

# The People.

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EDITORIAL

## ENDORISING THE ALLIANCE AND THE PARTY.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**W**ithin the last thirty days two Locals of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance have surrendered their charters; one, the Glass-Workers' Local Alliance in Jeanette, Pa., the other the Rockvale, Colo., Mixed Alliance, mainly composed of coal miners. In both cases the charter is surrendered for the identical cause. In Jeanette, the glass-workers were literally told by the employer to "throw the — — Socialists over board," and were ordered to join the A.F. of L., while in Rockvale, the coal miners were informed that connection with the Alliance would cost them their jobs, but were told they were free to join the Western Labor Union. Is this disheartening? To the Comrades who, with a sigh, surrendered their charter in Jeanette and Rockvale, as well as to the Comrades everywhere else, we say: "No; this, so far from being discouraging, is a source of encouragement: it demonstrates the soundness of the premises from which the S.T. & L.A. starts, and the wisdom of its tactical aims."

The readiness of the fleecing class to have its fleeced workers join such fakir-led organizations as the A.F. of L. and W.L.U.; the anxiety of the fleecers' class to drive their employees into the bondage of the Gomperses and Coatses sufficiently attests to the worthlessness of the one and the crookedness of the other. That such organizations cannot benefit the working class, are, in fact, not labor organizations proper, goes without saying.

Again, that the economic condition of the workers can make no progress except under cover of the protecting cannon of a strong and growing political party of class-conscious workingmen, is proven by the compulsion that the Alliance men of Jeanette and Rockvale felt under to obey their fleecers' order.

Here are Alliance premises and principles proven, demonstrated and endorsed.

The economic movement is the only palliative for the working class worth considering. This palliative cannot materialize until the Socialist Labor Party

acquires a more commanding position than it holds to-day. Under cover of its batteries and the increasing havoc made by them in the political breastworks of the capitalist class, the workers in unions will be able to resist capitalist encroachments attempted upon them in the shop, and may even attempt and succeed in encroaching upon the employer's fleecings; and thus the economic organization and the political would act and react upon each other, each stimulating the other's progress.

But such progress is impossible except backed up by economic as well as political bodies of the working class, both organized class-consciously, and accordingly moving in perfect accord.

The occurrences at Jeanette and Rockvale help point emphatically to the urgent need of pushing forward with vigor both the S.L.P. and the S.T. & L.A.

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