

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 4, NO. 97.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1903.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

CATCHIN' 'EM A-COMIN', AND CATCHIN' 'EM A-GWIN'.

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WHILE in the course of his Western tour, the labor fakir Ben Hanford, a member of the Volkszeitung Corporation party, the Social Democracy of this city, is flourishing before western audiences bogus evidences of the Socialist Labor Party "Union-wrecking" record, two other members of Mr. Hanford's party in this city and nominees on its ticket—Boudjianoff and Pollock—have been obtaining injunctions for employers against their employees, the Ladies' Waistmakers' Union, and that precious party is upholding the deceivers of Labor.

Thus proceeds the fishermen in his skilfully spread net for fishes: it catches 'em a-comin', and it catches 'em a-gwin'. While, in the West, a limb of this bogus New York Social Democratic party is spreading its net to catch brainless fishes under the pretence of its being an apostle of unionism, here in New York it spreads its net to catch pennies from capitalist exploiters of Labor by seeking to smash unions with injunctions.

Both the method and the aim are of a piece with the Volkszeitung Corporation of shyster lawyers, usurious money-lenders, lager-bier Anarchists and other European refuse, who run the Corporation for peesiness and run the Social Democratic party as a feeder to their confidence game on the Working Class.

As to the aim:—

'Tis not for the fishes' sake that the fisherman spreads his net. 'Tis for his own. It matters not to him what method he takes, however contradictory, so the method bring him in fishes, that is, cash. Just so with this Social Democratic party through its Hanfords out West, it affects one thing; through its Boudjianoffs and Pollocks here it does the other thing. Both sets accomplish the same aim: they bring in peesiness.

As to the method:—

'Tis only brainless fish the fisherman catches. So with this Social Democratic party. None but the brainless can be taken in with Mr. Hanford's alleged "evidence." It is exactly of a par with Mr. Harriman's. Not a line of his "document" connects it with the S.L.P., has not been thoroughly refuted, is not a falsification. On the other hand, who but the brainless could be taken in with the fishy "excuses" of the Boudjianoffs and Pollocks for getting out injunctions against workingmen? The truly union-wrecking labor-fakir device is too obvious. And so this Social Democratic party fishes only for the brainless. None else suit it. It can use only gudgeons, and for them it baits its nets and hooks.

Such peesiness may or may not prosper. If it does, can be only for a while. Needing men, and men only, for the man's work of emancipating the Working Class, the Socialist Labor Party spurns both the methods and the aims of the scoundrel pack that is sailing under the name of Socialism. The S.L.P. has but one method:—uniform everywhere, backed up by unimpeachable testimony, and relentlessly exposing the vampires of all calibres on the flank of Labor; and but one aim:—the gathering of men, robust intelligently and physically, capable of resisting imposition, and drilling them for the Social Revolution.

Under the emblem of the Arm and Hammer, this element will again march to the polls within a few weeks, and again take there the pledge of uncompromising war on capitalism and all its obscene camp followers with the Arm and Hammer blow of its ballot.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded January 2007