

B. C. Secretary Explains

Fusion Dodger Not Authorized by
Local.

NOT LIKELY TO REPEAT IT.

Explanation of the Vancouver Fusion
Dodger.

Editor Socialist:

Dear Comrade: In your issue of October 11, there appears two articles dealing with the Socialist Party vote in British Columbia. With regard to the front page article, allow me to say that it is a serious reflection on the good judgment of the editor to make such deprecating remarks concerning the party in Vancouver without first ascertaining the facts of the case.

With regard to the article on page 3, it will clarify the situation considerably to state that the writer of that article is, and has been for years, an out and out S. L. P. man, both in political beliefs and personal characteristics. If he is not at present a member of that party, it is simply because he is too cowardly and shiftless to assume the duties of membership. He was working for the S. L. P. during the campaign, and his letter so far from representing the opinions of an independent socialist, represents nothing more nor less than the S. L. P. view of matters. By posing as an unattached socialist he has evidently been able to bunco the editor of the Socialist a little.

Now, in order to disprove some statements made by enemies of the "Socialist" about its being one-sided, will you kindly reproduce OUR ballot form (vote red) as you did the other one?

THE PARTY DODGER

form (vote red) as you did the other one?

THE PARTY DODGER

VOTE RED

Mark Your Ballot Thus

Industrial Freedom

BAXTER	<input type="radio"/>
BOWSER	<input type="radio"/>
BRYDONE-JACK	<input type="radio"/>
GARDEN	<input type="radio"/>
GRIFFITHS	<input type="radio"/>
MACGOWAN	<input type="radio"/>
MARTIN	<input type="radio"/>
McLAREN	<input type="radio"/>
MONCK	<input type="radio"/>
MORTIMER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
PERRY	<input type="radio"/>
STEBBINGS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
TATLOW	<input type="radio"/>
TURNBULL	<input type="radio"/>
WILLIAMS	<input type="radio"/>
WILSON	<input type="radio"/>

Wage-Slavery, Abolition

The Socialist Candidates
J. T. MORTIMER
A. R. STEBBINGS

Now, to come to the facts of the case. As to Com. Pettipiece handing out the bills in question, they may or may not be true. If it is, Com. Pettipiece can explain for himself. I entirely disapprove of such an action if it is so, and it is entirely contrary to a resolution passed unanimously by the Local during the campaign. However, the rest of the statements contained in the letter are direct lies and false insinuations. The dodgers were gotten out by Thos. Matthews of this city in order to promote his own political ideas. The campaign committee of the I. L. P. circulated them all day. Two other comrades and myself distributed a bunch of them in the S. L. P. headquarters for a reason quite obvious to anyone but the heavy witted De Leonite. They took the bait too, in good shape. We make no excuses about this dodger, nor any other. None of our speakers during the campaign ever advised anyone to support any other than our own candidates. They discussed socialist principles and pointed out all along that nothing else besides our program was of the slightest value to the working class. We had absolutely no committee working in any capacity whatsoever in conjunc-

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THE FUSION DODGER WORKING MEN!

VOTE FOR THE INTEREST
OF YOUR OWN CLASS.

What have the Liberal or Conservative Parties done for you? Who have these Parties served, You or the Corporation and Guilds? Don't be fooled any longer.

MARK YOUR BALLOT THUS

VOTE FOR THE
REAL
LABOR
CANDIDATES:

|||||

J.P. McLAREN,

S.P. MORTIMER,

J.P. PERRY,

S.P. STEBBINGS,

J.P. WILLIAMS.

BAXTER	<input type="radio"/>
BOWSER	<input type="radio"/>
BRYDENE-JACK	<input type="radio"/>
GARDEN	<input type="radio"/>
GRIFFITHS	<input type="radio"/>
MACGOWAN	<input type="radio"/>
MARTIN	<input type="radio"/>
McLAREN	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
MONCK	<input type="radio"/>
MORTIMER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
PERRY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
STEBBINGS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
TATLOW	<input type="radio"/>
TURNBULL	<input type="radio"/>
WILLIAMS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
WELSON	<input type="radio"/>

tion with the I. L. P. None of our members supported the I. L. P. candidates.

As for Mr. Stebbing's forecast of the election, that was his opinion, as well as the opinion of a great many outsiders, but he was not applauded for this by the S. P. members. I expected that Mortimer and some of the I. L. P. men would get in, but it was of no consequence to me, who was elected beside our own candidates, so long as the S. L. P. did not gain any more votes than they got.

Now, just a few words with regard to the I. L. P. I know that votes cast for them would only be thrown away, and I would support no other than a revolutionary socialist running as such, but at the same time the I. L. P. is not as much the enemy of the working class as is the S. L. P. The former will be socialists some day—the latter never will. I never heard the I. L. P. candidates say much that we could object to. In fact, one of their candidates, McLaren, only talked socialism when I heard him, and his was the last speech of the entire campaign. This body is composed for the most part of half-way socialists—men who have left the old political parties never to return—and although they have much to learn, the majority of them in a year or so will, as their man Perry said after election, be fighting under the banner of the S. P.

