

The Swing of Victory (November 9, 1904)

Terre Haute, Ind., Nov. 9 [1904]

The Socialist¹ vote in every part of the country has been enormously increased. My advices are that Cook County, Illinois, will give us at least 45,000 votes. The state of Illinois alone will probably cast a large Socialist vote this year than was cast in all the United States four years ago.

We have made remarkable gains in Milwaukee and elected worthy comrades to the legislature. It is too early to make an estimate of the total national vote, but enough is known to warrant the statement that from this time forward the Republicans will have the Socialist Party to reckon with, and that the coming alignment will be between the Republican Party representing the capitalistic interests, and the Socialist Party representing the working classes. As for the Democratic Party, the Eastern capitalists hit harder than they intended, and it can hardly be pulled together again to serve as a twin to the Republican Party to divide the working classes.

Twice has the Bourbon Democracy of the South coupled up with the radical Western wing of the party and gone down to defeat. It then quit the radical element and embraced the conservative element of the East, and has now been knocked in the head harder than before, and this ought to finish this moribund aggregation that has no principles and is only held together by its appetite for spoils.

We will not see Mr. Roosevelt extract the fangs and silence the rattles of the trusts, and we will also see with what effect he will wave the wand of prosperity in the face of the impending industrial depression.

From now on, every move on the political chess board, whether so designed or not, will be in the interest of socialism and promote the growth of the socialist movement, and it is entirely possible that in four years more the Socialist Party may sweep the United States.

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¹ The published version has “Social Democratic” and “Social Democratic Party” throughout, probably an editorial change made by *Social Democratic Herald* editor Fred Heath for his Wisconsin readership.