

COLONEL ROOSEVELT IN MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Trade Council Commends Mayor Siedel For Refusing to Welcome "The Big Noise." Unionists Re- member Insults.

The following resolutions were passed by the Trades and Labor Council of Milwaukee:

"Whereas, Theodore Roosevelt, while president of the United States, was guilty of the act of publicly referring to our brothers, the officials of the Western Federation of Miners, then on trial for their lives, as 'undesirable citizens,' seeking thereby to prejudice the trial and secure their execution, although the jury later, and in spite of the influence of his denunciation, found them innocent and

"Whereas, the said Theodore Roosevelt, since retiring to private life, has wantonly insulted the workmen of this country who have banded themselves together into a political party for their own emancipation, by imputing indecency and immorality to their party principles, thereby calling into question the purity of their home lives and the lives of their dear ones; therefore,

"Resolved, that on behalf of the workmen of Milwaukee and their families, the Milwaukee Federated Trades Council hereby extends to Mayor Emil Siedel, who was elected as the representative of working people, its sincere thanks for his very proper refusal to serve on the committee to welcome the said Mr. Roosevelt; and be it further

"Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the mayor and to the common council of the city."

There was one feature of the Labor Day celebration in Milwaukee this year which was not duplicated in any other American city.

All the members of the city administration joined in the parade, and every one of these was class-conscious representative of labor.

Moreover, 18 aldermen marched in the procession as card-carrying trades unionists. And the Labor Day address was delivered by the mayor of this city, a Socialist executive's greeting to Socialist workmen.

The next day, as an example of an executive of another type, Theodore Roosevelt visited Milwaukee. In honor of this occasion the Press club of Milwaukee issued a little paper called "The Big Stick." This was chiefly devoted to abusing and vilifying Mayor Siedel for his courageous refusal to welcome Roosevelt. A venomous cartoon, representing the mayor as a peanut politician, was a feature of the paper.

However, one member of the Press club, although a writer on one of the capitalist dailies, was of another mind, and had the courage to give the "Big Stick" a piece of it. The "Big Stick" printed it with this comment: "We wholly disagree with him in everything he says."

This writer, after quoting Roosevelt's "Scream" in the Outlook, says:

"We would like to put it up to him, those of us who do not agree with his statements, to take a glance at Milwaukee, at the party leaders against whom he directed his attack, and ascertain if they are of the character attributed to them by him. The glorified free lunch counter is doing less business than ever, and if founding asylums are more prosperous, there can never be any certainty as to whether the blame might not with equal justice be attributed to the republicans, democrats, or even the prohibitionists. There are some

things you can't be sure of. No one in Milwaukee, where at least some of the leaders of the American Socialist movement live, has accused them of the dire things the Outlook so glibly tells us are facts, with the weight of an ex-president's vigorous signature behind them. Teddy, we Socialists in Milwaukee who are scribes, would like to welcome you as scribes, but we would first like to have you wipe your pen of such blatant rot and falsehood. None of us are sorry for what our mayor did. We are glad, for he had no other course to take. We knew what he would do before he did it."

In fact, the stand taken by Mayor Siedel on this occasion has received the commendation of the Federated Trades Council of Milwaukee. At a regular meeting of the council, resolutions were adopted commending the mayor's attitude and condemning Mr. Roosevelt for denouncing the officers of the Western Federation of Miners and other offensive remarks of a similar character.

The primaries have had a singular result in Milwaukee county. According to present returns, the democratic party ticket is wiped off the ballot! Only the republican and Social-Democratic candidates received enough of the votes, it appears, to be placed officially on the voting machines.

Moreover, it looks as if the democrats are off the state ticket as well.

The election laws of Wisconsin require that every party must receive at the primaries 20 per cent of the votes cast for it at the last election. If it fails to get this it cannot go on the ballot.

Now the democratic party in Milwaukee seems to have failed to get out 20 per cent of its vote at the primaries held here last Tuesday. Consequently, it is out of the race, if the present indications are correct.

