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EDITORIAL

## WELL FOR POLITICAL GOVERNMENT!

By DANIEL DE LEON

**T**HE worm of the Political Government is beginning to turn. It started to do so in Albany. 'Twas about time.

The capitalist "Interests" have for some little time been trying to assert themselves with a degree of arrogance towards their political machinery that borders on scurvy ingratitude. One day the demand is for a Railroad Commission, another day for a Pure Food Commission, then they want a Tariff Commission; and so on. Each of these Commissions is meant to hamper the political machine, at least to strip it of some of its halo.

Now, the fact is that the political machine is indispensable to capitalist "Interests." The further fact is that the "Interests" wisely abstain from themselves exercising the functions expected, needed and constantly demanded by them from their political machine. To exercise these functions themselves would be for the "Interests" to "give away the snap." They realize it would not do to have the working class see the same employer, who fleeces them in the shop, also legislate, and himself let the soldiers loose upon the workers when they strike. The only way to keep up the to the "Interests" useful delusion that the "Interests" and the Political Government are distinct things,—the former a private, the latter a public or all the people's affair—is to keep the two visibly separate. Utterly, and wisely so, unwilling themselves to figure openly as their own political machine, unable to exist a day without the machine, and yet ungratefully begrudging their political minions the full meed of glory, and also perquisites, for their valuable functions, the "Interests" have been resorting to the manoeuvres above mentioned, and many more of the same kindred such as "Direct Nomination" schemes, besides not infrequently using uncomplimentary language anent their politicians.

Well, the worm has turned, and, as becomes its leading position, the Political

Government of the Empire State has hit back, good and hard. It passed a stiff resolution through both Houses at Albany excluding from the State Capitol any and all persons engaged in the lobbying business. The resolution is clip and clear. He must be blind who can not plainly read between the lines the taunt:

“Ye ungrateful dogs of Interests, get out of our way! We do your dirty work, and yet you would deny us the soap of perquisites and of distinction to wash away the dirt with! While thios Capitalist system lasts we last, and we don’t propose to be bullyragged, either. Off to your kennels!”

Well said and done.

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

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[slpns@slp.org](mailto:slpns@slp.org)