
Knights of Labor to Shape Own Destiny

by Eugene V. Debs

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The Supreme Council is blamed for not including the Knights of Labor.

The Knights of Labor is a great and growing organization, knows its business, and is moving in lines it has chose to perform such work as it has mapped out for itself.

When did the Knights of Labor ask to federate with the brotherhoods of railroad employees?

When has Master Workman [Terence] Powderly intimated that the order of which he is at the head was shown any discourtesy by the Supreme Council?

Does the idea prevail that a local or a District Assembly of the Knights of Labor can federate, independent of the action of the supreme authority of that great order?

Let the order of Knights of Labor shape things so that its members who are railroad employees, engineers, firemen, switchmen, trainmen, etc., can federate and have the great order of which they are members to back them, and then if they are not permitted to federate, it will be in order to know the reason why.

To howl in advance of such proceedings on the part of the Knights of Labor discloses on the part of those who make the racket a purpose to embarrass and defeat federation on the part of those who hope to profit by anarchy and confusion.

They are of the same class of malcontents who in the Knights of Labor sought the destruction of the order by abusing its grand officers, and who are still barking at the heels of Mr. Powderly. They have not succeeded in destroying the Knights of Labor, and the miserable faction engaged in trying to defeat federation by denouncing the Su-

preme Council and the men who compose it are doomed to still more disastrous failure.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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