

stocks and bonds of the corporations, which the federal government has

and the debts of the states are greater than the debts of the cities of America are greater than them all.

The national government has issued a bulletin on the subject. From this it appears that the debt of the 135 cities listed aggregate \$2,015,600,000, or an excess of \$614,922,660 over the combined indebtedness of the nation and the states. The per capita indebtedness of these cities averages \$30.47. In 1902 the average was only \$24.10. The per capita indebtedness of the people of New York is \$156.57 on city debts alone. Add to this sum the debts of minor cities, the debts of

by making them the basis of its currency notes, and you will discover the people of the United States are bankrupt right now.

It will require fully twice as much as the face value of these debts to pay them off. To illustrate: Huntington recently voted a bond issue of \$200,000. These bonds will pay 5 per cent. for 30 years. Figure it out and you will find that the \$200,000 worth of city improvements will cost the citizens of Huntington \$450,000, although confessedly worth only \$200,000. This is what is known as the capitalist system of business.

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AS CERTAIN OF ULTIMATE SUCCESS as that the sun will rise, socialists were not undismayed at any election result. But an unexpected advance is as cheering to them as to ordinary mortals. And this election had been filled with pleasant results.

Once again the voice of the workers

to improve life upon this planet. It is the only party governed from the bottom up, and it is a financial and moral impossibility to corrupt the rank and file.

George W. Perkins, on a national scale, and George A. Laughlin, on a local scale, paid the bill and had the goods delivered.

London going from the Twelfth district in New York. This is the district which Goldfolge has misrepresented for so long, kept there by the usual Tammany methods. London's victory was over a practical fusion, of the opposition uniter for Goldfolge, the third candidate's vote being merely nominal. It is unlikely that ever again will the Socialist vote be missing in the House of Representatives. A continuous increase in representation may now be looked for.

But the choicest morsel for the Socialists, as well as the highest hope for the working class is the elimination of the Progressives. The party was a political mongrel, sired by greed for office and damned by real revolutionaries, and never had a logical right to existence. Political parties should come into being, in the natural order of things, in response to some great need on the part of the people, as came the Democrats to make this a republic, as the Republicans to abolish chattel slavery, as the

Union clear and pure, because the movement is built upon the demand of the working class for the full social value of their toil, and financed by the workers, who can be expected to continue to insist upon getting what they pay for.—Wheeling Majority.

### WISCONSIN SOCIALISTS MAKE BIG GAINS.

Despite the indifference usually prevailing during an off year, the Socialists of Wisconsin made a relatively better showing than the capitalist parties. While the Social-Democratic vote showed a slight falling off from two years ago, yet the loss of the old parties was so much greater that the workers acquired many more others in the state than ever before.

Attorneys for the Socialists, are making a record of the congressional vote cast in Gaylord's district, and assert there is good grounds for the belief that Gaylord will yet be declared elected.

The Progressives simply tried to make of their party the vehicle in which one individual could ride to power. And so, caught between the two conflicting forces of struggling public opinion, it was crushed. Looks with short memories can refer to the prediction in these columns at the time of the last election. Once again here the prophetic powers of these columns have vindicated, and in their own country. The Progressive party is dead. Roosevelt has become a mere citizen. Had New York gone Democratic he would still contend that the Republicans could not win without him, but the Republican victory in his own state is a victory of Whitman over Roosevelt, once the latter made it devoid of personal. And the Progressives, being left in no man's land, are sans everything with the main game. That will probably be good to reconcile himself to this.

For those who have followed the flag there is no forward move except toward Socialism. They have

again and again, as they are so easily corrupt and reactionary. To again say themselves with them is to take upon themselves these merited accusations. To imagine that by their presence they can purify old politics is to set the part of the foolish maiden who weds a rake to reform him. The influence that made old parties crooked will continue to operate; if they were driven from those parties they could form another, though it should even be "non-partisan"—but they are too deeply entrenched to be displaced. The Democrat reformers have bent the crooking hinges of the knee to big business; the mighty Bryan no longer shows his teeth, but wags his tail instead, and the president endorsed Roger Sullivan and Murphy. So it will always be, and so would it have been with the Progressives had they waked fit and heavy, for there was no essential difference in the party methods.

In the Socialist party lies the only hope for those who sincerely wish