

are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage-workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The Liberal, Conservative, the bourgeois Public Ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition of Socialism also de-

pend upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We, therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices, in order to facilitate to attainment of the end.

## PLATFORM.

### General Demands.

1. The public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts, and combines, and ultimately of all the means of production, distribution, and exchange. No part of the revenue of such industries to be applied to the reduction of taxes on property, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employes, to the improvement of the service, and to diminishing rates to the consumers.
2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to increase the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor.
3. The establishment of a national currency and government banking system; all fire and life insurance to be also operated by the government in the interests of the whole people.
4. The inauguration of a system of public industries; public credit to be used for that purpose in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor.
5. Abolition of the senate, establishment of the initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and right of recall of representatives by their constituents.