Of course there was no contest at the primaries between any rival candidates of the Social-democratic party, while fiercely contested struggles marked the rivalry between the various aspirants for nomination on the old party tickets. Therefore those who voted for the Social-democratic candidates did so merely as a matter of form, while every possible voter was gotten out by the republicans.

Nevertheless, the Socialists got out not only their necessary 20 per cent but much over this amount. The Social-democratic primary vote, according to present returns, will amount to about 35 per cent in Milwaukee county. This is a very favorable showing as compared with former primaries.

Thus the contest in Milwaukee county this fall, according to present returns, will be between the republicans and the Social-democratic party.

The Socialists have always predicted this result. They have always said that sooner or later there would only be two parties in the field, a capitalist party and a Socialist party.

This apparently has now come true, like so many of the predictions of the Socialists. But in fact we did not expect to see the prophecy fulfilled so soon. Truly, many wonderful things are now happening in Milwaukee.

The trade unionists are organized for better working conditions and higher pay. Socialism will introduce the best possible working conditions in as much as the workers themselves will have full control of the conditions of work.

RED LODGE LABOR TEMPLE IS DEDICATED

Labor Day in Red Lodge this year was one that will be long remembered by all who took part in the celebration, and it also marks an era in unionism in Montana, inasmuch as the dedication of the Labor Temple took place on that day. The unions of Washoe and Bear Creek to a man traveled to Red Lodge and took part in the parade, and a special train left Billings early in the morning with a large delegation of union men.

The orator of the day was E. S. McCulloch, ex-vice president of the United Mine Workers of America. Mr. McCulloch delivered a splendid speech on unionism and union principles. After the parade field sports took place on the grounds adjoining the Labor Temple.

The Labor Temple of Red Lodge is something that the unions of Red Lodge have a just reason to be proud of. The plans were drafted by John Horn, a Billings socialist, who later was foreman of the construction work on the building.

The work of supervising the construction was done by a committee of the Miners' union and the superintendent of construction was John Massow, the business agent of the Miners' union. After investigating the prices of material and contractors' prices, the unions decided that they could build the temple themselves, without the assistance of any contractor, and thereby save something like \$10,000 to the union.

John Massow, business agent, was given full power to go ahead with the work of construction and hire or discharge whenever he pleased, and pay the workers their wages.

Massow had to do all this in conjunction with the other work of business agent, and received as compensation his usual weekly wage from the union as business agent.

So thoroughly was the work done that the Labor Temple is the most substantial building in the city of Red Lodge today.

The building cost \$45,000 and could not be duplicated today, if built under contract, for less than \$51,000. It is a three-story structure with basement and is 50 feet wide and 109 feet deep. The first floor and basement are occupied by the Finnish Co-operative store. On the second floor are located the union offices, a lodge room, a large library and reading room, card tables and a club and bar-room. The top floor has a large hall which is used for dancing and the Miners'

union meetings. The building is fitted up with all modern conveniences and is up to date in every respect.

The bar is run by the Temple Association and opens at noon and closes at midnight. Two bartenders are employed on eight-hour shifts. No liquor is sold to any man who is intoxicated or shows signs of becoming intoxicated, and if the bartenders violate this rule they are discharged. Here is one place where a man can go and not be afraid of being given knock-out drops and robbed. The bar is being knocked considerably by the saloonkeepers of Red Lodge, and not only the bar but its promoter, John Massow, is a much abused man by the tongues of the liquor dealers of Red Lodge.

One month recently the bar cleared over \$400 over and above all operating expenses. This money went to pay off part of the debt on the building, \$10,000 being loaned by the coal miners' district No. 22, comprising the unions of Montana and Wyoming, to help build the structure.

The library promises to be a good thing in the near future. At present it is not equipped with many books, but the Finnish society intends to donate 1,500 volumes of books printed in the Finnish language and the Miners' union intends to put on the shelves a large assortment of books in Italian and Slavonian languages, as well as thoroughly equipping the library with English classics. Therefore the library will eventually have books in four languages for the working class of Red Lodge to instruct and enlighten themselves with. And all this done by the unions without any subsidizing or donations from Andrew Carnegie.

