

MAYOR SEIDEL'S ANNUAL MESSAGE

Old Party Press Treats It With Silence. Great Progress Made During The Past Year. More to Come.

Socialist Mayor Seidel presented his annual message this week to the city council of Milwaukee, and the nine daily papers in Milwaukee had very little to say about it, practically ignoring the mayor's message.

uniform accounting basis is being done, and when completed the city of Milwaukee will be able to point with pride to this accomplishment.

adherence to the interest of the city and citizens lost the administration the friendship of a number of contractors and may have connection with the superintendent of streets.

for such commission will be presented to your honorable body.

VICTOR BERGER IN WASHINGTON

Investigating Slums At National Capitol. Disgraceful Dwellings For The Poor. Work In Congress.

(By National Socialist Press) Washington, D. C., April 19.—"This is terrible. People do not live here they just exist. If the people of the nation understood that these conditions prevail so close to the place where their laws are made they would not tolerate it."

tary Affairs. The other is Henry Goldfogle, who is to head the Committee on Elections.

More Socialist Victories

During the past week elections for town and school board officials have been held in California and Illinois, the results show great gains and more victories for the socialists.

J. C. Mainwaring; trustees, Tuoy Bollette, Burnell Williamson, Evan Watkins.

MINERS' STRIKE

Calgary, Alta., April 17.—While striking miners have held several meetings to discuss the question of applying to the government for a board to arbitrate the differences with the operators, nothing definite has been decided.

Death Rate is High

The poor of Washington live in blind alleys. Disease and death are ever present in their midst. The death rate in these alleys are far worse than that of slums in New York or Chicago.

WHY NOT TAKE THE RAINS?

If fifty men did all the work... And gave the price to five... Not by their own superior force... Why don't they take the rains?

WEEKLY LETTERS ON WORLD ROUND LECTURE TOUR.

GARDEN CITIES.

The question of where we live and how we live is so large a share of the other question "what we are" as well as the web and woof of life itself that no one can be indifferent to these questions.

In Great Britain and in Europe as in America, the question is not a serious one as to how or where those shall live who can pay for what they want, but everywhere it is becoming a question of the most serious public concern as to how and where those shall live who necessarily want what, under present conditions, they cannot pay for.

Among the British and European studies and adventures in the effort to secure a rational answer to these questions, the experiments in "Garden Cities" now hold the public attention side by side with the "Town Planning" and municipal dwellings which are doing so much to make the worker's world more a world of safety and of comfort.

Of the municipal dwellings I shall write at another time. Liverpool has more than 11,000 people living in publicly owned municipal dwellings.

Garden City means a town built for the purpose of covering the modern sanitary requirements of light, air, open space and the garden, as a part of every house.

At seven years of age we find the average weight and height of boys to be as follows:

walk and watch and look again. "None of these," said Mrs. Mills, "compare with the simple, quiet beauty, the clean, glad life of the healthy and happy lot of the fortunate dwellers in the Garden City."

Each home has a grass plot in the front, a small garden in the rear and then the blocks are so laid out as to leave quite large tracts available for special allotments for those who wish for larger gardens.

There are grass and trees and park-ways and pretty nooks and corners everywhere. The architecture could not be better done, were palaces instead of cottages in process of construction.

The rents are the cheapest in Great Britain. The houses are built, comfortable, with all modern conveniences and the rents run from 5 shillings (\$1.25) to 9 s. 3d. (\$2.25) per week. In both these places the claim is made the same as Pullman made the claim in Chicago, that the rents only pay the cost of maintenance and 5 per cent on the investment.

The people are healthy. Nowhere have we seen groups of school children, or of working people or housewives who looked so well, so full blooded, so clean blooded. This was shown in the complexion, the bodily movements, in the glow of health and the tones of the voice.

As an example of the improved physical being under such conditions can be drawn from a comparison of the report of Dr. Arkle of Liverpool who at the request of the Liverpool Educational Committee, made a most careful examination of the school children of Liverpool and the report of Dr. J. MacKenzie on the Port Sunlight school children.

Dr. Arkle classified the school into four classes—higher grade schools, where the sons of leading wealthy citizens are educated.

Council schools (a). Type of the best council schools, where the parents of the children are well-to-do, and the children have mostly comfortable homes.

Council schools (b). Type of school where the children are mostly of the laboring classes, whose parents have constant employment.

Council schools (c). The last of council schools, where the parents of the children belong mostly to the unemployed or casual labor sections.

To this list may be added the Port Sunlight schools which may be taken as equal to the type (b) of the council schools, the parents are mostly of the laboring classes, in constant employment, but with the difference that the houses in which the children mostly live are built with ample air space, no more than seven houses to the acre.

At seven years of age we find the average weight and height of boys to be as follows:

Table with 4 columns: School type, Height (inches), Weight (lbs.), and Age (years). Rows include Higher grade schools, Council schools (a, b, c), and Port Sunlight schools.

The schools, hospitals, playgrounds, club buildings, the things of social consideration and advantages were of the highest order and of the first importance to the people.

