

# DAILY PEOPLE

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EDITORIAL

## NAME THEM!

By DANIEL DE LEON

**S**PEAKING in the Senate on the Anti-Trust bill, Senator **George Frisbie Hoar** of Massachusetts said that he had given hearings to labor organizations on the proposed act, and they had agreed with him that his points against the measure were sound.

It would be interesting to know the names of these “labor organizations,” the men who represented them in the hearings with Senator Hoar, and the means adopted to secure both them and their agreement with the Senator.

That the bill, now before the Senate and passed by the House, will give no relief to Labor, and that whatever relief it may offer will lie or hang like a rusty nail in monumental mockery in the armory of our capitalist legislation, every sane man, if he is honest, and every honest man, if he is sane, knows full well. The objections of Senator Hoar to the bill are not on the score of its fraudulency. His objections are to the provisions themselves, which he considers, if enacted into law, would be enforced. Now, what are these provisions?

It is well known that, after many years of struggle, the Middle Class, backed by its food-for-cannon, the gullible members of the Working Class, managed to get an Anti-Trust law enacted by Congress. Great was the joy thereat—by the Innocents. The law stood there like a ridiculous scare-crow in a cornfield, to which the birds, intended to be frightened away, become so attached that they roost and hop on its out-stretched arms or head. The Trusts grew apace, law or no law; and, law or no law, the small trader or manufacturer continued to be ground down and out.



GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR (1826–1904)

Suddenly the law rose to life. And when was that? It was at the time of the Chicago railroad strike. The Anti-Trust Law, supposed to have been intended to curb the upper capitalist, now was made the basis for these identical capitalists to jump with both feet upon workingmen and crush their strike. Upon this experience, a new Anti-Trust law began to be demanded by the class-unconscious workingmen. They did not realize that the trouble with the law that smote them did not lie with the law itself, but that it lay with the class that administered the law. Accordingly, while leaving that class in power, they demanded an Anti-Trust law that should expressly provide that no labor organization should be punished under it. The House of Representatives, a good deal more politic than Senator Hoar, was perfectly willing to humor those class-unconscious workers. What did capitalist politicians in the House care what provisions the law contained, so long as these innocent workingmen could be led by the Fakirs into keeping the same Capitalist Class in charge of the law? Accordingly, the House passed the law with the desired provision.

What, under these circumstances, must not be the virulence of Senator Hoar's animosity toward the Working Class that he is driven to object to the politic and harmless concession of the House?

What, again, must not be the relations of Senator Hoar with the "labor organizations," whose representatives, taking the law seriously, can be induced to agree with the Senator in his opposition to the bill?

Who would not like to hear the names of these dummies?

Let Senator Hoar name them!

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