

KARL MARX ON TRADE UNIONS VS. REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS AT THE

Sept. 20, 1871 conference, where he stressed" that the trade union represents an aristocratic minority. The poorly-paid workers cannot belong to it" the great mass of workers...remain outside...

The same is true of workers born (and raised) on the East End of London...The peasantry never joins these societies.

"Trade Unions by themselves are impotent; they remain a minority. They have no authority over the mass of the proletarians while the International shows a direct influence among these people."

While the protocols of the First International where this was spoken by Marx are not available in English, may I recommend the quotations as well as the analysis Lenin made of them when the 2nd International failed as these appear in MARXISM AND FREEDOM, pp. 185-193?

Also look up SELECTED CORRESPONDENCE OF MARX and ENGELS and see what Marx wrote to Engels, Oct 7, 1858: "The English proletariat is becoming more and more bourgeois, so that this most bourgeois of all nations is apparently aiming ultimately at the possession of a bourgeois aristocracy and a bourgeois proletariat as well as a bourgeoisie. For a nation which exploits the whole world...."