

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 13, NO. 276.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1913.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPH

{SIMPLY A MEMORANDUM.}

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE floods having cut off the supply of eggs and meat, packers and egg dealers are contemplating a raise in prices, obedient, of course, to the law of Supply and Demand.

Now, suppose that, in sight of the emergency, all duties that directly and indirectly bear upon meat and eggs were to be removed, leaving meat and eggs to come in free with the ocean breezes, what would the packers and egg dealers say? Would they not howl blue murder at such “paternalism” in legislation?

But suppose, now, that the supply were, for some reason or other, to go down in the Labor Market, and the workers were to contemplate a rise in proportion to the shrunk supply, who would be the first to boost up the supply by legislation or otherwise? Packers and other capitalists? How could they, the objectors to “paternal” legislation, promote “step-paternalism.”

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded February 2015

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