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EDITORIAL

NO DOUBT!

By DANIEL DE LEON

ADDRESSING the Congressional Sugar investigating committee on the 21st of this month John E. Parsons, a veteran lawyer with more than three score years and ten to his experience said:

“Hands off! Let things alone. If trade were not interfered with by government regulation, all things could be produced in the best possible way and at the lowest price, to the consumer.”

No doubt!

If government did not interfere with factory acts and other such regulations, however much they may be ignored, do hamper the march of the capitalist to the top of the ladder;

If government did not interfere with laws regulating the hours of work for women and thereby compel the capitalist to drop portions of his plunder into the hands of factory inspectors;

If government kept its hands off in the matter of child labor and thereby saved the capitalist lots of time in scheming how to dodge the law;

If government would only let alone the capitalists' food adulterations;

If government would not pry into the capitalists' private doings, and by means of its Bureau of Corporations, and other such contrivances enable officers of the contrivances to levy blackmail upon the capitalists, “fry the fat” out of them and otherwise pluck them;

If government did not periodically get up “strike bills” that compel the capitalists to buy off the bills, and thus re-reduce the profits that they would otherwise make;

In short, if government whistled for time, looked wise, and could rest content with its salaries—

If all these things, that should remain undone, were not done, then, no doubt, the Consumer, which is an alias of the Capitalist Class, would be by far better off.

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