

# The People.

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SECOND EDITORIAL

## WE BRING THE JUBILEE.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**T**his week's report of the General Executive Board of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance is particularly interesting; how very interesting may not quite appear from the condensed form in which the report is made.

The breath of Socialism breathed by the Providence, R.I., Alliance men is rousing from their stupor the rank and file of the textile proletariat of Providence and vicinity as far westward as Fall River, Mass.; it is electrifying them with the sense of their own dignity and power; and, proportionately, it is throwing the labor fakirs into hot water. James Whitehead, of Fall River, the time-honored labor misleader among the textilites, was, it will be remembered, thwarted in his designs to bag the workers of the Lorraine Mills, the Alliance taking the men in charge and driving Mr. Whitehead and his pals out of the place.

It will also be remembered that, in his desperate straits, he accepted a challenge to debate the issues between Old and New Trade Unionism in his own home of Fall River, but backed out at the last moment. Comrade Kroll, of District Aassembly 17, was, however, not thrown off the scent. He followed Whitehead into Fall River, a big hall was hired, the textile operatives especially and all other workingmen were invited, Mr. Whitehead unexpectedly appeared, but made such a showing that he might as well have stayed away. The large workingman's audience that thronged the hall heard the Labor or Social Question presented to them for the first time from the only side that it can touch them, in the only manner that it can raise them, to wit, from the class-conscious economic side. The points scored by the speaker received such approbation as denoted the first full grasping as a self-evident truth long concealed under hard crusts of well cultivated ignorance. It goes without saying that class-conscious doctrine throwing the light on the capitalist exploiter and simultaneously illuminating the labor fakir, dawned for the first time upon his former dupes, and they received with loud gratitude the clarifying information.

But further and, in a manner, even more tangible proofs are gathered of the positively lasting impression of this Alliance work. That proof is furnished by Mr. Whitehead himself, together with his associates in the national organization of the textile workers. The body had by a general vote decided to hold its national convention this year in Providence. Mr. Whitehead and fellow-fakirs now find Providence too hot a place to meet in; they ignore the general vote, and called the convention to meet in Dover, N.H. The move, so far from easing up their straits, increased them. Protests, never before heard, are now showering upon them for such an act of high-handed usurpation; and indignation has started questions that the recent Alliance work is furnishing the answers to.

We bring the Jubilee. The S.T. & L.A.'s trumpet-blasts have a fibre all their own that enable them to penetrate where no other sound of Labor redemption hitherto could, or ever can.

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

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