

EDITORIAL

THAT “MAJESTY” AND THAT “DIGNITY.”

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE only argument advanced by the capitalist politicians against the demand of Labor to abate the Injunction Nuisance is that such a demand is an attack upon the “majesty of the Courts,” and an insult to the “dignity of the judiciary.”

The argument, if argument it is, can proceed only from the theory that “Courts” and the “Judiciary” are a sort of Holy of Holies. That, everybody knows, is not a fact. Courts and Judiciaries are made up of the same elements as Legislatures and Executives. They are made up of human element. That humanity is liable to err is an established fact. Law is intended as a preventive. By the same process of reasoning that Congresses and Executives are deemed fit subjects for legislative control, Judiciaries require legal checks. Indeed, the principle is embodied in the Constitution itself. Congress, that is, the Legislature, has the power to impeach the Judiciary. If there were any such sacrosanctness about the Judgeship, the only bar before which they could be arraigned would be the Heavenly bar.

Are not the capitalist politicians well aware of all this? Of course they are. Why then the clatter about that “Majesty” and that “Dignity”?

The fix in which Gov. Stone of Pennsylvania is in, together with the Judges whom he appointed at the recommendation of the Standard Oil, explaining why the appointments were made, answer the question.

The Judiciary is one of the props of class misrule. Democracy has a disrespectful way about it. Knowing this, the long-headed monarchists ever claimed the monarch to be a sacred body, and sacred, of course, all its emanations—legislative and judicial. The pulsations of democracy ever beat against this as against all other sorts of superstition. The result has been the abolition of irresponsible (read “sacred”) Executives, Legislatures and Judiciaries. The U.S.

Constitution makes them all responsible, that is, amenable to law and the people's will.

This is one of the great achievements of the bourgeois or capitalist Revolution. To-day, however, when the capitalist has rounded up his cycle, and has stepped into the shoes of the Monarch whom he overthrew, he is endeavoring to bring things back to where they were. Before the capitalist Executive can be rendered sacred the capitalist Courts must be rendered "inviolable."

How essential that is to capitalist safety may be judged from the revelations that are being made concerning the source of the "Majesty of the Courts" and the "Dignity of the Judiciary."

There is but one ballot in this campaign that symbolizes undying opposition to the tendency of hedging in officials with divine sacredness. That ballot is headed by

Gillhaus, the proxy for Preston, now lingering in the penitentiary as a victim of Class of Injustice.

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

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