

EDITORIAL

## HAS MOTION SET IN?

By DANIEL DE LEON

**A**T Nottingham, where this year's session of the Trades Union Congress of Britain is being held, the A.F. of L. fraternal delegate J.E. Creamer made certain statements which, it is devoutly to be hoped, are symptoms that motion has actually started in the A.F. of L. destined to take that organization out of the wilderness of pure and simpledom.

Creamer said Labor would not support Taft—'tis about time. Pure and simple Unionism has amply fulfilled the mission which some people falsely hold is the sole mission of Unionism, to wit, to help wipe out the small manufacturer, thereby help concentration, and thereby urge on the Social Revolution. Taftism or Trustism has reached ample development. Pure and simple Unionism has nothing more to do there.

Creamer also said the A.F. of L. would this year "fight one party with the other," which means that it would vote for Bryan. This sounds stale. That "fighting of one party with the other" has more truly been a system of "beating the devil around the stump." The capitalist party fought against lost; the capitalist party fought with won; but, whoever won, Labor lost. This part of Creamer's address would sound discouraging were it not for the passage that immediately followed.

Creamer, after announcing that the A.F. of L was to try this year the plan of fighting one party with the other, proceeded to say: "If that plan does not succeed, we shall do something else the next time." It is in this sentence the promise of motion lies.

Surely, to "try something else" next time can not mean to return next time to the old vomit of Republican Trustism. Surely, next time, the something else tried must be radically different from whatever else was tried before.

What will that something else be?

Whatever it be—whether it be the running up the flag of Socialism to the masthead and launching a political party of Labor, backed by the economic army of occupation, compelling thereby the industrial unification of Labor’s forces economically, and the unification of all bona fide revolutionary forces politically, or whether it be a step not quite so long—whatever it be, it must be a forward step, a step along the path long blazoned by the Socialist Labor Party—the path that is illumined by the Presidential candidate nominated by the S.L.P. national convention, M.R. Preston, whose proxy August Gillhaus stands for on the ticket; the path illumined by the principle “No Union, no Socialist Republic”; the path illumined by the “Marxian motto “Proletarians of all countries, unite!”; the path that sweeps aside as near-sighted, perverse and corrupt the dislocation of the Working Class into “backward” and “forward” races. Any step taken along that path spells Motion.

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Uploaded March 2010

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