

# DAILY PEOPLE

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EDITORIAL

## VAMPIRE CAHAN.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**W**HEN the Civic-Federationized and Militia-of-Christized national officers of the striking garment workers betrayed the men by “settling” with the employers; when the treachery for a moment palsied the strikers;—what was, at that juncture, the duty of every lover of his kind, to say nothing of every Socialist, especially if in a position of vantage but to hurry with vigor-inspiring help?

Editor Abe Cahan of the Socialist party Jewish daily *Vorwaerts* did exactly the opposite.

In evident alliance with the Labor-lieutenants of the clothing employers, Editor Cahan instantaneously appeared with an editorial calculated and intended to narcotize, and copiously poured the narcotic upon the ill-starred men.

He shouted “Bravo!” to them. He told them they had won a great victory. He called them heroes. He patted them on the back for having bravely stood starvation for many weeks. He decorated them with the title of “the bravest of the brave.” He made himself the mouthpiece of “the whole Labor Movement” and announced to them that the whole Labor Movement took their hats off to them. And he lectured them upon how they were to approve themselves “real warriors,” to wit, by going back to work in obedience to the “settlement,” and thus compel the respect of their bosses, and prepare for further victories of which the present victory “is just the beginning.” In short, the editorial, evidently prepared in advance amid the chuckles of its writer and of his obscene allies, was to paralyze the thinking powers of the strikers. It was to be a hypodermic injection to lay them out in the helplessness of utter torpor upon the dissecting table of the bosses and their labor-lieutenants.

Thus acts, in the lower animal kingdom, the ill-boding vampire. While the

blood-sucking bat inserts his razor-like front teeth into the flesh of his victim, with his wings he fans the feverish wound to soothness, and imparts a sense of comfort.

Thus, though vainly, did Editor Abe Cahan make the attempt upon the striking garment workers, who awoke in time to swat the caitiff.

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