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EDITORIAL

THEY RALLY—SO SHALL WE!

By DANIEL DE LEON

Few things are more significant than the unanimity with which the plutocratic press of yesterday rallied to the aid of the retreating and beaten columns of Capitalism in the Sixteenth Assembly District.

Readers of the DAILY PEOPLE, and the citizens generally of the Sixteenth Assembly District, are aware of the blow aimed at free speech and at the Socialist Labor Party, as the representative of the working class, on the night of last Friday by Mr. Samuel Prince, the already routed Tammany candidate for Assembly, who, entering into a foul conspiracy with the police, stopped a Socialist meeting on Seventh street and Avenue C, by a high-handed infraction of the law. Our readers also know the double counter-blows that the Socialist Labor Party promptly administered to the malefactors in rapid succession: The first blow was the organizing of a monster meeting opposite the Party's headquarters, on the very block below Seventh street on Avenue C, and the second blow was the securing, the next morning, of the discharge, ample and unqualified, of the six Socialist Labor Party speakers who had been arrested, the discharge being secured upon indisputable proof that the police had been guilty of violating the very order that it is paid to safeguard.

The two counter blows administered by the Party reverberated through the District, and the scabby cohorts of the scabby Tammany Hall candidate for Assembly felt themselves thrashed. At this, their moment of peril, the capitalist press rallies to the aid of its thrashed lackey. In yesterday's reports of the discharge of the Socialist speakers, that press talks about the speakers' "technical offence," the judge's deciding to be "lenient," despite the speakers' wrongfulness in holding a meeting "without a permit," etc., etc. These reports are unqualified falsehoods. The Socialist Labor Party seeks no "leniency" and accepts none. It was ready for measures of appeal. But these were not needed. The crime of the police, together with the fraudulency of the Tammany dog-in-the-manger claim to corners of streets

for meetings which it never holds, was demonstrated and nailed fast on the heads of these worthies; it was proven and expressly stated by the judge, upon the admission made by the police sergeant himself on cross-examination, that no permits are required; the judge could hardly refrain from reprimanding the police inciters of riots; and he spoke the Socialist Labor Party speakers free,—ABSOLUTELY SO.

The capitalist press of all shades of labor-skinning have rallied to shield their Assembly representative in the Sixteenth Assembly District. But to no avail. The meetings held on Saturday night by the Socialist Labor Party, both on ground “pre-empted” by the brothels-keeping Tammany Hall (but on neither of which, as usual, it held a meeting), were so magnificent in size and spirit, and the temper of the District was otherwise so significant, that all these fabricated news items will not avail.

The spokesmen of Wrong are rallying, so will the upholders of Right do tomorrow! Everywhere will the Arm and Hammer come down heavy, heaviest of all upon the scurvy pack of Tammany Hall in the Sixteenth Assembly District.

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