

THE SOCIALISTS AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council Desires Co-operation, But Opinion Is Divided.

The Vancouver Trades and Labor council recently went on record very emphatically in favor of taking an active part in the municipal elections that will shortly be held. The necessity for having men in the council who will represent the interest of the working class has become too pressing to be further ignored. In order to secure unanimity among all organized sections of the workers a committee was appointed to interview the three locals of the Socialist Party of Canada, two English and one Finnish,

for the purpose of ensuring co-operation. The following report of the mission is given in the last issue of *The British Columbia Federationist*, and will be read with interest by those who are familiar with the attitude which has previously been taken by the party on this subject.

Messrs. McVety and Pettipiece, as a deputation from Vancouver Trades and Labor council, enquired on behalf of that body if the S.P. of C. would be entering the next municipal campaign. Speaking as members of the party, both comrades expressed themselves strongly in favor of the step. Comrade W. W. Lefeaux thought the step would be a good one from an educational standpoint. Comrade Burroughs spoke against the proposition, as the issues at stake were practically all affecting property owners, and he could see no prospect of any educational work being done. Com-

rade Watts thought the party was strong enough in intelligence and education to keep clear of confusing issues in a municipal campaign. Comrade Kingsley was emphatic in the approval of the step, and spoke at length on the question. He said that actual experience in administration was a prime necessity for the workers, and the sooner they set about acquiring domination in social administration, the sooner would their ultimate object be attained.

After further discussion, Comrade Kingsley moved: "That this local is in favor of entering municipal politics, and that a committee of three be appointed to draft a manifesto."

Comrade Burroughs moved an amendment. "That all locals in the city be asked to meet to consider the question." The chair ruled the amendment out of order, and the motion carried. Comrade Burroughs then moved: "That a mass meeting of all