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EDITORIAL PARAGRAPH

{POPULISM'S VICTORY.}

By DANIEL DE LEON

POPULISM is justified to claim as a victory the plan proposed by President Taft, and now being acted upon by Congress, for Government loans to farmers in need of money. That idea, advanced by Populism marked the property-holding class character of the Populist Movement. The idea being now acted upon by the Nation's Executive and Legislative branches, both of which at first repudiated the idea as paternalism, amounts to a belated adoption and recognition of paternity. If bankers can be given loans by the Government; if railroads can be presented with large tracts of land; if steamboat companies can be subsidized; if manufacturers can be taken under the arm and "fair profits" on their investments insured by tariffs;—if this can be and is not paternal, why not loan money to the property-holding, hence labor exploiting farmer? The Presidential and Congressional move may be said to "round the circle," with the working class clearly left out as not belonging to the "charmed circle" of the, broadly speaking, capitalist class.

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