

# DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 5, NO. 325.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 21, 1905.

TWO CENTS.

EDITORIAL

## IF YOU FAIL, TRY AGAIN.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**W**E do not suppose that “President-Editor-Undertaker” Gompers is extensively versed in French literature, whether in the original, or through translations. If our supposition is right, the fact would only go to throw into relief the originality of the gentleman’s genius. He needs no tips.

A witty French author, Le Sage by name, wrote a work under the title of *Gil Blas*. The hero of the story, Gil Blas, comes across all sorts of people, and makes all sorts of experience. Among other things, he has to do with a Doctor of the name of Sangrado (literally Bled). Dr. Sangrado’s system of treatment was as simple as it was unique. The first thing he did when called in to see a patient was to bleed him and pour water down his throat; if the man got worse (as they uniformly did) he would bleed him some more and pour still more water down his throat; if the patient began to show signs of collapse (as they invariably did) he was given a third dose of bleeding and a third dose of water; if he still survived, though sinking fast (as happened with some few robust constitutions) then Dr. Sangrado would finish him up by bleeding him of whatever few lingering drops of blood his veins still contained and by the simultaneous pouring of a gallon of water down his throat. Dr. Sangrado’s “graduates”, by the time he got through with them were drained of their blood and inflated beyond recognition by water. He uniformly reached his end; if first he failed, he tried and tried again. So with “President-Editor-Undertaker” Gompers. He hastened to Chicago to operate upon the teamster strike; did not succeed in killing it off on the spot; had to leave the city; but promised to return and administer a second dose of his treatment. Success will then, no doubt, crown the gentleman’s efforts.

Like Dr. Sangrado, “President-Editor-Undertaker” Gompers has unlimited faith in his system of treatment; like the Doctor, the “President-Editor-Undertaker” has

an uninterrupted line of success to show; like the Doctor, the “President-Editor-Undertaker” Gompers always tries and tries again, if he does not succeed at the first attempt.

No more than the human body could resist the successive applications of Dr. Sangrado’s system, can an organization of Labor resist the successive applications of Gompersism; when he returns to Chicago, as he promises or threatens, “President-Editor-Undertaker” Gompers will undoubtedly add one more “glorious victory” to the long catalogue of his register that is surmounted with the skull and crossbones of the Working Class.

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

Uploaded January 2008

[slpns@slp.org](mailto:slpns@slp.org)