The one thing which I missed in both cities was any sense of a permanent and abiding interest, either in the place or the homes occupied by the people I talked with. The trail of the landlord was over all.

How shall this be taken away? I shall attempt to show that the cooperative towns now building and the municipal house of the first-class will be able to escape, not only the necessity of the landlord, but the sense of insecurity and lack of abiding interest which must forever be a characteristic of the passing tenant of a private master, especially when the landlord is also the employer.

Do you know of any other paper in Montana that is as aggressive as the Montana News? What is the matter with you subscribing for it right now?

Look out for the issue of the Montana News on the Commission form of Government.

The corporations desire the Commission form of Government. Organized labor is opposed to it.

GOVERNMENT BY COMMISSION A FAKE REFORM

The commission form of government had its inception in the City of Galveston. It was instituted immediately following the great tidal wave, at which time millions of dollars worth of property was destroyed and thousands of lives were swept into the sea.

It was a Des Moines capitalist, interested in one of the public service corporations in the city of Galveston, who brought the system to Des Moines and Iowa, and from which source it is being rapidly extended throughout the country.

There are two separate and distinct elements in the commission form of government—democratic and autocratic. The democratic feature, such as the recall, initiative and referendum, the civil service provisions, etc., are not essential, however, to the system.

The autocratic features—the combination of legislative, judicial and executive functions in a commission of three to five members, coupled with the elimination of ward lines and ward representation and the abolition of political parties—however, are the elements which constitute the distinguishing characteristics from the old form of government, and which in their nature are capable of overbalancing and nullifying the democratic elements in the law.

The city of Des Moines is neither a summer nor a winter resort; there is no lake front, bathing beach nor mountain scenery there, but the "booster" spirit is as prevalent in Des Moines, as elsewhere, if not more so. To attract visitors to the city from \$5,000 to \$10,000 is spent annually advertising the commission form of government, or, as it is commonly known, the "Des Moines plan."

The Referendum

Petition blanks are being circulated throughout the state, for a referendum on the militia law.

The following rules governing the referendum law must be observed: Only those who voted last November election can sign referendum petitions, and signers can only sign petitions in the county they voted in.

It is unlawful to sign the name of any other person, and any one doing so can be punished according to law.

Those filling the petitions with the County Clerk and Recorder, should take a receipt for same, and receipt should state the numbers of signers on petitions.

Three years ago when an attempt was made to use the referendum, certain County Clerks and Recorders held up the petitions, with the deliberate purpose of defeating the measure.

Mayor Seidel's Annual Report

(Continued from Page 1.)

Immediate steps should be taken to secure additional grounds and wherever possible these should be as close to school houses as possible, for they should also be utilized as educational grounds.

and civic organizations, representatives of public service corporations, and city officials from all over the country are attracted by the advertising, and when the visiting delegations set their feet under the mahogany banquet tables in the club rooms of the Greater Des Moines committee the virtues of government by commission are presented in about the following fashion:

"The recall, the initiative and referendum features are added only to make the bill more palatable to the voters. It is not likely that these features will become obnoxious to vested interests. In the first place, the percentage required are too high and in the second place, the city clerk, who is the creature of the commission, and to whose economic interests it is to declare the petition for the recall and referendum insufficient."

"Again, the police judge is appointed by the commission, and will obey orders in like manner as the city clerk. He will impose sentences at the behest of his superiors. Individuals disposed to criticize the commissioners and their acts may be handled by the police judge."

"Again, police parties having been eliminated, the election machinery is absolutely in the hands of the commission. The city clerk appoints all judges and clerks of election, and the judges thus appointed select the challengers, which ought to make a perfect machine for the perpetuity in office of the present officials."

Government by commission has all the earmarks of a distinctive corporation measure. this time by any official to block the referendum, by unlawful means, they that official will have a scrap on his hands, and we mean what we say.

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WARNING

Any person signing any name other than his own to this petition, or signing the same name more than once for the same measure at one election, or who is not, at the time of signing this petition, a legal voter of this state, is punishable by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.) or imprisonment in the state penitentiary not exceeding two (2) years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Have you any printing you desire done. If so, we will be pleased to give you our price on doing it for you. All profit from job work goes to carry on the work of agitation.

The Montana News will print the Montana militia bill in pamphlet form, the price of which will be 10 cents per copy, postpaid. The same will be ready for mailing April 25th.

River Front.

A proposition to beautify the river front will be submitted. It is recommended to you for careful consideration.

Too long has it been the custom of American cities to permit our water fronts to be the unsightly parts of our communities. When, as in the

case to be presented, the work can be begun with no cost to the city, the wise policy is to further the proceeding.

Board of Recreation.

The Board of Recreation and Social Education is one of the institutions that it is planned to establish. An enabling act is now pending before the legislature and your committee on legislation will undoubtedly give it due consideration.

The success that the dances in the Auditorium met with is a guarantee that this board will fill a long felt need. There can be no investment so profitable as that made in our youth.

City Attorney's Office.

In the legal department of the city some very commendable results have been registered. While it may be said that a portion of the success of this department is due to the influence of public temper and sentiment, yet it cannot be denied that the force of the legal department has represented our city very ably.

