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EDITORIAL

## THE MILLER CASE.

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**W**HEN the thoughts of great men fall into the hands of little men a mess is the inevitable result. And so when a great Cause falls into the hands of the perversely ignorant and the ignorantly perverse. The Cause of Labor, the Cause of Organized Labor, is supremely great. What becomes of it in the hands of the Gomperses, the Mitchells and such other lieutenants of the capitalist class is illustrated by the present Miller Case.

Organized on sound and self-respecting principles, and accordingly conducted, Labor, every atom of it, could be in one camp. That camp would contain all that is worth saving in the nation. Say that a combined hurricane, tidal-wave and earthquake were to destroy and swallow up the existing wealth of the land, would the nation go to ruin? No! Who would place it again upon its feet? Why, Labor! That test is enough to denote the rights and the considerations due to the camp of Organized Labor. All other elements are worthless like chaff.

Organized Labor, accordingly, deserves sole and only consideration. It carries on its back the nation's grandeur. Should not it dictate? Does it? And, to the extent that what is to-day called "Organized Labor" attempts to, what figure does it cut! The Miller Case is illustrative.

It goes without saying that all the employees in a shop should be united in one body. Where there is one outside, the body can not act with that unity that is necessary for success. Theoretically, that the Union in question demands Miller's entrance into that body, or his expulsion from the shop is correct. If correct, why then endeavoring now to yank Miller out on charges affecting an illegal marriage twenty years ago, in other words on wholly different grounds? The present attitude of the Union is an abandonment of its original ground. It thereby betrays the falsity of the original theory from which it pretended to proceed. And thereby the Union

shows itself, not a Union of Labor, not a bona fide Labor Organization, anything but that—and is treated accordingly.

And there's the rub. Would a bona fide Union have to curry favors from a capitalist Government? Would bona fide labor representatives have to beg interviews from capitalist Chief Magistrates? Surely not! Bona fide Unionism could not exist one-quarter of the time that the present pure and simple Unions have existed, and yet leave extant capitalism, with its Government and its improprieties.

Unionism, such as the Gomperses and other lackeys of capitalism understand the thing, is a beggar. Beggars cringe and wobble.

Unionism, such as the bona fide Labor movement understands and needs and will assuredly build the thing, is manly. When it demands, it demands its rights. Being soundly and honestly poised it will never demand in vain. It knows how to enforce its will.

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