

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 1, NO. 190.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 1901.

TWO CENTS.

EDITORIAL

THEY ARE ONE.

By DANIEL DE LEON

George Steunenberg, brother of Bull-Pen Steunenberg, has been granted a lieutenant's commission by President McKinley, despite the fact that he thereby violates the solemn promise he made that all promotions should be due to seniority. Steunenberg is thus thrust ahead of sergeants and second lieutenants, as he was only a corporal.

Gov. Steunenberg thus reaps the reward of the Bull-Pen outrage, when he, a Populist, stood and defended the action of the President in sending troops to imprison in the most barbarous fashion, the striking miners of Idaho. McKinley thus acknowledges the value of the service rendered by Steunenberg. Both men meet upon a common ground, where both can shake hands, and that ground is the resting place of the murdered members of the working class.

There is no law to McKinley, because there is none to his class. Such a thing as his word of honor means nothing to him. He violated the law when he sent troops into Idaho. He violates his word of honor when he gives a commission as lieutenant to George Steunenberg. Yet in doing both these things he serves, in most effective fashion, the class for whose interests he works. That class is best served, not by obeying the law, but by using it. If it serves their purpose, they break it. If it serves their purpose, they enforce it against others. But always, and under all circumstances, they regard the law as useful only when they can employ it to their own advantage.

It is evident from the recognition which George Steunenberg received that the Governor has now at his command unlimited power to obtain reward for his actions. He has demonstrated to the administration the oneness of his party and the Republican party, and he has also demonstrated the usefulness of his party in such events as the miners' strike.

The McKinleys and the Steunenbergs are one in their intentions. They are one in their point of view relative to the working class. They are one in their treatment

of the working class. They are one in their willingness to be faithful servants of capitalism.

No wonder both were made honorary members by the Organized Scabbery that runs the pure and simple system of unionism.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded October 2005