

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 10, NO. 31.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1909.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

GLOSSARY TO A COMING MANIFESTO.

By DANIEL DE LEON

UNDER the inspiration of Mr. Charles Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, the seventeenth annual convention of that body recommended the promotion of “a universal labor organization, based on the struggle of the classes, democratic in control, industrial in form, and revolutionary in aim.”

Mr. Moyer has not yet suggested, but he surely will, that a manifesto be issued in line with his recommendation. The suggestion is here offered that the following glossary be appended to the manifesto in order that its terminology be understood by all:

“A universal labor organization.”—The word “universal” must be understood in a safe and sane way. It, accordingly, excludes Mongolians, Japanese as well as Chinese; Negroes; Italians; Dutchmen, especially “damned” ones, as Mr. Moyer calls them; Swedes; Irish (whenever inconvenient); Jews; etc.; etc. In short, “universal,” in this connection, comprises everybody within, and excludes everybody outside, of the Moyersic private universe.

“Based on the struggle of the classes.”—By this is meant that the Moyers, the Mahoneys, etc., who are to officer the body, not only may, but are especially empowered to, acquire (how, is not to be looked into), stock in mining corporations where their rank and file are exploited. The struggle of the classes will thus be basic—thrilling—optically and acoustically illustrated.

“Democratic in control.”—By this is meant that the President of the body is to be considered as the “demos,” so that when a referendum vote is to be had among the demos, the demos shall be ordered how to vote, and kept in ignorance of the facts to enable it to vote otherwise.

“Industrial in form.”—This is meant literally. It is to be in *form* only. Not at all

in essence. And if even conformation to the *form* be found inconvenient, then “in form” shall read to mean “on paper.”

“Revolutionary in aim.”—By this is meant that Editor O’Neill is to inspire the literature of the new body. The sense that the gentleman’s written and spoken rhetoric can’t revolutionize and throw upon its beam-ends is beyond the reach of revolutionary powers.

The above glossary is offered free, gratis and for nothing to the Moyer-Mahoney-Kirwan-O’Neill-and-last-not-least-David-C.-Coates combination.

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

Uploaded September 2010

slpns@slp.org