enchanted with the magical grace of his speech and the dignity and elevation of his sentiments. Astonishment and admiration were equally blended in the minds of all. They had listened to one of the greatest discourses ever inspired by courage, conviction and humanity in any age of the world. When the history of this generation is written, the palm of praise for his unselfish courage and devotion in the cause of a better humanity will be accorded to Eugene V. Debs, the inspired evangel of fraternity in religion and economic life.

The following telegram, reprinted this week in the Republican, was not considered sufficient reason to deny that paper use of the mails.

Mr. Livengood says, "Postmaster Shipley considered this contumacious message as sufficient ground to deny the B. S. circulation through the U. S. mails."

Meyersdale, Pa., July 2nd, 1918.

Woodrow Wilson, The White House, Washington, D. C.

As long as Eugene Debs remains in chains you cannot consistently address your scholarly orations on freedom, liberty and a common brotherhood to labor in Europe or in America. Two thousand readers of the Meyersdale Commercial who believe in justice and fair play will expect as much for Debs. If charity is to begin at home then Debs must be given his freedom and the infamous espionage act dropped from the statute books of our country. With Gene Debs under lock and key no comrade can himself feel free.

Eber K. Cockley, Business Manager,

Commercial Co-operative Council.

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Weekly Health T

"It is generally conceded
this time of the year the ph
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cause the usual winter habit
individual do not include
out-door life," said Dr. The
Appel, Secretary of Health,

"The natural tendency on
of the average individual is
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habits invite germs to do the

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