

now costs 520 kronen (just over  $\frac{1}{4}$ d.) per hectowatt, and power current costs 245 kronen ( $\frac{1}{8}$ d.). The number of consumers has increased from 158,878 in 1918-1919 to 391,000 at the end of 1924. The Socialist administration has brought gas and electricity within reach of the mass of the people.

The lesser enterprises of the Municipality comprise a funeral furnishing business, an advertising agency, warehouses, and a large brewery, which is run at a profit.

### CONCLUSION.

We have now shown how the Socialist majority has applied a policy of systematic reform to all branches of administration. The Municipality, which as an administrative authority was often alien and hostile to the masses of the people, has developed under Socialist influence into the real community, which embraces everybody who dwells within its walls and follows the progress of the individual from the cradle to the grave, whenever it is necessary. Capitalism cannot be abolished from the Town Hall. Yet it is within the power of great cities to perform useful instalments of Socialist work in the midst of capitalist society. A Socialist majority in a municipality can show what creative force resides in Socialism. Its fruitful labours not only benefit the inhabitants of the city, but raise the prestige of Socialism elsewhere.

The tens of thousands of persons with no political opinions who live in a great city have inevitably been impressed by the earnest determination which the Socialists displayed in performing their task at a time when the decay of Vienna, its decline to an unimportant town, was prophesied.

The collapse of this administration was predicted with confidence by its opponents, who are now lamenting its great accession of strength. Without the efficient organisation of the Vienna Socialists, the capture of the majority in the Town Hall would have been impossible. On the other hand, the success of the administration has extraordinarily strengthened the Party, not only in Vienna but throughout the Republic. And what importance the strong position of Social Democracy in Austria has had for Socialism in Central Europe during the years of surging reaction is well known. Thus to-day the red Town Hall of Vienna towers as a fortress of the proletarian movement. The enemy has abandoned all hope of ever recapturing the citadel. May the example of Vienna spur to new activity all Labour movements that are discouraged by the progress of reaction.