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EDITORIAL

## SCOURGE THE SCAMP SCABS.

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**I**N the correspondence column of this issue will be found an exchange of letters between H.B. Perham, Grand Secretary and Treasurer of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, and A.S. Dowler, a member of the said order. These letters fall not under the category of reading matter that is simply to be tasted or enjoyed; it is of the sort that must be thoroughly chewed and digested.

The “tyranny of the Socialist Labor Party” in demanding of its members that they toe the chalk-mark of the Party principles, and in tolerating none other in its ranks, is a favorite cause of complaint from the Organized Scabbery that runs the pure and simple Unions, and from all those impure ones among the pure and simple rank and file who aspire to “recognition” by the aforesaid Organized Scabbery. The letters in question help to place “tyranny” where it belongs. In one pure and simple Union after another, gag-law is being administered. Whosoever of the rank and file dare open his mouth in opposition to the scab crew that, like carrion crows, are battenning on “Organized Labor,” is “disciplined”; and refusal to submit means the danger of forfeiting a living. Under the plea of preserving the “dignity of the organization”—bodies that are set up for the express purpose of getting jobs—, the men who join are threatened with the loss of that, which to obtain they had been lured into joining, the moment they express their views and assert their manhood. The Party employees are few, so few that the statement is substantially correct that the Party controls no one’s existence. To such a body, a purely voluntary organization, the term “tyranny” is absurdly unfit. The flinging of the term to it, however, is not merely an absurd act. The letters in question, the actions herein alluded to, betray the fact that the term “tyranny” hurled at the S.L.P., is kin to the cry “stop thief.” It is used by the wrong-doers to conceal their wrong-doing. In other words, the charge partakes—as typical of all that emanates from wrong-doers—of Calumny. It denotes a criminal source.

Upon this criminal characteristic of the Organized Scabbery the letters shed a

brilliant light. From them transpires one more proof that the Organized Scabbery is a scamp crew, upon whose backs the scourge cannot be laid too heavy. They are wolves in sheep's skins, prowling about the Labor Movement, seeking whom they may devour. In the sacred Temple of Labor they are plying harlotry. They are Judases, perverse and corrupt, intent only upon turning dishonest pennies in the sell-out of the workingman.

It was no whim, it was no hasty act on the part of the Socialist Labor Party the day it concluded that the march of the Working Class to its emancipation lay over the prostrate bodies of the Labor Lieutenants of the capitalist class in the land; that the key to the situation is the Organized Scabbery, and that that outpost must first be stormed and razed to the ground. Nor was it a wild imagining on the Party's part that the signal for revolt from the Organized Scabbery, if given loudly and the course firmly adhered to, was bound to meet with response, and to draw together from among the pure and simple organizations that elite in manhood, that alone can stand in the Titanic task of unseating the enthroned Capitalist Class.

Upon all this the letters in question are classical.

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

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