The difference between the votes of Mortimer and Stebbings, (which is not as great as the difference in the votes of the Conservative candidates) is largely explained by the U. B. R. E. vote which was cast for Turnbull on the Liberal ticket, and which amounted to over 200 votes. Mortimer also secured a large number of votes on account of his aggressiveness and straightforward manner. Com. Stebbings is of a quieter disposition, and has not had the experience in talking, which Mortimer has had. No socialist is foolish enough to believe that every vote cast for us is a socialist vote, but when a candidate gets nearly 400 votes on account of his personal qualities as a fighter, in spite of

would act in the same way in any movement and I only hope that they will remain in the cesspool of slime in which they are at present, and not contaminate us. I have always objected to attacking the personal character of our enemies in the capitalist parties as it is of no value to educate non-socialists, but among socialists, when we find men using a cloak of socialism in order to defeat socialism; then it is essential to expose their characters. If these men are really in favor of socialism as they claim to be, let them get out and oppose it as much as possible and they will drive people to it. We have actually gained many sympathizers here, on account of having them hurl abuse at us; and if they would only throw off their cloak and openly oppose socialism we would be able to elect a socialist government here by acclamation before the expiration of the present term.

It may be well to add for the benefit of your readers who are not acquainted with our election laws, that a deposit of \$200 is required from each candidate nominated. This money is held by the returning officer, and unless the candidate receives half as many votes as the lowest successful candidate, the deposit is lost. This prevented us from nominating a full ticket, and not a desire to compromise with any other party. As it was we lost Stebbing's deposit.

I hope that you will print this letter in full and reproduce the enclosed ballot form. The situation in B. C. is of as much importance in the world movement as is the Omaha situation, or the Mills affair, and it should be a refreshing change for your readers. This is the most advanced socialist state in America, and as we have been unfairly criticized, we should have a chance to speak for ourselves.

Yours for revolutionary socialism,
ALEC LANG.

Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 14, 1903.

Comment.

This letter from the secretary of the British Columbia Socialist Party gives a pretty full explanation of the Matt-

ed to over 200 votes. Mortimer also secured a large number of votes on account of his aggressiveness and straightforward manner. Com. Stebbings is of a quieter disposition, and has not had the experience in talking, which Mortimer has had. No socialist is foolish enough to believe that every vote cast for us is a socialist vote, but when a candidate gets nearly 400 votes on account of his personal qualities as a fighter, in spite of these votes being cast against the political opinions of those casting them, it certainly speaks well for the candidate. In fact, the Liberal boss, Bob Kelly, says that Mortimer will defeat the whole bunch at next election.

I will now deal with the real cause of all the trouble before closing. The candidate of the De Leon element here, Mr. Griffiths, a tinker who poses as a tin smith, according to his own statements, a grafter on the industrial field, thought that by making love to the S. P. he could gain votes. At a mass meeting called by the S. P. in the city hall on Monday, September 28, he distinctly advised his hearers to vote for Mortimer, Stebbings, and Griffiths. The S. P. as well as the rank and file of the workers here know Mr. Griffiths too well, and because we would not abuse the I. L. P. in order to bring grist to Mr. Griffiths's mill, hence all the fulminating on the part Griffiths said so, but this statement can be corroborated by anyone else who was present. The I. L. P. men and others have come to recognize that the S. P. stands in their interest in spite of all that the De Leonites have done to drive them away from socialism. We have just nicely begun to clear away the mists of prejudice, and the odious conceptions of socialism which have been created by this horde of bums and grafters and other crawling things, mis-called the Socialist Labor Party. Like the hypocrites in the religious world, they use a cloak of socialism for a blind in order that they may indulge their propensities for blackguardism and backbiting. They are a class of men who

resolving change for your readers. This is the most advanced socialist state in America, and as we have been unfairly criticized, we should have a chance to speak for ourselves.

Yours for revolutionary socialism,

ALEC LANG.

Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 14, 1903.

Comment.

This letter from the secretary of the British Columbia Socialist Party gives a pretty full explanation of the Matthews Dodger which we again reproduce, together with the official dodger of the party, sent us by Comrade Lang. It seems that Matthews, a former member of the party, had these fusion dodgers printed at the office of the official organ of the B. C. S. P., and they were circulated by its editor, as well as by Secretary Lang himself and others, though such action was in direct conflict with a unanimous resolution of the Local.

But what calls for most comment is Secretary Lang's preference for a Capitalist Labor Party to a Socialist Labor Party. To support unionism on its own field, the industrial field, is Socialist policy. But to support unionism when it leaves its own field and enters politics on a capitalist basis, is treason to socialism.

We believe the way to treat the S. L. P. is not to meet their slime with other slime, as Comrade Lang does, but to recognize freely that they are Socialists on a Socialist platform. Tell the truth about them, whatever they say of us. In our judgment every Socialist in Vancouver should have voted for Mortimer, Stebbings and Griffiths and no others. Principles before men. It is also to be noted that the B. C. Socialists succeeded in electing their candidates in those districts where they were most uncompromising, Nanaimo and Newcastle.—Ed.

What is Socialism?

Socialism is a specific for the extermination of microbes, which when fully developed are known as parasites that live on the unpaid toil of labor.

A. J. THOMPSON,

Jeffersonville, Ind.