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EDITORIAL PARAGRAPH

{UNITY.}

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE Socialist party's State Executive Committee of Michigan has, upon motion of six of its constituent Locals, proposed a referendum for the selection of a committee to meet a similar Committee of the Socialist Labor Party for the purpose of effecting unity.

By the looks of things in the S.P., the only unity that the well intentioned Michigan proposition will effect is the unity of the now clapper-clawing Berger, or pure and simple politician, and the Haywood, or pure and simple physical force, wings of the S.P. The only chance of either "business" faction—for what are the two factions at bottom but on business bent?—to prolong their bargain-counter Socialism is to have the S.L.P. rigidly excluded from contact with their rank and file. With the S.L.P. outside of the councils of the S.P. the above two wings can do business: hence, compete; and, hence, scratch out each others' eyes. The merest prospect of unity with the S.L.P. is a menace to the business. The consequence will be an armistice between the belligerents; the whips of their privately owned papers will crack over the heads of the faithful; and, so long as the menace continues, unity will prevail—between Bakouninism and Parliamentary Idiocy in America.

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