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ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

THEIR TICKET.

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE report, published in the *Daily People*, September 27, 1908, of the Chicago convention when the rowdy element in the I.W.W. ran up the flag of Anarchy over the organization that they then formed, contained this passage:

“Francis, the Secretary of the New York Industrial Council, was at headquarters on the morning of the convention day, writing at a desk. St. John suddenly rushed at him threatening that, if he did not fill the vouchers as ordered, he, St. John, would come down to New York to ‘knock off his block.’ Francis had seen St. John only once before, and that but for a moment in New York, over a year ago. Since then St. John has grown stout and robust. Francis did not recognize him, and answered the wordy assault, asking: ‘Who in h—l are you, anyway?’ Thereupon St. John struck him. A melee ensued, during which Francis struck back with his satchel, and then with a chair, Jones and Heslewood taking a hand in the affray by falling upon Francis. . . .

“As to Heslewood, Francis says the affair was virtually over, he had taken refuge, behind a table when Heslewood approached him, calling out: ‘You G-d d—d Jew! and struck him in the face. . . . Heslewood did not deny that he struck Francis.’”

The report, published in the *Daily People*, March 18, 1912, *Weekly People*, March 23, 1912, of a meeting held in Paine Memorial Hall, Boston, on March 16, where Haywood spoke, contains this passage:

“The admission was by ticket, for which a charge of ten cents was made, and upon the tickets it was stated, ‘questions invited,’ but evidently due to the lateness of the hour, the audience, or at least many of them, left the hall at the close of Haywood’s remarks, as the chairman did not request them to stay and take advantage of the invitation to ask questions; nevertheless quite a few of those remaining crowded around the platform, and after shaking hands with the speaker, put some questions which were answered.

“Among those who came forward to the platform was Comrade Arthur Reimer, who, after getting Haywood’s attention, spoke substantially as follows:

“Comrade Haywood, I heartily endorse your condemnation of the traitor-

ous conduct of John Golden in going into the city of Lawrence during this strike and seeking to divide the workers on strike; but how can you justify your conduct in going to the city of Paterson last Thursday night, knowing as you did, that there was a strike of the I.W.W. silk workers on in Paterson, and from a public platform seek to discredit the leader of that strike, Rudolph Katz?

“Haywood answered: ‘Well, did you see the circular that Katz sent out?’ Reimer answered: ‘Yes; you mean the circular issued by Local 25, I.W.W., and there was nothing in that circular which would warrant your interference; and, what is more, the circular was not issued until your coming was publicly announced.’

“Without a single word of warning, Haywood suddenly kicked his right foot with all the force of his huge bulk behind it into Reimer’s chest. Reimer reeled back, visibly painfully hurt, and half fell to the floor. Haywood began to swear in an undertone, jumped from the stage and started in Reimer’s direction, evidently with the intention of again hitting Reimer, when Reimer was stunned and helpless. Bystanders and witnesses to the attack held Haywood back and persuaded him to leave the hall, thereby preventing what was already a most cowardly and brutal assault terminating in an all-around smash-up.

“The assault was witnessed by many strangers who had come to the hall to hear Haywood speak and who had roundly applauded his remarks, but the cowardly attack soon changed the opinion of many, who, while leaving the hall, expressed themselves in no uncertain tones, and Haywood, who up to the present has enjoyed an enviable reputation among the workers here, has shown to the world what a cowardly streak runs, through his huge make-up. Let it be known to the world what he actually is.”

Seeing that Haywood and Heslewood, as pets of a portion of the Socialist party, are engaged in “Political Action,” besides “Direct Action,” Lowell and New Jersey having repudiated them on the industrial field, their party’s logical ticket is:

For President,

WILLIAM D. HAYWOOD;

For Vice-President,

FRED. HESLEWOOD;

with Vincent St. John as alternate for either.

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