

DAILY PEOPLE

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EDITORIAL

THE PARTY PRESS.

By DANIEL DE LEON

NO better time than campaign time to reach the masses. Thanks to the inherent weakness of the capitalist class, election time is that when it plows the ground deep. It is driven to that in order that it may sow the poisonous seed of its own poisonous plant. But the very furrows opened for such evil purpose are, despite the capitalist plowman, receptive of better seed. The sociologic law subdivides the sociologic work. It is for the usurping and condemned class to plow the field: it is for the uprising and avenging class to sow the seed. Now, then, at no season is the field plowed deeper and wider than at the election season: consequently at no season is the duty more incumbent upon the Socialist Sower to do his part in the distribution of labor—the sowing of the seed for the oak of the Socialist Republic, under whose spreading boughs no slave shall bend, and the laborer shall, indeed, “be worthy of his hire.”

The Party press is the vehicle of such seed. Owned and controlled by the Party membership, the Party press expresses the collective view of the body. No impure and outside influences can affect it. The seed it scatters is sound and healthy.

About three years ago, the press of this land and others bubbled over with “Chinese Atrocities.” To-day it is well known that these “atrocities” were manufactured in the offices of certain railroad interests, and that the “atrocities” were but intended to furnish a pretext for a war that was to pour into the hands of capitalists money soaked in the blood of human beings. Just now similar “atrocities” are being retailed as perpetrated on the Macedonians—the identical Macedonians who but yesterday were described as the “incurable brigands who kidnapped Miss Stone.” And so on with regard to foreign news.

It is similar with regard to internal concerns, economics and politics. Outside of the press of the Socialist Labor Party, there is none that does not obey more or less

the impulse of interests baneful to the working class. It can not be otherwise. None of those papers but is private property. They are either owned by one individual or by corporations. Without exception they are “on the make.” However well the individual may mean, the Cause of the masses is not safe in one man’s hands; and as to corporations, their very make-up places their interests at war with those of the people. Hence, only the press of the S.L.P. is seen in the land to uphold unflinchingly and unshakable the principles of the working class to wage unsparing war upon the many-shaded foes of Labor, and to furnish the working class with the healthy information that it needs.

The *Weekly People* has an illimitable field. It is the sole propagandist in the English tongue whose field is equal to the nation’s boundaries. Sections and members-at-large may not fail, particularly during election time—and we are now in the midst of such a time—to spread this seed-replete organ of the Evangel that has brought and that holds them together—the noblest Spartan band in the land.

Fall to, ye men of the S.L.P.! Ye salt of the earth, fall to!

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