EDITORIAL

A BIRD’S-EYE VIEW.

By DANIEL DE LEON

SOCIALISM—that is, the serious thing; not the pink-tea article dealt in by elites who are cloyed with sports, and look for something tart—Socialism teaches that the Union, being the constituency of Future Society, is the present school in which the proletariat is to drill itself into efficiency for the civic qualities and attainments that the Socialist or Industrial Republic will demand of it.

Read the article under the above head, published elsewhere in this issue. It is the report of the delegates of Union No. 49 of the International Typographical Union, located in Denver, made to their Local upon their return from the national convention of their international organization. Read that report. It presents a bird’s-eye view, not of the I.T.U. only, but of all the other Civic-Federationized and Militia-of-Christized bodies that constitute the bulk of Unionism as “she” appears in organized form at present in the land.

What is read by the light of the successive flash-lights that passage after passage of the report sheds across the field?

What is read is the confirmation of the estimation that the Wall Street Journal holds of what may be termed “Gompersian Unionism”—the bulwark of capitalism in America.

The Industrial Republic is the sublimation of individual freedom, hence of democratic government. The schools in which the proletariat is to be trained for the Industrial must of necessity be schools in which the proletariat is trained in, and accustomed to, the exact opposite of the ways of Autocracy. The methods of the late I.T.U. national convention, as exposed in the report, make clear that, not to freedom, but to slavery is the mind of the rank and file attuned; not in freedom, but in

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1 [From Weekly People, September 28, 1912, page 3, below.]
despotism, are the officers exercised.

The Working Class is to-day the majority of the country's population. That majority is bound to grow a larger and larger one. The bodies in which it is organized are the foreshadowings of the future. Are these bodies more and more enlightened?—then the future reads Progress. Are these bodies more and more in the darkness of ignorance?—then the future reads Reaction.

In the Unionism that the I.T.U. typifies one may find the explanation of the rise of such ominously sinister figures as the would-be theocratically despotic Taft, and the mailed-hand dictatorial Roosevelt.

In the Unionism that the I.T.U. typifies one may find the explanation of the straining on the part of the awakened and awakening portion of the land’s proletariat to emancipate itself from Gompersism, and organize itself in style and form to render itself fit for the Socialist Republic—a straining that is illustrated by the note of indignation in the report to Union No. 49, and the deliberate note of satire with which the report justly castigates the Gompers system and its international pillars.

The smoldering indignation will wax into a conflagration; the satire into a consuming fire;—and then, despite all the artifices of Reaction, as other Forces of Evil fell before, will fall the Capitalist State, its capitalist “Union” prop being pulled from under.
of these and most of the nations of mind;—whether it was the flag of aav a flag in Europe that was not born of that feature of the Anarchist which has form and sought to tear down the under that flag!*, rushed to the plat­

On Labor Day at the pristine of the people more widely to the spirit of the American Labor Party here, is now facing the necessity to vote a new committee, composed of members of the So­

papers in the case had been received too early settlement of the case was looked for. Acting Attorney General Harr has in­

Attorney General Wickersham from the United States, of the District Court to the debate, while he had made an im­

In connection with the voting on the figures submitted by our Sec­

At the 1918-19 flu season, the weekly death rate in the city was 300, and under seal, to International headquar­

sanatorium and rest cure, where our
days at $800 a year by the best the "most powerful labor
time. The figures submitted by our Sec­

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It was painfully apparent that
take a public meeting on the topic of
the executive council to de­

The executive council has decided
to the election of officers or refer­

Without the power to its price of commodities, as in the case of
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