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EDITORIAL

KILLKENNYIC PROSPECT.

By DANIEL DE LEON

TO the fans, who, being fans merely, contemplate the political and economic struggle from a safe distance, and who may, and probably do, consider the Socialist Labor Party too severe when it charges the Socialist party with being a caricature of bourgeois political conceptions,—to these fans we extend an invitation to take a promenade with us along the windings of the S.P. menagerie, called “The Socialist Party’s Platform for 1912.”

Here, in a pretty large cage, is exhibited the “Farmers’ Interests.” They must be coddled. Nothing must be said that will arouse their class interests against the proletarians whom they employ, the farmhand. Everything must be said that will comfort them—promises of cheap machinery and cheap goods generally.

Opposite to that is a bird cage—in it are seen fluttering iridescently the “Labor Interests.” Being considered birds, bird lime—sympathy—is smeared all over the bars.

Yonder is a cage with “Miscellaneous Interests.” The cage is marked “Class Struggle,” but the letters are painted over a legend that is still legible, “Populism.” It is paneled with democratically administered banking.

Further on is a cage that contains a bunch of Wild Men of Borneo. That cage exhibits the Anarchist, Anarchist in methods, element of society.

It is unnecessary to take in any more of the show. What is the collective sight presented? It is the sight of bourgeois political parties, afraid to tread upon the toes of any “vote.”

But while the SIGHT is bourgeois. the PROSPECT is Killkenny.

The Pentecostal day is not in sight, or the Messianic, when the lion of the farmhand employer and the lamb of the farmhand employee will lie down together; when the wolf of the banker and the kid of the small depositor will bleat in har-

mony; when the blood-and-thunder of Anarchy and the systematic tread of the Socialist infantry will merge into one. Raise the doors of the various cages in the S.P. menagerie—and, instead of the song of the *Internationale*, the howl that will rise to the skies is a howl of which the S.P. Indianapolis Convention was a prelude—the howl that shattered the skies over Killkenny, and settled down on the bits of wriggling tails that were left on the field.

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