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EDITORIAL

“BOYCOTTS” AND “REORGANIZATIONS.”

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THE Tobacco Trust having been smashed, torn to pieces, annihilated—“dissolved” and “re-organized” in legal parlance—by the “Rule of Reason” enunciated by Chief Justice White from the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, the “dissolved” and “re-organized” stock is now selling deliriously on “the curb.”

On the occasion of a boycott being threatened against a certain brewery in this city, and the committee of the Brewers’ Union having come to deliver the threat, the firm politely invited the committee-men to look-over the plant “with their own eyes.” He led them through the several vaults, rooms and departments, finally through his private office itself, pointing out, as he went along, the excellence of the appointments. When he reached the office with the now somewhat puzzled committee in tow, he asked them to be seated; took out a box of cigars; handed it around; and selecting one for himself and lighting it, threw himself into his arm chair and started this dialogue:

“Well, gentlemen, how do you like the establishment?”

“Very much!” from the Committee in chorus.

“A good deal better than three years ago, eh?”

“Yes, indeed!” again from the Committee in chorus.

“Well, gentlemen, the improvement you see is the direct consequence of the boycott that you laid upon me three years ago. Do, by all means, boycott me once more. In other words boycott, and be damned!”

The beneficiaries of the Tobacco Trust—the identical gentlemen and even combine into whose pockets are now flowing the proceeds of the “re-organized” stock—are surely burning thick wax candles to their several patron Saints that he may afflict them with another “dissolution” and “re-organization.”

The close kinship between A.F. of L.-ic and Capitalistic weapons, and thereby the close kinship between the A.F. of L. and Capitalism itself, is betrayed by the identity of the “wounds” that they inflict upon the capitalist. As much as the craft Union boycotts are Court “re-organizations” of Trusts unfailing prosperity formen-tors—for the boycotted and the “re-organized.”

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