

# DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 8, NO. 275.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1908.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

## THAT TRAIN HAS ARRIVED IN AMERICA.

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**B**OMB explosions, engineered by the Police, or with the Police as the agents of the powers that be, have long been what may be termed a “social institution” with the ruling class of Western Europe. Only the other day the Barcelona, Spain, papers traced the recent frequent recurrence of bomb explosions in their city to the Jesuit College of that place. Before that, letters were found in the valises of alleged “fanatical” dynamiters unmistakably connecting them with members of the Rothschild family. Before that so many and so numerous were the incidents of dynamiters furnished with funds by high Government officials that the thing was made the subject of a remarkable address by Bebel, soon to appear in English in these columns, in which, in duly authenticated form, the facts are unveiled.

The Dynamite Department, as a regular Department of Class Rule government in Western Europe, is to-day a well known institution. Like all institutions, this particular institution was not a strictly original affair with its establishers. It was suggested by events. The quarter from which the suggestion came was the very last quarter from which the suggestion was meant to be made. That quarter consisted of an element, that, however honest, was so angry at the existing social wrongs that it became utterly irrational. The resort to blows in a discussion betrays mental bankruptcy. The psychologic fact is reproduced in society. Society in its infancy, before it has gathered the matured experience that builds up mentality, discusses with blows and blows only. In the measure that experience is gathered and mentality is built up, blows are crowded to the rear, and discussion, peaceful methods take the lead. Thus sprang up the ballot as a claimant to the place of the hickory billet; thus political action struggled with to supplant civil war. To-day, civil war is only the answer that Civilization gives to the vestige of Barbarism, when the

latter, unwilling to submit to the peaceful methods of settling internal disputes, falls back upon primitive man's only weapon—blows. That social element, whom anger at existing wrongs has deprived of reason, finds itself to-day, mentally, at the low stage of the barbarian disputant. Not by accident, but compelled by the law of its own irrationality, that element calls itself Anarchist. The bomb is its weapon.

The bomb, as a weapon, is utterly irrational. Not only is it irrational from the psychologic view-point; it is unspeakably irrational from the economic and sociologic aspect. It is a denial of co-operation, hence of organized conduct. The bomb typifies and exemplifies Individualism run crazy. No wonder Class Rule Government quickly took the hint. The tactics it adopted were correct. Any irrational act can be charged to irrational men. The Dynamite Department of Class Rule Government was instituted. Class Rule government caused bombs to be manufactured, and to be exploded at convenient places and times by its own agents. It was a clever trick to throw discredit upon the whole Socialist or Labor Movement, by throwing upon it the odium of an element who neither animate nor guide, and is repudiated by it. Thus it was in Western Europe.

Similar climatic conditions produce similar vegetation and beasts. Capitalist conditions in America bred the wrongs of Class Rule. Fortunately for America, her completer economic development raised the mists that elsewhere covered and still in many places continue to cover the field. Despite the very soundest economics that pure and simple political action may teach, its sociology is so defective that, by revulsion, it is a direct fomenter of pure and simple bombism. The Socialist Labor Party joined sound sociology to sound economics. It early recognized the economic organization as indispensable. Seeing the economic organization is the inevitable constituency of the Socialist Republic, the economic organization is the only latent physical force to accomplish the revolutionary act, and thereby enforce the peaceful victory of the idea that, through political action, the ballot proclaims. Long did the S.L.P. hold, single-handed, that important pass in the American Movement. Three years ago the Party's principle received a valuable re-inforcement. Partly conjured up by the Party's unflinching agitation, partly produced by the untrammelled, logical development of capitalism in the land, arose the Industrial Workers of the World. The I.W.W. came to life equipped with all the knowledge of its Age. On the

one hand, its economic structure was perfect, being Industrial; on the other hand, its sociologic poise was correct, seeing it recognized the civilized plane for the preaching of Revolution—political action. It placed the two—the economic and the political branches—in their right perspective. It recognized the first as the more important, being the one necessary to impart steadiness of course to the latter. Its loyal supporters, according as they had time and energy, either devoted their efforts in the right proportion to both branches, or devoted their efforts to the first branch only, all expectant of the day when that branch would bring forth its own political organization, and absorb whatever sound political organization had helped to prepare the field for it. Accordingly, the S.L.P. and the I.W.W., the true products of American capitalist soil, blocked, to the extent of their struggling and straggling powers, the path that leads to the methods of irrational anger, and that thereby suggest to the powers that be the setting up here of a Dynamite Department to supplement the machinery of their Class Rule government. But the wrongs of Class Rule proved too powerful to be wholly counteracted. Their inevitable brood of irrational sufferers sprang up here also. Veiled, in some places; unveiled, in others; present in both, the ugly social carbuncle of the dynamiter made his appearance. The consequence was to be foreseen. The unwilling hint, given by the same carbuncle to the powers that be in Western Europe, has been given here also; and here also the hint has been taken. The latest evidence, among a series of rapidly succeeding ones in recent weeks, was the bomb transparently thrown on the 28th of March into Union Square from the Dynamite Department of Class Rule government in America.

The Dynamite Department of Class Rule government in America is now an established fact. That train has arrived, at last. It arrived on schedule time.

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Uploaded January 2010

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