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“I Will Not Be a Candidate for President” :  
Interview in LaPorte, Indiana  
[excerpt]  
(November 13, 1899)

Though I am doing all in my power to further the cause of the Social Democratic Party, and may be said to have been the “father” of the movement, I will not be a candidate for President before the national Convention which meets at Indianapolis in March [1900]. The slogan of the party will be “No Fusion, No Compromise,” and the platform will advocate the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution.

A full ticket will be put in the field and a great vote will record the socialistic strength of the nation. I look for the heaviest returns from Massachusetts, Washington, Oregon, and California. In Washington I believe our party will win out. The enthusiasm on the Pacific coast, from which I have just returned, is phenomenal.

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