The manner in which the city attorney and his assistants have had the work under control, the careful preparations of each case and the spirit with which they set about performing each task, was certain to bring results. When the present administration entered upon its duties there were pending against the city damage suits, the claims of which amounted to over \$1,000,000.

Some of these were of seventeen year's standing. Of these claims to the amount of \$280,000 have been tried or dismissed in the Circuit Court. Only one of these cases covering a claim of \$15,000 has been appealed to the Supreme Court.

Of the seven cases that were before the Supreme Court, six were decided in favor of the city. In the preliminary hearing of the case "State of Wisconsin vs. City, County of Milwaukee," the claim for interest amounting to over \$200,000 was decided in favor of the City of Milwaukee. Thus the total of \$465,000 was decided in favor of the city.

In the handling of cases in which the city was clearly liable, a marked contrast is shown in comparison with previous administrations.

The average total amount of settlements for the five years preceding the advent of the present administration was \$42,423 annually, while in the last year the total amount of settlements was less than \$9,500. The department anticipates a still more favorable record for the ensuing year.

Among the important victories that register a marked advance for the people are the so-called Theoculin Test case; the Woller Bond case and the Street Railway Sprinkling case. The Street Railway License case was decided against the city in the lower court. This has been appealed to the Supreme Court.

While this work was being done, the department was not delinquent in its support of the various departments. Whenever called upon by the building inspector, smoke inspector or sealer of weights and measures, the legal de-

partment has constantly stood ready to take up the fight for the enforcement of the ordinances.

Numerous victims of extortion were aided in release from the clutches of loan sharks and, in addition, were reimbursed for excess interest that they had paid. This service was rendered absolutely free to the victims and the department stands ready to continue the practice.

City Clerk's Office.

Many clerks have been accomplished in the city clerk's office, one of the most notable being the new form of indexing the council proceedings. Any one who ever had the need of tracing a measure through the maze of red tape will appreciate the innovation.

Very good work has been done by the office of the sealer of weights and measures. Many false measures and weights have been condemned and through the co-operation of this department with the city attorney's office, many convictions brought about.

The work has been made exceedingly effective and it is safe to say many thousands of dollars have been saved to the citizens through the efforts of the sealer of weights and measures.

Smoke Inspector.

The work in the smoke inspector's office is likewise being carried on with renewed vigor. The effectiveness of this work has previously been hampered partly by a weak ordinance and partly by the leniency of courts. Stronger legislation has been asked for from the state legislature.

Since the passage of the new ordinance better results have been obtained and it is to be hoped that if this work is continued, Milwaukee will have taken great steps toward being a cleaner city.

Water Department.

The bill allowing a saving to be made in the office of the water registrar by abolishing that position has been killed through the efforts of some Milwaukeeans. This is to be regretted.

While there are many achievements of the past year, and while there are likewise many minor problems that might be enlarged upon, each and all important in themselves, yet there is no space to do so here.

I close with repeating from my inaugural address: "All your efforts must be bent toward the execution of the task before you. Many obstacles will be placed in your way. Disappointments and heartaches will not be spared you. Your successes may very often not follow your first attempts."

"But resolute pluck and determined perseverance must in the end conquer the difficulties that face you. By patiently toiling with one series of problems after another, by fighting battle on battle with an enthusiasm that never lessens, by moving forward from one point of victory to another, with confidence that we are in accord with the trend of civilization and the highest ideas of humanity, out of such struggles as we are called by an irresistible summons to engage in, advances will be made and progress will be realized toward a great city with a free, independent civic spirit."

HEADQUARTERS FOR UNION PRINTING.

GRAHAM & HAZLETT, Publishers.

Comrades and Brother:—

We desire to call your attention to the printing office of the Montana News. We do all kinds of printing for labor organizations, Constitutions, By-Laws, Letter Heads, Envelopes Working Cards, all stationary and printed material used by unions.

The Montana News is the only paper in the Rocky Mountain states that advocates the right of labor at all times and in all places. Regardless of what the grievances may be we stand by the strikers in the struggle of the union against the corporations. In more than one instance we have turned public opinion in favor of the strikers, and in more than one city and camp have we made the union label respected. The Montana News is supported exclusively by the workers and the profits from job work of the labor organizations of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah.

Perhaps your union has not required the assistance of any paper in times of trouble, but rest assured, should you organization ever become involved in a strike; the Montana News will be found on your side and ready to give all the assistance that press and pen can do to win the strike. A labor press should be built up, and we need your assistance will you send us your order for the printing of your union? Why support print shops whose paper attack you or treat your cause with silence and indifference when you are involved in a strike?

The capitalists know the power of the press and control the papers accordingly.

Should your union require anything in the line of printing give us a chance to bid on same. Ask us for our prices. We may charge higher than seab shops, but we pay all express charges on packages sent out. Remember we are the headquarters for Union Printing in the Northwest and the shop that has made the Union Label respected.

No work leaves our shop that does not bear the Union Label. None but Union men employed.

Hoping to be favored by the patronage and support of your union.

Fraternally, MONTANA NEWS

