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EDITORIAL

## FOR INSTANCE, THE SUGAR TRUST.

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**N**O sensible man will be carried off his feet by the hugeness—\$2,000,000—of the amount the Sugar Trust was forced to restitute to the United States Government.—Every sensible man knows that huge tho' the amount is, it is small compared to what the Trust still keeps unlawfully.

No sensible man will be thrown off his guard by the circumstance that “a powerful Trust was brought to book.”—Every sensible man knows that the case of the Sugar Trust is the case of all other Trusts, and they remain scathless.

No sensible man will be duped into the belief that “henceforth monopoly’s power is curbed.”—Every sensible man knows that monopoly’s power must be broken; curbed it never is.

In short, no sensible man’s eyes will be blinded by the dust raised and intentionally scattered broadcast by the Sugar Trust trial. The real gain to the Cause of Freedom to be derived from the Sugar Trust conviction lies in quite another direction—a direction from which press, politicians, professors and pulpiteers conspire to draw the public eye.

Socialism does not propose to buy out the Capitalist Class any more than the American Revolution bought out the British crown. The inquiry is, nevertheless made, and frequently so, from capitalist sources: “Where do you, Socialists, expect to get the money from to buy the capitalist establishments{?” The only purpose the question has is to secure some indirect admission of the present legality of capitalist property. No Socialist will make even that admission. It would fly in the face of the facts.

“Where would Socialists get the money from,” etc.?

Suppose Socialism in political power. It would summon the capitalist concerns, one after another. We shall begin with, for instance, the Sugar Trust—

The first procedure would be to put the Trust through a “Turkish bath,” and sweat all the “water” out of it.

The next procedure would be to place the by that time much reduced body through the mill of a collector of all the taxes that the concern cheated the “Law” out of—with interest.

The fast vanishing body would then be handed over for “treatment” to the criminal department of the “Law,” where its finable crimes, kept to-day with the lid down, would be weighed and measured with scrupulous exactness—and the sums collected, in due Law and Order form.

By the time the procedure has reached this point, there may, perhaps, be a nickel due to that exceptional capitalist, of the particular concern under treatment, whose crimes have not entitled him to a free shave of head and whiskers, to a striped suit, and to free lodging in a penitentiary.

To that exceptional capitalist, the nickel will be religiously paid by the Social Revolution, which, however, in due recognition of that capitalist’s exceptional exceptionability, will bestow upon him a fine, red silk ribbon, which the Revolution will pass through a hole in the nickel, and hang around the Exception’s neck, to be worn as a badge of distinction.

Where are Socialists to get the money from? The nickels will be there. Nor will many of them be needed.

See, for instance, the Sugar Trust.

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

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