

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 5, NO. 350.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1905.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

ARCADES AMBO.

By DANIEL DE LEON

ARATHER innocent sympathizer of the Socialist Labor Party sends to this office a clipping of the *New York Journal or American* containing a two-column boom for the Social Democratic party's candidates in the pending Mayoralty campaign; the article is headed with flaming headlines, pictures and other fly-paper attractions common to yellow journalism; the Socialist Labor Party's sympathizer forwards the clipping with the angry comment: "What kind of Socialists be these?" Our correspondent should not be angry. He should recognize in the event the fitness of things.

Go down the list of the three candidates. There is Mr. Algernon Lee. The gentleman is the Editor of a paper which pronounced "an exaggeration" the unquestionable fact that the Working Class is robbed of four-fifths of its product. Can the capitalist Labor skinner Hearst's paper object to that? It is the policy of Capitalism to claim that Socialists exaggerate. Evils that are exaggerated need no radical cure: reforms will stead. The hugeness of the plunder levied by the Capitalist Class upon the Working Class is of the essence of the issue. Tone down the fact, and the essence evaporates. Mr. Lee's conduct in repeating the capitalist falsehood that Socialists exaggerate when they claim that Labor is robbed in America of four-fifths of its product, suits Hearst to a t. Deny that Socialist claim under existing conditions, and the Marxian law of values and of wages is scuttled. Can a Hearst want any better?

Again, the same gentleman put his signature at the Amsterdam Congress to a resolution that was meant to rupture Socialism in the matter of the solidarity of the Working Class. He wanted to establish a distinction between "backward" workingmen and others. It was a blow aimed at the heart of Socialism, and the bolt was taken from Belmont's A.F. of L. arsenal. The Capitalist Class ever seeks to

disrupt the workers with racial animosities. To puff up one against the other is legitimate capitalist policy. The Japs were resolute against by the last American Federation of Labor convention, and so did Mr. Lee's proposed resolution propose to do—agreeable to Hearst's policy.

Again, the paper edited by the gentleman takes pay from capitalist advertisers to humbug the workers. Quite recently, it took pay from a capitalist insurance concern to publish the monstrous lie that the concern is the "protection of one million families"! Could Hearst out-do that in point of yellowness, or in point of chicanery to Labor?

And then there is candidate Morris Brown. In the Central Federated Union and as a committee of that body to Belmont during the recent Interborough strike, Mr. Brown echoed the Gompers, the Stone, the Belmont and the Hearst paper's lie that the strikers had broken their contract. The lie was an invaluable club to crack the strikers over the head with. The lie implied another lie, the lie that Belmont had lived up to his contract. The lie implied that Labor must submit to capitalist outrage. It was an act of base betrayal of the Working Class. The fact suggests the question, How much did the Browns get for that act of treason? But the question leads away from the subject in hand, and need not here be pursued. The fact of the lie is, however, ample to explain the love, and affection of Hearst's paper for Brown. Hearst's paper echoed and re-echoed the lie during the strike, and such was the attitude of Hearst's paper at the time that the strikers kicked out from their meetings the reporter of that paper together with the reporters of the other capitalist papers, Mr. Brown's *Volkszeitung* included. Any wonder at the friendly reception of the gentleman by Hearst's paper?

Lastly, there is candidate Charles W. Cavanaugh. What the function of the militia is in strikes everybody knows. The graveyard of the Labor Movement is full with the tombstones of strikes that were riddled to death by the militia. A resolution, condemning such capitalist methods, and warning the workers to keep away from the militia so as not to have to handle the Crag-Joergsen rifle against their brother workers, was introduced at the recent national convention of the International Typographical Union: the resolution was voted down: the convention lined up on the side of the rifle-diet for the workers: Mr. Cavanaugh, a member of

that Union, bowed low before the decision: by his silence he implied consent: in a matter of such vital importance, when honor, where there is honor, and manhood, where there is manhood, combine to force a protest, Mr. Cavanaugh crawled in the dirt before the Civic-Federation-dictated conduct of the convention of his Union: he probably was too busy attending to his supreme duties as treasurer of the Borough Park Methodist Church to give a thought to such trifles as the palpable endorsement by his Union of the capitalist methods to browbeat Labor. Anything in this to render Mr. Charles W. Cavanaugh objectionable to Hearst's paper? Of course not! Did not that paper tender its special services as postman "to convey to the wives and sweethearts" of the Twenty-second Regiment the communications that the Regiment may have wanted to send to them when it was terrorizing the trolley strikers at Albany?

By booming the Social Democratic party's candidates with all the tricks of yellow journalism, Hearst's paper but yellowly sums up the above enumeration of facts. Hearstism recognizes on the shoulders of these gentlemen the strawberry mark of brotherhood; it detects on their brow the mark of Cain that endears them to it. While it wisely abstains from all allusion to the candidates of the Socialist Labor Party, and drops these like burning coals, it feels it can safely, aye, profitably, hug to its strumpet bosom the candidates of the Social Democratic, alias Volkszeitung Corporation party.

Arcades ambo.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.

Uploaded January 2008

slpns@slp.org