

## FIGHT IN THE FOURTEENTH.

### SOCIALISTS MAKING GREAT HEADWAY— HENRY GEORGE'S REPLY.

The cunning hand of Henry George and John McMackin was manifest in the Fourteenth Assembly District meeting, at 178 First-avenue, last evening, to re-elect delegates to the United Labor Party State Convention. The two politicians did not exactly pack the meeting in the good old machine style, but, nevertheless, the programme was "fixed" by such a list of reliable recruits to the enrolled list of voters that all fear of opposition from the anti-George faction was lost. Forty-three votes were cast with this result: William McCabe, 36; Francis Schaidler, 24; Dr. Dennis Quirk, 37; P. J. McGrath, 13; George D. Block, 8; Joseph McCluskey, 7. The first three named were declared elected delegates and the last three alternates. McCabe is employed in the office of Henry George's paper.

John J. Bealin moved "that this city is being represented at the Union Labor Party Convention at Rochester by such frauds in the labor movement as Patrick McGuire, William Martin, and George Lennon, who have no constituency to represent, and that it is the purpose of that convention to send a representation to the United Labor Party Convention and ask cooperation: but, having the interests of labor at heart, we instruct our delegates not to admit the representatives of the Union Labor Party." The motion was carried with such remarks as "Lynch 'em!" "Blow 'em up with dynamite!" &c., personal to the delegates at Rochester mentioned by Bealin, who is one of Henry George's stump speakers.

On motion of Mr. McCabe the delegates were instructed to act on the line of the old Clarendon Hall platform of the United Labor Party. It is the one adopted for the organization last Fall.

John Murphy wanted to sop the Socialistic element, and moved "that the delegates favor a plank which will not debar men, even of the Socialistic Party, from joining the United Labor Party, but they must apply as individuals. The Socialists are not to be recognized as an American political party. This proposition was carried. The delegates were also instructed to vote for a retention of the name "United Labor Party" unless very good reasons were shown for changing it. The word "Labor" is to be fought for at all hazards, and must appear in the distinctive title of the party.

One Irish gentleman desired that the delegates be instructed to vote for Frank Farrell, the colored Knight of Labor, as Chairman of the convention, but the meeting decided that anything of the kind was impolitic.

There is evidently a bitter fight raging in the Fourteenth Assembly District between the Henry George and Socialistic factions, and the former's ranks are being mowed down by deserters in a way that alarms the leaders. The reading of the poll list last evening showed such a break in the forces that a new list is to be made up. Every one of the 43 men who cast a vote was asked, "Are you a member of any other political party except the United Labor Party?" The invariable reply was "No."

The United Labor Party of the Twenty-fourth Assembly District held a special meeting last night at Pohlman's Saenger Hall, 2,910 Third-avenue, at which the county platform of the party was indorsed and the delegates from the district to the Syracuse Convention were instructed to follow its policy closely. No reference was made to candidates for nomination on the party ticket.

Henry George is replying to such of the attacks of the Socialists as he can, and is giving his reasons for their exclusion from the United Labor Party in to-day's issue of the *Standard*.

He says beneath the question whether any political party can permit a party within itself, which, by organization, may in many cases, under the forms of Parliamentary procedure, impose the will of a minority upon the majority, lies a far more important question. The question is whether the United Labor Party is or is not animated by the ideas and working toward the aims of State or German Socialism. It is the Socialists themselves who have forced this question upon the party. They worked well and efficiently with the United Labor Party upon a platform which expressed definitely and clearly the principles and methods of that party. There was no reason whatever why they might not have continued to work along in the same way, but they have for some time past shown a purpose to commit the Labor Party to their own peculiar views and plans. The *Folks Zeitung* has for some months urged upon the members of the Socialistic Labor Party the policy of impressing their views upon the Labor Party at the district meetings, and, should this be prevented, to organize meetings themselves and draw members away from the United Labor Party. This has been accompanied by constant attacks upon the principles of the party with a view of showing the necessity of nationalizing not only land but capital. In short, the Socialists have not only not observed the toleration with which the majority have treated their peculiar views but have been persistent in the attempt to undermine the platform of the party in which they so indignantly claim the right of membership.

Mr. George then refers to an appeal that has been issued by the National Executive Committee of the Socialistic Labor Party as a protest against the exclusion of Socialists, in which it says: "We [the Socialists] insist that the burning social question is not a land tax, but the abolition of all private property in instruments of production."

This arouses Mr. George's indignation, and he says that if the burning question is the abolition of private property in all instruments of production, by which they mean capital in all its forms, there is no place for them in the new party; either they must go out or the majority must go out, for it is certain that the majority that constitute the United Labor Party do not propose to nationalize capital and are not in favor of the abolition of all private property in the instruments of production.

The Socialists deny Mr. George's assertion that they polled a ridiculously small vote, and claim that they cast 4,000 votes for Alexander Jonas for Mayor just to test their strength. Now they claim they can control many more votes.

Matthew Maguire, a labor agitator, has written a letter to Mr. George, in which he reminds him of his speech before the Brooklyn Spread-the-Light Club in 1881, in which he coincided with the opinion that had been expressed there that labor is robbed of the larger share of its own products by landlords. Mr. Maguire and his friends also read his book, "Progress and Poverty," but they now find that Mr. George has not developed as they hoped he would. Mr. Maguire objects to Mr. George's article against the Socialists in the *Standard*, where he calls German Socialism childish, and pretends to abhor a paternal Government, while in his speeches he claimed that the aim of his agitation was free land, free labor, and a pension for everybody.