

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 1, NO. 311.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1901.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

ONE MORE ILLUSTRATION.

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE alleged May Day demonstration of last Saturday was significant, not merely because a Robert W. Campbell—who had boomed the candidacy of the Democratic capitalist Judge Parker, the co-convictor of Campbell's fellow Unionman Sherlock—officiated as Grand Marshal of the parade, in which transparencies predominated denunciatory of the *Sun* for having persecuted that same Sherlock; nor lay the significance of the affair wholly in the strong contrast between the way the capitalist press treated the same bogus performance last year, when it hoped thereby to annihilate the Socialist Labor Party, and the way that same press treated the bogus performance this year, it having found out that the S.L.P., so far from being there to be annihilated, is there to annihilate and utterly confound "the other fellow." There is a third circumstance that adds significance to the antics of last Saturday. That circumstance consists in one more proof of the effectiveness of the "boring from without" theory; by indirection, it is one more black-eye to the crooks' opposite theory of "boring from within."

"Three cheers for the Social Revolution!" are the words with which one of the speakers last Saturday started his harangue. And who was that speaker? He was Mr. Morris Brown, a notorious Labor Fakir, one of the conspirators in the recent crime against the cigarmakers on strike, a gentleman who could not give an approximate idea of what "Social" stands for, and down whose back a stream of perspiration runs at the very mention of the word "Revolution." In short, a reprobate in the ranks of the Working Class, whose life's career has been to place himself, logically enough from his own standpoint, always on the side of all issues that tended to clap the scales to the eyes of the workers and place them helpless at their exploiters' mercy. Such is the curio who introduced at last Saturday's bogus May Day affair the cry of "Three cheers for the Social Revolution!,"—and survived it.

We have often made plain that at such epochs as this in a Movement's development, no slight danger lies in the adoption by traitors of the words,

expressions, and slogans of the Movement. Their doing so tends to mislead, which is their purpose; and by so much, the circumstance is one to be guarded against. But while the traitor's purpose is treason, his adoption of such a course reveals progress and strength in the Movement that he seeks to betray, progress and strength enough to drive him to imitate it. Not until a revolutionary Movement has pounded hard upon the skulls of the crooks in its way, do these feel it advisable to copy it. Imitation is a form of flattery; none flatter but those who feel the power of the flattered; none is flattered but those who bear hard upon and bore relentlessly from without upon the foe.

Provided only biography keeps pace with S.L.P. propaganda, and the Morris Browns, Greens, Blacks and what not are biographically so thoroughly belled that there is no danger of their imposing upon the public, their taking up the terms of the S.L.P. can only contribute to familiarize the public ear therewith,—to the undoing of themselves, the Organized Scabbery.

Which is why we say and rise to make clear, boring from without has no equal.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded March 2006