

# The People.

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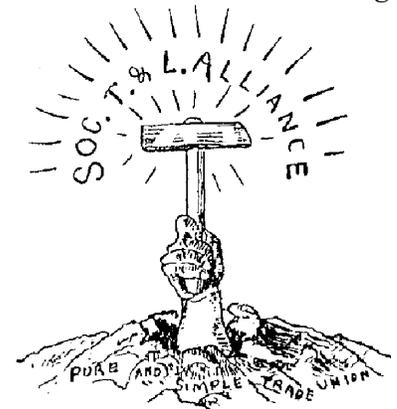
FIRST EDITORIAL

## Introductory

By DANIEL DE LEON

**F**or nearly a year past the UPLIFTED ARM AND HAMMER has recurred in these columns. It made its appearance every time we had a political victory to record, or a political stride forward to report; it regularly headed the article containing the cheering news. It has thus become the symbol of our political march onward, and its recurrence is hailed with joy.

We now introduce to our readers another symbol, supplementary of the first—the ERECT AND RISING HAND AND HAMMER of New Trade Unionism, breaking through the dry crust of Old Style, or British, or Pure and Simple Trade Unionism.



As the UPLIFTED ARM AND HAMMER has been heralding the political victories of the working class, the ERECT AND RISING HAND AND HAMMER will herald the victories of New Trade Unionism over the Labor Fakir or Pure and Simple hirelings of Capital.

Its recurrence will be frequent. The Old-Style or Pure and Simple Unions are rent in twain. Their false pretences have been discovered, the ignorance and corruption of their leaders are to-day patent, they are bankrupt financially and morally. Everywhere the crust under which these leaders strove to keep the working class in slavery is breaking. Successful revolution has taken place in the K. of L., the Garment Workers and others, while in all the other organizations, not yet liberated from Pure and Simpledome, the rumblings are distinct that portend the final break-down of what in America has been a powerful, the most powerful rampart and breastwork of Capitalism—the Pure and Simple organization of the working class.

Every time New Trade Unionism conquers a post, i.e., liberates the slaves of labor fakirs and enrolls a new trade organization in the ranks of the industrial army of

emancipation, the noble emblem that heads this article will give symbolic token thereof; it will be accompanied with the howlings of the corruptionists and the shouts of joy of the masses. It will be scoring one more rap over the skull of rascality and one more victory towards freedom.

Many a time and oft, and with increasing frequency, will this noble symbol henceforth ornament our columns.

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