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EDITORIAL

THE ARITHMETICAL POLICY.

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THE Philadelphia *Tageblatt*, a Socialist party German publication, whose hair *The People's* fingers have frequently closed upon, is of the opinion that its party would simply commit suicide if it does not take a pronounced anti-immigration stand towards Orientals.

It was this same *Tageblatt* that, startled six years ago at the sight of the Socialist Labor Party's unterrified posture despite all odds, gave up the hope of terrorizing the Party saying it was no use expecting to remove the S.L.P. from the scene, seeing that "that party counts neither the number of its enemies nor the number of its supporters."

It is this expression that gives the key to the workings of the *Tageblatt's* mind, and also to the workings of the mind of its party, on the Immigration Issue, as well as on all other issues of importance.

Innumerable are the instances in history when a small band that would have been wiped out, had it counted the number of its foes and the fewness of itself, yet nevertheless mopped the earth with its adversaries. The spectacle has been seen in all climates. It has been seen too often to be considered a mere miracle. There was good ground for it, every time. Whenever the spectacle was seen the reason therefor was a high moral purpose founded upon a sound foundation. Against such a combination no adverse numbers can prevail; IT is an absolute majority.

Those with whom their own numbers and the numbers of their adversaries are the determining factor in deciding upon a policy bring along with them the fatal disease that is bound to kill them. From wishing to be with the masses to becoming a sensationalist there is but a short step. The stars themselves work against the success of such folks. Few things blind the chaser after "success" so completely to his own interests as crowds.

When the Philadelphia *Tageblatt* fears death for its own party if it does not take a posture in denial of Socialism the paper but counts the foes of Socialism; sees them to be numerous; and imagines them unconquerable. In other words the *Tageblatt's* Socialism is so skin deep only that it has no faith in its Socialism. With such people the policy may be termed arithmetical—the worst foundation for any revolutionary movement.

The arithmetical policy is an all around deception—as proved by the *Tageblatt's* posture. The arithmetical policy is deceptive in front and in the rear. Witness the *Tageblatt*—the paper not only is deceived into the belief that the numbers of the foes of Socialism are beyond conquest, it is also deceived into the belief that its party is still alive seeing the considerable number of its corpses.

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