

The



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SECOND EDITORIAL

“HARMONY!”

By DANIEL DE LEON

WELL-MEANING but ignorant people are prone to blame the Socialists for not wanting to “harmonize.” The Socialists always answer that harmony cannot come but from the masses, that these cannot harmonize until they are agreed upon principles, and, lastly, that no such thing as an agreement upon principles is possible unless the principles be sound. In proof of this, Socialists often point to the fact that a stack of sand may lie together, but, as it has no coherence, will drift and separate at the first gust of wind.

“Pshaw!” answer the harmony pundits, “let the leaders harmonize, and the rank and file will soon be one. It is the leaders who must come together.”

On the 6th of this month, Congressman C.L. Hartman of Montana made a speech for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and in support of his position, he presented a petition signed as follows:

James R. Sovereign,
G.M.W. of the K. of L.

John W. Hayes,
G.S.T. of the K. of L.

Samuel Gompers,
President American Federation of Labor.

John McBride,
President United Mine Workers of America.

F.W. Arnold,
Grand Secretary-Treasurer Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen.

Marion Buttler,
President National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union.

P.J. McGuire,
General Secretary United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

Henry H. Trenor,
General President United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

P.M. Arthur,
Grand Chief Engineer Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

C.A. Robinson,
President Farmers' Mutual Benevolent Association.

Frank P. Sargent,
Grand Master Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

Can anything be sweeter, lovelier, completer? Can any one want to see together harmoniously united more labor leaders than on that petition? And yet how about the rank and file? Are they in the 16 to 1 camp? Are they one on this subject?

Let every one who has the “harmonious” cockroach in his head buy a copy of the *Congressional Record*, cut out that petition with the signatures, frame it up, label it “Harmony,” and look at it intently. He will be the wiser for the thoughts that will throng to his mind, provided, of course, he has a mind and can generate thought.

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