

# DAILY PEOPLE

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EDITORIAL

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By DANIEL DE LEON

**I**T is not merely the Isaiah, or Christian feeling of the Good Samaritan, that moves us to spread the objections of Mr. Parry to Socialism under the eyes of the pure and simple Socialists, who object to a party-owned press as an institution of unspeakable tyranny, and to afford them the aid of Mr. Parry's mighty intellect in their endeavor to justify private speculation upon the back of the Labor Movement. The Good Samaritan feeling does play its role in our action. Nevertheless, seeing that, strictly speaking, *The People* is not a "Religious Publication" but is mainly intended as a flaming sword against the plunderers of the Working Class, another consideration, besides that of benignity, impels our action. It is well to hold the mirror up to Nonsense, to show Twaddle her own feature, Fiddle-faddle her own image and the very age and body of the time his form and pressure.

This is the picture Mr. Parry draws of the Socialist Republic:

### WHEN WE ARE SOCIALISTS.

A citizen shall be given a State number, instead of a name.

He shall receive from the State kitchen three-quarters of a pound of food per day.

No citizen shall weigh over one hundred and ten pounds, or exceed five feet in height.

Male and female citizens shall wear as a raiment the common scarlet garment provided by the State.

All citizens shall rise each morning at the ringing of the State bell.

All citizens shall pray for sixty seconds at the ringing of the State prayer bell.

The speech of each citizen is limited to one thousand words per day.

The step of each citizen is limited to ten inches.

Each citizen shall laugh aloud once every half hour.

No citizen shall snore in the public dormitories.

All food eaten by citizens in the public dining-rooms shall be chewed nine times on the right side of the jaw and nine times on the left, that perfect equality in mastication shall be preserved.

The finger nails of citizens shall be cut a uniform length.

All children of citizens shall be placed in the State public nurseries until the age of seven years.

All children over seven years shall be placed in the disciplinary asylums and taught the State code of rules until the age of fourteen.

All citizens over the age of fourteen shall be placed in the State public dormitories and made to contribute their share of labor in state factories.

A citizen shall be officially notified by an inspector of marriage when the State has appointed either a wife or a husband.

Notification must be made four days before marriage.

State inspectors shall be present at the first meeting of contracting parties, and see that the law is obeyed.

One kiss shall be exchanged between contracting parties.

At the end of three years the State will grant a divorce at the request of either one or both parties, and new persons shall be appointed in marriage to each one.

Any social citizen who is unsocialistic shall be thrown to the kraken.

The above is a budget of hints galore, offered free, gratis and for nothing, for scores of articles headed: "When we have a party-owned press—." After this, the gentlemen who are of the opinion that democracy does not consist in self-rule, but in cliques-rule, should not be at a loss for barks wherewith to bark at the moon.

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

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