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EDITORIAL

“BORING FROM WITHIN.”

By DANIEL DE LEON

ELSEWHERE in this issue will be found an article from *Men's Wear* entitled [“The Cap Strike Ended.”](#) The article is from a capitalist source, but the facts that it mentions tally at all points with, and supplement those furnished to this office by members of the deceived rank and file of the Union, and before now published in these columns. The settlement is a complete defeat to the men; not one of their demands is granted; and, as if to emphasize the employers' triumph, the “open shop” with which they threatened their men when the strike was inaugurated and which they defiantly placarded their establishments with, is expressly conceded by the men, as appears from Nos. 1, 2 and 3, which stipulate the employers' right to keep, discharge and ENGAGE whomsoever they please, and which orders the officers and delegates not to step into the shop. In short, in the long list of Labor's routs, none, not even that of the miners under Mitchell, is more complete. All this notwithstanding, the labor leaders of the Union have proclaimed the affair a victory!

What, under such circumstances, is the obvious duty of the Socialist? It is to publish the facts and enlighten the rank and file. A general may lose a battle, despite all his honesty and ability. But in the measure that he is able and honest, he will not seek to dupe his soldiers with the belief that they won when in fact they lost. The conduct of the leaders of the Union, in investing in music and bunting, noise and parade, to hide their defeat is the best possible evidence of their moral and mental unfitness to captain workingmen. Their purpose can only be fraudulent: present fraud to cover up previous fraud.

Again we ask, what is the Socialist's duty under such circumstances?—To publish the facts broadcast. Not until the workingman “gets on to” the labor fakirs who run the Union can he begin to “get at” the capitalist. But such conduct requires

energy, it requires above all character. It requires energy, because the fakir is a scamp, and has a scamp’s resources to fight him who interferes with his dirty work; and it requires character, because the moment he is attacked, the fakir threatens to withdraw his financial support from the attacker. Obviously it takes energy and character to contend with the individual, in short, it takes the bona fide Socialist to do the job, and he will do it by determinately boring from within and from without.

Otherwise with the bogus Socialist, or Socialist for revenue only, that is, with the “borer from within only.” A sample of the breed is furnished by the New Yorker Volkszeitung Corporation. Its German organ, that justly enough is the organ of the Social Democratic party, has in its issue of March 21 an article such as the fakirs themselves could not improve upon. It is headed “Feastly decorated. In honor of the Capmakers’ victory flags wave on the East Side”—and with that introduction it proceeds to echo lie upon lie as the fakirs utter them to deceive the workers.

“Boring from within only” means, for a consideration, to act as a resounding board for the deceivers of labor. It is the badge of turpitude that corruptionists assume to whom the sacred temple of Labor is only a lucrative place in which to ply their prostitute’s trade.

REPRINT

THE CAP STRIKE ENDED.

(From *Men's Wear*, March 24)

THE New York cap strike, which had been on since December 22, was settled at joint conference at the Tuxedo, Fifty-ninth street, Sunday, March 19. The session lasted from three to six p.m. The strike has cost workmen \$220,000, made up of \$140,000 for fourteen weeks' wages and \$80,000 paid by the union in strike benefits. It seems bosses gained all points demanded, but will remove the open shop placards.

An agreement between the Cap Manufacturers' Association and the representatives of the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers' Union was signed at noon, March 20, at the Broadway Central Hotel, and the men are allowed to return to work at once. Executive committee which represented the manufacturers: Messrs. Abrams, Jake Doniger, Fox, G. Hirschberg, Lamchick, Leidersdorf, Lewis, Levy, Naitove and Simonson. Executive committee representing the union: Cooperman, Hinder, Mikol, Miller, Levine and Zuckerman. The agreement is for two years.

The names of the firms who are concerned in this matter are as follows. We do not believe this list has ever before been published anywhere:

- A. Beneroff, 219 Green street.
- Fox, Lederer & Co., 15 East Fourth street.
- Doniger Bros., 21 West Fourth street.
- E. Friedlander, 7 Bond street.
- Max Greenberg & Bro., 204 Greene street.
- Grossman & Abrahams, 237 Mercer street.
- Hirschberg & Co., 15 Waverly place.
- Israel & Simon, 51 West Third street.
- Lamchick Bros., 18 Waverly place.
- Lasky & Levy, 20 Waverly place.
- Leidersdorf & Jacobs, 16 West Third street.
- Mendel & Goldstein, 200 Greene street.
- Samuel Naitove, 205 Greene street.
- B. Oestreicher & Son, 205 Wooster street.
- Sacks, Meyerowitz & Greenstein, 50 Bond street.
- S. Shaipro & Bro., 42 Bleecker street.
- Siegel & Levy, 25 East Fourth street.
- Simonson, Lichtenstein, Pachner Company, 88 West Fourth street.
- Buch, Stahl & Lewis, 212 Wooster street.

President Leidersdorf of the manufacturers, and Maurice Mikol, representative of the union, both, in the presence of a representative of this paper, agreed not to give out for the publication the articles assigned as a basis of settling. However, we can give our readers, unofficially, and obtained from sources that are thoroughly

reliable, the following, which is a substantially correct summary of the eleven articles of the agreement: 1. All present employes to remain. 2. The employers to engage and discharge whoever they see fit. 3. No officers or delegates of the union to visit the shops. 4. Apprentices to be engaged consistent with the trade. 5. All modern machinery to be used when wanted. 6. Will employ piecework or week work, as the business requires. 7. last year's prices to be maintained and all future prices on new caps to be based on last year's prices. The manufacturers should figure on these bases without committee. But, should the prices differ, then a committee of three of that branch of workers should be appointed by the shop to call on the firm once a month and adjust prices, without interruption of work at any time inside of three days, when the difference in prices agreed upon, if any, shall be repaid by the firms. 8. To engage former employes as business requires. 9. All employes to work the same hours. 10. Overtime, when wanted, at the former rates. 11. Should there be no union help obtainable, the employes may engage whosoever they see fit. This shall not be construed as in any way invalidating article No. 2.

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