The furniture of the library is of a high grade, being composed of reading tables, splendid rockers and a dozen Morris chairs. In fact, the whole building inside and out has an appearance of substantiality, ingenuity and progressiveness and goes to show that the union men of Red Lodge can do things.

As there are a considerable number of places in Montana where the unions are considering the erection of labor temples, we would suggest that before reaching conclusions it would be well for the committees in charge to write John Massow of Red Lodge for information concerning the construction of the Red Lodge Labor Temple and a few good suggestions will be received.

SOCIALISTS AT WORK. PROGRESS OF OFFICIALS.

The difference in spirit between a capitalist administration and a Socialist administration was clearly marked in the recent hearing of the South Side track elevation case in Milwaukee. Formerly, the capitalist administration have invited the big business men to these hearings and have consulted them only as to what should be done. The Socialist administration last week made a strange innovation: To this hearing it called in the working men, and asked them what they thought of track elevation.

The workmen and the business agents of the unions testified that the railroads running into the city on the South Side blocked long lines of cars containing workmen, going to and from their work at the rush hours. The business agents testified that complaints were constantly made in the unions by workmen who were docked in their wages because they came late to work in consequence of this delay.

Testimony was also given of the great danger to life and limb for those who are daily obliged to cross these unprotected railroad tracks.

The hearing consequently resulted in a decision for track elevation on the South Side of Milwaukee. For thirteen years the citizens on the South Side have fought for this. But the interests of the railroads and certain big business firms who had sidetracks and spurs, and were therefore opposed to track elevation, outweighed the voice of the public. Now less than four months of Socialist administration has achieved this victory for the public interests. Engineers are already

engaged in planning the best method of making the change. The work of elevation will begin as soon as their plans are completed.

Although this may not be a great matter in itself, it is a splendid example of the new spirit of the Socialists. For the first time in Milwaukee, the voice of the working class is allowed utterance. The "interests" and the big manufacturers have been obliged to yield to the rights of the majority. It is another instance of the different view-point of our administration.

The most interesting problem in Milwaukee just at present is the street railway situation. Certain cross town lines are badly needed in Milwaukee. Mr. John I. Reggs, the street car czar, thought he could coerce the public into giving away their streets for nothing in order to get these much wanted lines. But the Socialists were not such easy game! The days of franchise presents and gifts of the city streets are over in Milwaukee.

Meantime, while this fight is still pending, the Milwaukee City Council has appointed a committee to take steps towards securing a municipal terminal. If they can secure a site by condemnation proceedings and for a price which will not exceed the public debt limit, the city will establish its own street terminal, and thus take one more step towards independence of the street car kings.

Comrade Dietz, the City Comptroller, has put the union label on our city bonds. And how the big lithographing companies who have been fighting the unions for years, are now howling about "favoritism" and the rights of

BRITISH WORKINGMEN ARE GETTING RESTIVE

Strike of Organized Labor Widespread. Capitalists Alarmed at General Uprising of England's Wage Slaves.

London, Sept. 15.—Labor leaders are agreed today that the relations between capital and labor in England are worse than they have ever been before, and that a national uprising of unprecedented proportions is impending.

Yesterday's repudiation by the men of the Boiler Makers' union of the peace efforts of their leaders in the dispute with the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation has emphasized the gravity of the situation to employers.

It means the indefinite prolongation of the lock-out of 50,000 boiler makers, with an additional 100,000 thrown out of employment in the resulting depression in the shipbuilding industry.

A general stoppage of work in the Lancashire cotton industry is threatened as a result of the disputes, and it is feared that 150,000 cotton workers will go on strike or be locked out by October 1, and that 300,000 will eventually become involved. The entire midland's spinning section is affected.

Twelve thousand miners at Cardiff are on the verge of striking, and if they go out they will soon be followed by all the Welsh miners.

In addition to all the troubles the employees of the Great Northern railway are hopelessly disaffected by the administration of the affairs of their union. They may strike any day.

All over England the rank and file of union men are showing defiance of their leaders, the spirit of revolution apparently being in the air.

The situation is such that the government leaders make no concealment of their alarm, and are preparing to call into conference the labor leaders and heads of the disaffected industries.

