

HEADQUARTERS MUNICIPAL



1028 Market Street,

UP-STAIRS



Campaign Committee
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

San Francisco, Cal. Aug. 25th 1896

To Mr. Henry Kubus,
Sec'y of National Ex Com
S. L. P. of America

Comrade,

In writing these few lines to you, (I wish to state that though I am a member of the City Campaign Committee (this is written simply as a member of the party,) it is for the purpose of giving the national Executive an idea of the progress and activity of the movement in general in San Francisco and vicinity. Section S. F. up to about 6 weeks ago, consisted of the American, Liberty, Jewish

9.9 512

French and German branches
 We had also an Italian branch
 but about 5 months ago, a party
 by the name of "Gorri" a very
 fluent Italian speaker came out
 here and played havoc with the
 (Italian) branch, he preached the doc-
 trine of "non-political action and
 etc" and the members being green
 were carried away by his eloquence
 and not by the amount of logic
 his addresses contained.

Of course the English-speaking
 comrades were at a disadvantage
 in offsetting his arguments
 for the reason that we could
 not talk Italian, and the
 audience did not understand
 English. The result was that
 the Italian branch is now broken
 up, and they are pursuing their
 way in an anarchistic, and indi-
 vidualistic method.

HEADQUARTERS MUNICIPAL



1028 Market Street,
UP-STAIRS.

(3)

Campaign Committee
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

San Francisco, Cal.

189

About 8 weeks ago Comrades Ever-
ett Spaeny and myself were chosen
to assist the Organizer (Com. Seiler)
in organizing the Section into
districts, to efficiently carry on
the campaign in the city.

In two weeks we had the 18
districts in the City organized,
and I might remark here that a good
many staunch Socialists who formerly
took no active part in the movement
became members, and are now helping
the good work along. We held our
convention which was marked by the
good order, that prevailed for the
amount of business transacted.
I send inclosed our nominees, for
the National, State, and Municipal

9 9 5 4

(4)

tickets. (I would like to ask you confidentially if you have heard of the "Free Peoples Silver Federation" or some such named organisation.

The reason I ask is that there are men in this city, (I know them)

They come around our places of meeting and headquarters, and talk about there going to be a revolution and etc about next election. As I

understand them they would like to have us as individuals, not as a

party join their ranks and drill and prepare for the coming fray.

Now then I and a few more comrades are cognizant of these facts, and knowing that a man who does not know how to vote right does not know what he should have use in the slang of the day (dead onto them)

and we will take care that they do not side-track a movement which is the only hope of the proletariat.

By the way they claim to be Socialists,

HEADQUARTERS MUNICIPAL



1028 Market Street,
UP-STAIRS.

5
Campaign Committee
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

San Francisco, Cal.

1891

and to tell the truth have got
a knowledge of economics, and the
remedy, Only what makes me look
askance at them is their method.
I would like to know if there is such
a movement in the East, or if you
have heard of it before.

On August 15th (Saturday night)
at 7th Market St's we were about
to hold our regular meeting outdoors
One of our public watchdogs of private
property, came along and warned
the Chairman Com. Costly to desist
he replied "I intend to exercise my
right as an American Citizen
and address my fellow Citizens

P. 9 516

the constitution guarantees the right of free speech, and I intend to avail myself of that right.

The officer went away and in the meantime Com. E. J. Kingsley our nominee for Congress in the 4th Dist, was introduced and was in the middle of his address when the policeman returned with 3 assistants. They told Kingsley to stop he refused on the same ground as Costey, and with the result that he was placed under arrest. Com. Speed then mounted the platform but was quickly hauled down as also in quick succession were Comrades Espden, Postler, Costey, Spaeny, and Lutz.

The policeman by this time had their hands full of prisoners, the crowd was being constantly augmented in numbers and enthusiasm by the determined stand taken by our comrades, Com. Anthony

HEADQUARTERS MUNICIPAL



1028 Market Street,
UP-STAIRS.



Campaign Committee
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

San Francisco, Cal.

189

immediately on the arrest of the last speaker mounted the stand, and continued the meeting. The officers took the prisoners down one block to 7th and Mission to the patrol box to await the arrival of (as we call it) the socialist palace car, as soon as the wagon arrived they put in the prisoners and drove rapidly back to the meeting place where without any ceremony they bundled Com Anthony into the wagon. It was a scene of wild excitement (the arrest of the last speaker) fully 500 hundred people being on the ground, and when the speaker with the American flag and our portable stand was thrust into the wagon, Comade Costley stood

8

up in the wagon and with a
clarion voice, called for 3 cheers
for "socialism" which was given
with a will. They were arraigned
Monday morning, and demanded sep-
arate jury trials, ~~Yesterday~~ Comrade
Costley was tried, and although
the evidence of the prosecution
and 43 witnesses of the defense
clearly showed it was a public
meeting the judge gave instructions
to the jury who brought in a
verdict of guilty. It is the opinion
that if that judge wanted to inter-
pret the law impartially, he would
have instructed to acquit. The charge
was disturbing the peace of the oc-
cupants of the Odd Fellows building
although they did not swear to
the complaint. Com Costley was
called for sentence and fined \$5, but
we are not through with the case
as yet, for we have already arranged
to appeal this case to the Supreme

HEADQUARTERS MUNICIPAL



1028 Market Street,
UP-STAIRS.

9

Campaign Committee
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

San Francisco, Cal.

189

Court by means of Habeas Corpus proceedings. If there is anything in this letter you wish to publish I have no objections except that pertaining to that Silver Federation as I have no tangible evidence of its being. The organization is only intimated as far as this city is concerned and therefore I would like to know something of it before making a statement as being capable of proof. Hoping this letter will not take up too much of your time and that it will contain some information desired. I close with hopes for a victory in the near future.

91610

Yours for the cause of
Industrial Freedom

Andrew J. Ford
Member of Campaign Com,

Address 625 Market St.
San Francisco