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EDITORIAL

THE S.L.P. BALLOT AND SLOGAN.

By DANIEL DE LEON

LSEWHERE in this issue the report is published of last Wednesday's regular session of the Sub-Committee of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party. One of the acts of the Sub-Committee was the adoption of the following resolution:

"Whereas, Comrade M.R. Preston, the nominee of the S.L.P. convention for President, feels through delicacy prevented from personally appearing upon the ballot, due to the distressful condition in which an outrageous exhibition of class despotism keeps him plunged; and

"Whereas, The convention empowered the N.E.C. to fill any vacancy that may occur on the Presidential ticket; and

"Whereas, The N.E.C. has empowered its Sub-Committee to act on this, as on all other matters of an emergency nature; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the Sub-Committee of the N.E.C. of the S.L.P. do, and does hereby nominate and appoint Comrade August Gillhaus, of Section New York and now on a tour of propaganda in the West, to act as the proxy for Comrade M.R. Preston on this year's Presidential ticket of the S.L.P."

While it would have been desirable that Preston figured directly at the head of the S.L.P. Presidential ticket, courtesy to the comrade in distress in no way affects the S.L.P. campaign. The convention struck the keynote of the campaign by the nomination of Preston; the convention placed thereby the Party on record on the important matter of the proper attitude of a bona fide political party of Socialism towards the economic organization of Labor. With Preston—the comrade and picketman in prison for having defended his life against a murderous assault—the issue and the candidate stood designated. The S.L.P. convention harkened to the imperative command of Working Class interests;—and unflinchingly the Party adheres to the stand taken by its convention.

By appointing Gillhaus Preston's proxy the campaign launched by the S.L.P.

convention continues emphatically unaffected.

The ticket virtually remains unchanged—Preston and Munro—only Gillhaus is Preston's proxy.

The slogan, of which Preston is to-day the incarnation—"NO PICKETING, NO UNION; NO UNION, NO SOCIALIST REPUBLIC!"—remains the slogan to which the Party summons the proletariat of the land, together with all other intelligent citizens, to cast their manhood ballots next election day.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America. Uploaded March 2010

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