

# That "Step Towards Socialism"

Mr. Bryan has charged that Mr. Roosevelt's platform is "a step toward socialism." It is interesting to compare some of the provisions of the "progressive party" with the provisions of the socialist party. Mr. W. J. Ghent has written for the National Socialist, a Washington city publication, an article in which he presents some of the provisions of the two platforms in parallel columns.

Mr. Ghent says: "So the new party, which goes boldly forth to its first campaign with the inscription on its banners, 'Thou Shalt Not Steal!' begins its career with the brazen theft of half the working program of the socialist party. The great Theodore, who has exhausted the vocabulary of invective in denouncing the wickedness of the socialists, must needs write his own platform as a pale reflex of the socialist platform."

Mr. Ghent declares that "With scissors and paste pot and a copy of the socialist platform, Roosevelt started in on his task of presenting the American people with a catalogue of the evils which beset them and of the remedies which are necessary."

Then he presents the striking parallel:

**SOCIALIST PLATFORM**

The abolition of the present restrictions upon the amendment of the constitution, so that that instrument may be amendable by a majority of the voters.

We demand: The conservation of human resources, particularly of the lives and well-being of the workers and their families.

By securing a more effective inspection of workshops, factories and mines.

By forbidding the employment of children under 6 years of age.

By establishing minimum wage scales.

By securing to every worker a rest period of not less than a day and a half in each week.

By shortening the workday in keeping with the increased productivity of machinery.

The general prohibition of night work for women and the establishment of an eight-hour work day for women and young persons.

By abolishing the

**"PROGRESSIVE" PLATFORM**

The progressive party, believing that a free people should have the power from time to time to amend their fundamental law so as to adapt it progressively to the changing needs of the people, pledges itself to provide a more easy and expeditious method of amending the federal constitution.

The supreme duty of the nation is the conservation of human resources through an enlarged measure of social and industrial justice.

Effective legislation looking to the prevention of industrial accidents, occupational diseases, overwork, involuntary unemployment and other injurious effects incident to modern industry.

The prohibition of child labor.

Minimum wage standards for working women, to provide a "living wage" in all industrial occupations.

One day's rest in seven for all wage-workers.

The eight-hour day in continuous twenty-four-hour industries.

The general prohibition of night work for women and the establishment of an eight-hour work day for women and young persons.

The abolition of the

brutal exploitation of convicts under the contract system, and substituting the cooperative organization of industries in penitentiaries and workshops for the benefit of convicts and their dependents.

The enactment of further measures for the conservation of health. The creation of an independent bureau of health, with such restrictions as will secure the full liberty of all schools of practice.

The separation of the present bureau of labor from the department of commerce and labor and its elevation to the rank of a department.

The adoption of a graduated income tax, the increase of the rates of the present corporation tax, and the extension of inheritance taxes, graduated in proportion to the value of the estate and to nearness of kin—the proceeds of these taxes to be employed in the socialization of industry.

Unrestricted and equal suffrage for men and women.

The abolition of the monopoly ownership of patents and the substitution of collective ownership, with direct rewards to inventors by premiums or royalties.

The adoption of the initiative, referendum and recall, and of proportional representation, nationally as well as locally.

The extension of the public domain to include mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water power.

The further conservation and development of natural resources for the use and benefit of all the people.

The development of

convict contract labor system, substituting a system of prison production for governmental consumption only, and the application of prison earnings to the support of their dependent families.

We favor the union of all existing agencies of the federal government dealing with the public health into a single national health service, without discrimination against or for any one set of therapeutic methods, schools of medicine or schools of healing.

We pledge our party to establish a department of labor with a seat in the cabinet, and with wide jurisdiction over matters affecting the conditions of labor and living.

We believe in a graduated inheritance tax as a national means of equalizing the obligations of holders of property to government, and we hereby pledge our party to enact such a federal law as will tax large inheritances, returning to the states an equitable percentage of all amounts collected. We favor the ratification of the pending amendment to the constitution giving the government power to levy an income tax.

The progressive party, believing that no people can justly claim to be a true democracy which denies political rights on account of sex, pledges itself to the task of securing equal suffrage to men and women alike.

We pledge ourselves to the enactment of a patent law which will make it impossible for patents to be suppressed or used against the public welfare in the interests of injurious monopolies.

Initiative, referendum and recall.

Natural resources whose conservation is necessary for the national welfare should be owned or controlled by the nation.

We favor the early

highway and waterway systems.

The collective ownership and democratic management of the banking and currency system.

The immediate curbing of the power of the courts to issue injunctions.

construction of national highways.

The issue of currency is fundamentally a government function.

We believe that the issuance of injunctions in cases arising out of labor disputes should be prohibited when such injunctions would not apply when no labor disputes existed.

**THE LETTERS THAT STARTED THE TROUBLE**

Following are the letters written by John D. Archbold, of the Standard Oil trust to Senator Boies Penrose, republican, of Pennsylvania. The publication of these in Hearst's Magazine made necessary Senator Penrose's "explanation."

October 13, 1904.

"Personal.

My dear senator: In fulfillment of our understanding, it gives me pleasure to hand you herewith certificate of deposit to your favor for \$25,000, and with good wishes, I am, yours truly,  
JNO. D. ARCHBOLD."

May 17, 1899.

"My dear senator: I don't suppose it is at all necessary to bother you again regarding the Washington matter, but Mr. Wardwell is this morning in receipt of the inclosed letter from the secretary of the commission, urging him to appear before them in June. I have said to him that he need give himself no uneasiness about it, and that the understanding is clear that none of our parties are to appear in June. As I think I have told you, Mr. Wardwell is in poor wealth and is planning to leave for Europe. I have thought best, however, to send this to you out of the fulness of precaution.

"Apologizing again for troubling you in the matter, I am, very truly yours,  
"JNO. D. ARCHBOLD."

January 5, 1900.

"My dear senator: I have today telegraphed you as follows:

"Corporations should not be required to make public the names or holdings of all stockholders. It is an unjust and unnecessary inquisition into the private affairs of individual stockholders and serves no public good. If demanded by creditors, state laws now provide the means of obtaining the information. Private corporations should not be required to make public items of receipts and expenditures, profits and losses. A statement of assets and liabilities is all that can benefit the public. Items of receipts and expenditures, profits and losses can only benefit the competitors."

"I beg to acknowledge also with many thanks your favor of January 1, the inclosures accompanying which I beg to return you herewith. Was very sorry not to see you here last week; but, as you know, I was away on a little vacation.

"Sorry to learn today of the report of the committee in the Quay case, but still hope for favorable action by the senate.

"With thanks for all your courtesy, I am, very truly yours,  
JNO. D. ARCHBOLD."

"26 Broadway, New York."

The following letter apparently refers to the report of the industrial commission, made public several days later; but Senator Penrose threw no light upon it in his "defense:"

February 21, 1900.

"My dear senator: I have your kind note of yesterday, with inclosures, which latter I beg to return herewith. We think the report is so fair that we will not undertake to suggest any changes. With many thanks, I am, very truly yours,  
JNO. D. ARCHBOLD."

July 3, 1901.

"My dear senator: Following the lamentable death of Senator Kyle, we are very strongly of the opinion that you should take the chairmanship of the industrial commission. This seems eminently fitting from every point of view. Your name as chairman would undoubtedly give to the report exceptional assurance of integrity and intelligence; you are the ranking senatorial member of the commission; the interests of your state are pre-eminent in the matter;