

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 3, NO. 230.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1903.

TWO CENTS.

EDITORIAL

COMING THEIR WAY AT A TROT.

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THE “most stupendous and hair-on-end raising evidence of the gigantic strides with which Socialism is marching, under the banner of class-conscious, International Socialism, toward the Brotherhood of Man and Fatherhood of God Commonwealth, thanks to the new tactics that were inaugurated when the conduct of the International Movement was taken from the hands of a narrow, intolerant and stagnant body, named the Socialist Labor Party, and now quite dead, at least somewhat dead, at any rate dying, [let’s take a breath!] as stated above dead and buried S.L.P., and was placed into the hands of a broad, tolerant [let’s take another breath!] and lively body of men, who, animated by the eternal Truths of International Socialism, the Class Struggle, the Material{ist} Conception of History” [let’s take a long breath!] etc., etc., etc.—has been entered on the record book of history, on the page headed “Lynn, Mass.” Gov. Bates has signified his intention to march with bag and baggage, militia and all, over into the camp of the “Socialist,” alias Social Democratic party, and make common cause with that body!

You don’t say so?! How’s that?

We do say so! And this is the way it happens:

There is a certain body, known to fame as the Boot and Shoe Workers’ Union. The said Union is run by leading lights of the said “Socialist,” alias Social Democratic party. Carey, of armory-building fame, “is of the trade,” and at all times stands by that Union; Chase, “the first ‘Socialist’ Mayor,” is a peddler for that Union; Tobin, a conspicuous pillar of said “Socialist” party, is the President of that Union; Scates, a fellow “Socialist” Councilman of Carey’s and his running mate on the “Socialist” ticket for member of the Massachusetts Legislature, is a “Business Agent” of the said Union; Sieverman, a noted aldermanic No. 19 candidate of the “Socialist,” named Social Democratic party in

Rochester, N.Y., is an orator for the Union receiving \$100 at a clip for his efforts, occasionally also a shower of rotten eggs, for good measure; Alphabet Gordon, slanderously named “the mail-robber,” an expelled member of the “dead,” “dying,” “dead and buried” Socialist Labor Party for trying to sell out the S.L.P. to said S.P., alias S.D.P. concern, is a collector for the said Union; and so forth and so on. In short, the said Union’s officers and beneficiaries and the said “Socialist” party’s beneficiaries and officers are so intimately blended together that they are one. Stick a pin there.

Now, then, these officers have a fight on in Lynn. It is true that the fight is against workingmen; it is true that the fight, on the part of these officers, is to reduce the wages of the men on strike; it is true that these officers are introducing convicts to scab it on honest workers; it is true, in short, that this fight is a fight in favor of the manufacturers and against the workingmen. But what of that? That’s only a small matter, as small as the helping of the manufacturers to good, strong armories. The important, the epoch-making fact is that these officers are “Socialists,” “International Socialists”—don’t they say so themselves? Stick a pin there, too.

Finally, these “Socialist” officers find it impossible, with their own unaided efforts, to reduce the striking workingmen of Lynn to submission. At that critical moment, unsolicited, of course, Gov. Bates steps up, and begins to get his militia ready. The moment is critical. It is critical for Capitalism and it is critical for Socialism—at least for the Socialism of the aforesaid officers. Into whose scales will Gov. Bates throw his sword? The human heart stops beating in suspense. Presently a loud hurrah rends the air. Socialism triumphs! Gov. Bates decides to stand by the aforementioned Socialist officers!

Let “Socialism” disband, at least in Massachusetts. What more does it want? Did it not aim at the conquest of the public powers? It has conquered. Gov. Bates has come over to them, bag and baggage; he is coming, at a trot, too.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded November 2006