"Industrial War" is the caption under the London newspapers from the Times down to the organ of the Labor party today exploit the situation which has suddenly arisen.

"Chaos is a correct description of the effect that will be produced in the relations of capital and labor in this country if the new attitude assumed by trades unionism is persisted in," declare the conservative organs.

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An interesting case of graft has recently been exposed by Milwaukee Socialists. A certain contractor under the former administration has given the work of running a pipe line from the city water mains to the county institution, including the hospital, poor house, home for dependent children insane asylum and other charitable institutions. This man's contract required him to put the pipe six feet below ground. It was found that for long distances the pipe was placed only two or three feet below the surface. A man plowing his field struck the pipe with his plow. This pipe line being laid so near the surface, was of course exposed to the action of frost, and there was grave danger that in some severe Milwaukee winters the unfortunate inmates of the public institutions might at any time be deprived of their water supply. The Socialists held up the pay of this tricky contractor. He will not get it till he relays the pipes the proper depth.

The graft that will make a profit out of the recipients of public charity is perhaps the most revolting kind of graft. But all graft at the public expense is a lowering of the efficiency of the public—a sort of drain on the vitality of the collectivity. This is especially true in the Socialist administration of Milwaukee, which is handicapped for want of funds in so many of its plans for collective enterprise.

This is one reason why the Socialist officials are so keenly on the watch for all the leaks, large and small. They have recently refused to pay for two steam rollers for use on the city streets, which were to weigh 16 tons

One of the principal unions has deliberately voted a repudiation of what the employers call "the sanctity of contracts" and in favor of their "open violation of pledges." Incidentally they have overthrown their own leaders and defied what conservative officials call "discipline."

Nor is this an altogether isolated action of a great labor organization. A few weeks ago a large section of employes of the great railway systems did the same thing, but in that case the officials repudiated the action of their men and induced them to return to work.

It is not to be wondered that the general public is seeking to find an explanation of the situation.

"What means," employers ask, "this sudden moral debasement of a large section of British workmen who openly make solemn engagements and then violate them at will?"

Today's Spectator comes nearest, perhaps, in designating the cause of this development in the character of British workmen. It says:

"All over the country there appears at the present time to be a condition of unrest among the wage earning classes which may seriously imperil the whole trade union organization. What causes this unrest? It may conceivably be due to the Socialist propaganda. The essence of that propaganda is preaching the doctrine of discontent. Old trade unionists have constantly urged that the end to be aimed at is more friendly relationship between masters and men. The Socialists, on the contrary, teach that a capitalist is an enemy for whom there should be no quarter. At the same time they have encouraged the idea that trade unionism on the old lines is a played out farce and that the wage earners must look exclusively to political action to improve their position. A combination of these two doctrines may easily produce a feeling that workmen ought to display their strength at every possible opportunity, and that it does not much matter if trade unionism is thereby destroyed."

All home securities were depressed in today's market and capitalist opinion was that the outlook for British industry is the gloomiest that it has been for many years.

Also they have instructed the City Attorney to draw up an ordinance for appointing a purchasing agent for all departments of the city. This ordinance has been passed, and a Socialist appointed as purchasing agent. He is now engaged in introducing an economic buying system in every department. These economies are not to be under valued. They will greatly assist our administration in carrying out the many important measures which are made so hard for us by the almost bankrupt condition in which the capitalist politicians—those great "business" administration!—left the city treasury.

Supervisor Heath has introduced an ordinance providing for an ambulance street car, in which the sick may be comfortably removed to the County Hospital. At present, they are miserably jolted thither in a slow ambulance, with no one to attend them during the long drive except the driver.

It is not in Milwaukee alone that the Socialists are busy. All over the state of Wisconsin the comrades are in a state of ferment. Applications for charter are coming in as never before, and applications for membership are large and pouring in from new places. Socialists tickets have been nominated in over three-fourths of the assembly districts and congressional districts.

From the two congressional districts of Milwaukee, Comrades Victor L. Berger and Winfield R. Gaylord have been placed in nomination. There is every prospect of sending the right sort of a campaign is waged. On to Washington! is now the slogan of the Milwaukee Socialists.