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EDITORIAL

THE “CALL’S” PRE-ELECTION COLIC.

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE long and nervous editorial in which the New York *Call* of the 6th of the current month, following the lead of the New Yorker *Volkszeitung*, long and nervously urges its Socialist party to hasten to adopt the planks upon which Roosevelt had just launched himself on the choppy political sea of the land, lest the S.P. go down in wreck and ruin, is a prime specimen of the colic that attends political and economic indigestion.

The Roosevelt planks are summarized in the plank that denounces the judiciary, a branch of the capitalist government that the colicky *Call* pronounces “the most formidable political weapon of the capitalist class against the working class.”

For one thing, most of the outrageously class decisions rendered by the judiciary have been rendered by the Federal judiciary, that is, by an appointative body, appointed by the Executive with the consent of the upper branch of the Legislature. In other words, this judiciary engine of despotism is not reachable, curbable or curable without first reaching the Executive and the Legislature. For another thing, the whole judiciary—State and Federal, elective or appointative—is in the hollow of the hand of the respective Legislatures. The judiciary can not be corrupt, let alone practise tyranny upon the proletariat, without the knowledge, the consent, the approval and the support of the Legislature. The day the Legislature wants any limb or all the limbs of the judiciary can be hurled from office, stamped with disgrace, and thereby rendered for all time impotent for “despotism.” The power to impeach a Judge is a power vested by all the Constitutions in the Legislatures of the land.

The well digested political and economic facts in the premises result in the conclusions that—

1. There is no despotic class-judge possible without there is a despotic class-Legislature and Executive back of him;

2. To raise the hue-and-cry against the judiciary is the legitimate policy of the Roosevelts, and of the Bryans before the Roosevelts, all of whom are engaged, primarily, in drawing popular attention away from the kennel that actually breeds, and whence the judiciary class hounds are set at Labor's heels;

3. Such hue-and-cry as is now raised by Roosevelt, who, suggestively enough is discovered to have the support of Hearst, spells death to all parties of Socialistic Opportunism, or Opportunistic Socialism in America;

4. And consequently, no Socialist was, is, or ever will be thrown off his base by any such bogus "revolutionary demands."

For the last two years *The Call* has had its colic after election. This year the colic has not had to await the election returns.

What will *The Call* have after election day?

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