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EDITORIAL

A YELLOW LIBERAL IN A YELLOW PAPER.

By DANIEL DE LEON

Liberal in Europe has all the earmarks of a "Democrat" in America. There are the same vicious hatred of the working class, illy concealed by a string of demagogic phrases and high-sounding generalities concerning the "Liberal's" love of the people. The same narrow views of society, the same bigotry and ignorance show the Liberal to be brother to the ox-like Democrat.

The yellow press is the medium through which this outworn but noisy element of society communicates its views to the world. The yellow journal is the voice of the bankrupt middle class, and its hollow tones are caused by a consciousness of the degeneracy of that class. In the columns of that press we find jumbled together the most contradictory medley of opinions from the most violently anarchistic, up-ordown to the tamest "solutions" of the social problem.

One day the highest dignitary of the Church fulminates. The next we read the silly views of some atheistic ex-statesman. Much as these supposed enemies may accuse each other, they always strike the same note and condemn the same thing: Socialism and the political action of the working class.

In the notoriously yellow New York *Journal*, the official organ of the Bryan Democracy, ex-Premier Crispi of Italy is given space to attack the Socialist Labor Movement of Italy, and to defend the "Liberal" institutions of that land. He does not specify just what he means by the "rights of society," but his record as a plunderer of the treasury and the orders he issued to the troops to shoot down unarmed workingmen, would indicate that the right of life or property is not meant. He closes his article with the following brilliant piece of clap-trap.

"We have a higher and more serious mission, that of vindicating and defending the rights of society and fulfilling its duties.

"The socialistic theory is egotistical and therefore anti-liberal."

Since Crispi has been kicked out of office, he would do well to come over here and join Bryan, Croker and Hearst in their "higher and more serious mission" of saving society by getting between the working class and the plutocracy and trying to sidetrack the hosts of labor into the bogs of "Liberalism." However, this Italian burlesque of Bismarck may have too many sore bones from Socialist Labor Party kicks in Italy to risk getting some of those which now fall to the lot of his brother "Liberals" in America.

The yellow journals and the yellow demagogues will be all the more convinced of the danger their "Liberal" institutions are in when they hear the result of the vote on November 6.

Vote for Malloney and Remmel!

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

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