

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 7, NO. 58.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 1906.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

THE TYPOS AND GILLHAUS— A LUMINOUS CONTRAST.

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ON August 14, according to *The Denver Republican*, the delegates of the International Typographical Union convention, then being held in that city, went on an excursion to Cripple Creek, Colo., where they were well received. “Fully 1,000 persons went on the excursion to the camp and the delegates visited the gold mines.” Six days later, August Gillhaus, national organizer of the Socialist Labor Party, was summarily deported from the Cripple Creek district, after being insulted and robbed by the police. Why were the delegates of the International Typographical Union convention welcomed to Cripple Creek and permitted to visit the gold mines, while Gillhaus was forced to leave the district under penalty of forfeiting his liberty and possibly his life, if he remained in it?

The reason is not far to seek: the International Typographical Union, though ostensibly a working class body, is actually a capitalist organization. It is based on and guided by economic theories propounded by capitalist economists and favorable to the upholding and perpetuating of capitalist conditions. The I.T.U. proclaims “the mutual identity of the interests of capital and labor,” which causes the laborer to regard the capitalist as a brother; whereas the truth is that, in the language of Karl Marx, “The one conditions the other, just in the same way that the usurer and the borrower condition each other mutually.” The I.T.U. regards the capitalist system as a finality, despite the industrial evolution from small to large production, which is pointing and preparing the way to and for Socialism. This recognition causes the members of the I.T.U. to consider working class emancipation an impossibility; picayune improvement is their forte. Such an organization cannot fail to be a shield

and a bulwark behind whose form the capitalist class may perpetrate the most infamous outrages, without any danger of assault or overthrow, economically and politically, so long as its prestige and influence prevail among the members of the working class. For this reason, are its delegates tolerated; nay, welcomed, to precincts from which other men, members of bona-fide labor organizations, are expelled without any regard for their persons, property, or legal rights.

August Gillhaus is one of these men. He represents a labor organization that is truly a labor organization, being anti-capitalist both in theory and in fact. The Socialist Labor Party, for whom he speaks, is an organization that proclaims the antagonism of interests—the relation of horse and leech—that actually exists between capital and labor; and that the working class is daily compelled to engage in and strives to end. The Socialist Labor Party points out that capitalism is a transitory phase in social evolution, in which the working class is being organized and prepared, by constructive organization in the shop and at the ballot box, to inaugurate Socialism. In brief, the Socialist Labor Party is the opposite of the International Typographical Union, teaching true economics and arousing the working class to the need and the possibility of emancipation from capitalism. The representative of such an organization is bound to be a menace to the continuation of the system of economic and political spoliation and tyranny so strikingly exemplified by the capitalist brigands of Cripple Creek, Colo., otherwise known as the Mine Owners' Association. He is a forerunner of a better social order, who, like the Abolitionists, must be proscribed and hunted, in order that the modern slavery of the capitalist plutocracy may be continued with profits and safety to themselves.

This keen, instinctive regard for the protection of its own infamous career, by the capitalist class, reflects discredit upon the I.T.U., while crowning the S.L.P. with honor. The fact that the S.L.P. is not and cannot be classed with the pro-capitalist organizations is growing more apparent daily, with the resulting triumph of S.L.P. principles among an ever-increasing number of workingmen, formerly supporters of the I.T.U.'s and the political parties that uphold them. It now remains for the militant members, friends and sympathizers of the S.L.P. throughout the country, to make this fact ever more apparent by lining up with the N.E.C. Sub-

Committee, in support of its determination to rebuke the Gillhaus outrage, and carry the war against Capitalism into the enemy's own country.

Send in funds! On with the battle against capitalism!

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

Uploaded May 2009

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