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EDITORIAL

RENDERING LABOR RIDICULOUS—AND WORSE.

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SEPTEMBER 30—the day on which William D. Haywood announced weeks in advance that a country-wide general strike would take place in the interest of Ettor and Giovannitti—approached, came and passed without the announced country-wide general strike making its appearance. The non-appearance of the advertised portent was emphasized by sporadic outbreaks in Lawrence, which the police used as a pretext for their customary brutality. And that ended it.

Ended it? Unfortunately not so.

Anarchy is as much a psychologic as it is a sociologic manifestation. The psychology of the Anarchist is the child mind. As children love noise, love bunting, love display, love exaggeration, love the spectacular, the Anarchist revels in all this. Thus Haywood.

But that is not all.

Anarchy is the reverse of the medal that capitalism, especially the competitive portion of capitalism, is the obverse of. All capitalism, especially its competitive portion, reflects in its press its love for noise and the spectacular. Hence the yellowness of the bourgeois press—thence its worse than readiness to echo Anarchistic rantings. The louder the rant, the yellower its complexion; the yellower the complexion, all the more acceptable is the write-up: it fetches purchasers for the paper.

Of the embrace of the Anarch's child-qualities with the bourgeois press's penny-catching instincts a monstrosity is generated that is a scourge upon Labor. It discredits the Working Class Movement.

The Haywood-proclaimed and bourgeois-press-widely-advertised country-wide general strike in favor of Ettor and Giovannitti will live on, despite its miscarriage. It will live on because of its miscarriage. It will live on, in Ruling Class literature, as an "evidence" of the mental incapacity of the Working Class. And the "evidence" will

be exalted into “proof” by the Ruling Class—“proof” that the Working Class lacks the sense of the proper relation between a goal and the means to attain it.

Fortunately all the forces of the Age—the mental as well as the economic—make for the uplift of the Proletariat. In that fact the doom of the Ruling Class lies imbedded. Nevertheless, the Anarch’s heels-over-head bluster constitutes one of the impediments in the path of the forces that make for Progress. The impediment lies in the periodical exhibitions that, slight though they be, fill the popular eye, and thus cause Labor to appear in the eye of the unguarded as childishly ridiculous, and ridiculously childish.

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