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EDITORIAL

MANUFACTURING WRONG AS PRETEXT FOR FURTHER WRONG.

By DANIEL DE LEON

A PARAGRAPH in *The Sun* of May 13 is as follows:

“It is reported from South Africa that brigandage has broken out in the Transvaal, and that a band of marauders, about two hundred strong, has been operating in the mountainous Lydenburg district of the north. It is said to be composed of men recruited among the riff-raff of Pretoria and Johannesburg, of whom seven were captured about the middle of last month, the remainder breaking up into small parties that retired into the back country. It is not known what importance is to be attached to the presence of this organization, the authorities being very reticent on the subject; but it is hoped that the examination of the prisoners taken may give some clue to the matter. The capture of the seven men gave rise to the wildest rumors, and the British Government has been urged not to make any further reductions in the garrisons in South Africa for the present.

“Efforts will be made in the meantime to find employment for the many who have been left stranded by the ending of the war and the slackness of work, while the habitual vagrants and undesirables, of whom there are a great number, will be deported.”

A recent cable despatch reads:

“London, May 12.—Colonial Secretary Lyttleton announced in the House of Commons this afternoon that the Anglo-Chinese labor convention will be signed to-morrow.

“Everything has been prepared for the immediate shipment of Chinese laborers to the Transvaal.”

Look first on the paragraph and then on the despatch, and then note the criminality of the English government in establishing Chinese slavery in South Africa, on the ground that there is not enough white labor in the Transvaal to develop the mines there, where the fact is that the unemployed there are so

numerous that many of them are compelled to resort to brigandage in order to live. While doing that don't fall into the error of believing that such a thing could not happen here. Capitalism is capitalism the world over, and what happens in one capitalist country happens in all.

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

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slpns@igc.org