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DIALOGUE

UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN. {146}

By DANIEL DE LEON

BROTHER JONATHAN—I got a job at last!
UNCLE SAM—Lucky dog! Where?
B.J.—On the Brooklyn trolley lines.

U.S. (meditatively)—Well, now, I don't know whether to congratulate you or not.

B.J.—Why not?

U.S.—Because you have there the opportunity of your life. If you use it well, you are to be congratulated; if you let it slip, you are to be condoled for getting the job.

B.J.—Explain, explain!

U.S.—Listen. The Democratic politicians and their heelers, the labor heelers, have put their heads together. They got on the stocks a scheme of schemes. If it succeeds, woe to the workers! If it is smashed the workers will have made a good long step forward.

B.J.—Let's smash it, then!

U.S.—Listen. The Democratic politicians want to capture Brooklyn for their party at the next elections. To do that they are going to introduce a bogus municipal ownership of railroads plank into their local platform. To rope in the workers they have set on foot a fake thing called "The National Educational and Economic League"—

B.J.—Heard about that. Aren't Foster, Gompers, Bobby Howard, McNeill and a stack of other fakes, together with some twaddler, like the "Rev." W.D.P.Q.L.B.Z. Bliss, members thereof?

U.S.—Exactly. And they have engaged one of the leading Massachusetts bunco-steerers of labor, Harry Lloyd, as their spokesman. He is around now laying the pipes in



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Brooklyn, addressing the people. Stick a pin there.

B.J.—I have.

U.S.—Next, you will see a lot of political toughs, too lazy to work, who have run D.A. 75 of the trolley men into the ground, stirring their stumps to “reorganize” the men. Do you see?

B.J.—Not yet.

U.S.—Put Harry Lloyd’s “agitation” and that of these “organizers” together, and what do you get? A scheme to rope the men into the defunct K. of L.; drive them to a strike; get the Republican Mayor to call out the militia; and thereby boom the Democratic capitalists.

B.J.—Thunder!

U.S.—Go in. Open the eyes of the men; organize Socialist Trade and Labor Alliances. Smash the damnable scheme!

B.J.—By God, I shall!

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

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slpns@slp.org