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EDITORIAL PARAGRAPH

{CLEARING OUT CHINA'S BUREAUCRACY.}

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE general clearing out of the officials of the old Government departments in China, whereby thousands are being dismissed, recalls the wholesale dismissal of the feudal retainers under Henry VIII. Nor is it unlikely that the consequences will be somewhat similar. The wholesale dismissal of the feudal retainers in England furnished up-rising capitalism with an overstocked proletarian labor market, and thereby gave British capitalism a powerful impetus. Capitalism in China, it should seem, already is furnished with an abundance of proletarian raw material to work into commodities. Nevertheless, except when the redundant proletariat reaches the point of maturity to organize itself for the overthrow of capitalism, the proletariat never can be too redundant for capitalist aspirations. The more of them the lower the wages; the more of them the merrier.

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