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EDITORIAL

## BEBEL'S ANNIVERSARY.

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**T**HIS day the Berlin Committee, in charge of Bebel's anniversary festivities, will deliver to August Bebel a bound portfolio containing the manuscript congratulations of all the Socialist organizations of the world. Among the pages in the portfolio is one issued from the National Headquarters of the Socialist Labor Party of America, *Daily People* Building, 28 City Hall Place, dated January 2, 1910, and bearing the signatures of all the national officers, present at the January session of the National Executive Committee of the S.L.P. That document runs:

“From distant America three full-throated cheers are sent on the occasion of his 70th anniversary to August Bebel, the brilliancy of whose genius, the fortitude of whose character, the purity of whose life have shed lustre upon the international proletariat, and on International Socialism.”

These few strokes sketch the profile of the International proletarian and Socialist Movement of which August Bebel is, to-day, the augustest incarnation—

The International proletarian and Socialist Movement comes, and of necessity must come, fired by the brilliancy of the genius of all ages—the statesman, the orator, the publicist August Bebel reflects the fact in the brilliancy of the many-sided genius that he has bestowed upon the Social Revolution.

The International proletarian and Socialist Movement comes, and of necessity must come, armored in a character, the fortitude and integrity of which is proof against the corrosion of self-seeking vainglory. In his autobiography, now appearing, Bebel relates how, whatever his differences with the highly educated Liebknecht, he informed his friends that “One can learn a hell of a lot from that man,” and close became the bonds that drew and held together these two so necessary figures to the Movement. A man of less fortitude and integrity of character would not have hesitated to rupture the German Social Democracy with

the self-complacent declaration: "I shan't be bossed by Liebknecht."

The International proletarian and Socialist Movement comes, and of necessity must come, in the panoply of purity of life, a panoply of steel so true that it resists the insidious approaches and casts off the smut of slummery. Bebel's life is model.

Well may the S.L.P., with full-throated cheers, swell the chorus of well-wishes which the International proletarian and Socialist Movement addresses this day to August Bebel, and with which it honors itself.

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