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# The Editor is Responsible

[A Disclaimer]

by Eugene V. Debs

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It should be understood, once for all, that the Editor of this *Magazine*, and no one else, is responsible for what appears in its columns. In several instances the Grand Master and other Grand Officers have been called to account for certain articles which have appeared in the *Magazine*. In other cases, certain railway officials and other persons have threatened vengeance upon members of the order on account of what has been published in these columns, and as neither the Grand Officers nor the members are in any regard responsible for such publications, we feel called upon to relieve them from all blame that may attach to any article which appears in this *Magazine*.

Under the rules of the Brotherhood, the Editor and Manager is placed in charge of the *Magazine*. He is expected to adopt and maintain a policy in consonance with the advanced position of the order, and to discuss, with such ability as he can command, all questions relating directly or remotely to the interests of labor; and in doing this he is supposed to exercise his best judgment, and in all regards faithfully and conscientiously, without fear or favor, discharge the duties his office imposes.

The Editor of this *Magazine* has positive convictions in reference to men and measures; and in so far as the interests of labor are involved, he proposes to express them. He will be frank and candid in what he may have to say; but he will never stoop to the level of some of his contemporaries, who, while they profess to refrain from publishing any article calculated to give offense, write personal letters and use their tongues in vituperation.

tive abuse of their victims, whom they have not the courage nor the manliness to assail in open print.

We have unmitigated contempt for the enemies of workmen, particularly those within the ranks of organized labor who pose as its champions, and who, while drawing fat salaries, are really the emissaries of the corporation, and are everlastingly sowing the seeds of dissension and disunion by seeking to establish caste and aristocracy among labor organizations, than which nothing is better calculated to weaken and destroy them and subjugate and enslave their members.

In all such matters, the *Magazine* proposes to speak plainly and to the point, no matter whose antipathy may be aroused or whose vengeance may be threatened, nor will the Editor shirk the responsibility of his utterances.

If anyone feels himself aggrieved against the *Magazine*, the Editor is the proper person to look to for redress, and if an injustice has been done, prompt and ample restitution will be made. We lay no claim to infallibility. We have no ambition to be classed among perfectionists. We do not expect, nor do we desire to escape criticism, any more than we expect or desire the friendship and goodwill of all men. We have only pity for the man, especially if he be the editor of a labor journal, who can not credit himself with having made enemies as well as friends.

Having said this much, we shall hope that in the future all adverse criticism and complaints relating to the Magazine will be directed to the Editor, who is alone responsible.

*Edited by Tim Davenport*

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