

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 1, NO. 94.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1900.

ONE CENT.

SECOND EDITORIAL

WHAT MRS. BLATCH DISCOVERED.

By DANIEL DE LEON

Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch rises to observe: "In the Democratic party we find the Populists, the Socialists, and the reform element."

For her great honesty she should be allowed to keep what she found, but before awarding it to her, it is well to discuss whether or not she really found it. It can be admitted that the Populists and reform elements are in the Democratic party. That is the place from which they came, and that is the place to which they irresistibly returned. The Socialist is a different proposition, and Harriot must either be unaware of what a Socialist is, or else she must have attempted a little prevarication.

The first supposition is the proper one. Harriot is an educated woman, and therefore there is no necessity for her knowing what she talks about. She is a woman of wide experience, and of unusual acquaintance with literature, and for this reason she could not be expected to know that Socialists are not in the Democratic party, but on the contrary the Socialists are rapidly writing the final chapters of the Democratic party's history.

The deep and glinting wisdom which rested beneath her remark about Populists, Socialists, and the reform elements being in the Democratic party, very naturally leads to the question—If this is so, where are the Democrats? If persons holding opinions which are so contradictory as those held by Democrats and Socialists, and both insist, as they evidently do insist, on making those opinions known, where is the Democratic party that can withstand their life and death warfare?

Harriot also does an injustice to the Democratic party in supposing that a Socialist would or could be allowed within its ranks. People have a habit of placing themselves where they belong, and a Socialist would either cause endless trouble and annoyance, or else he would be thrown headlong out of the ranks. If that



HARRIOT STANTON BLATCH
(1856-1940)

happened to him, even supposing that his sense of self respect had perished in a polar expedition, he would attack the Democratic party for revenge.

Harriot does the Socialist an injustice in not knowing what a Socialist is. That a man who believes the working class should have all the wealth it produces; who believes in control by society of social wealth; who believes in the government being an institution for the protection of society, should join hands with a crowd of men that persistently, consistently, and unswervingly hold that capital is entitled to its share; that individuals have the right to squander and annihilate social wealth if they wish; and that insist that the government is instituted for the purpose of protecting those individuals who commit the crimes, is the height of folly.

Harriot should think again, or else allow her mother, [Elizabeth Cady Stanton](#), to do her thinking for her. She does it with less grace, it is true, but also in fewer words.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded September 2005