

# DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 9, NO. 222.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1909.

TWO CENTS.

EDITORIAL

## THE STIR IN FRANKLIN.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**A** GREAT stir is reported to have been caused in Franklin, Pa., by reason of the revelations made by the investigation of the charity officials, a goodly batch of whom are now indicted.

Several of the worthies are charged with assault and battery committed upon the poor under their charge; some others are charged with larceny and receiving stolen goods; most of them are charged in addition with “other serious crimes.”

The reports from Franklin add naively that most of the accused are “people of prominence” in the place—hence the greatness of the stir.

Spring is not so far away. Quite near is the season when children, roaming over meadows and woodlands, will accidentally, or for sport, raise a log of wood or roll a stone from its place, whereupon forthwith there will be “a great stir among them.” The displaced log or stone will reveal to the youngsters the unexpected sight of a vast number of insects, bugs and worms, that have been nesting over winter under shelter of the protection just removed from over them.

The people who are reported “stirred” in Franklin are, sociologically, at the infant stage—the stage of little tots who marvel at the discoveries they make in the spring.

There is not a social log or stone one may turn but will reveal a vast number of social vermin sheltered, thriving in vermin style. Whether the stone or log be an insurance company, a bank, a government land agency, a Trinity Church Corporation, a Congress, an Executive, or a charity organization, so-called, matters not. Vermin will ever be uncovered.

Nor will the “stirs” come to end until the uncoverer be that sweeping Social Revolution, which, handled by the Working Class united on the political as well as the industrial field, will put an end to the inevitableness of the social vermin, the

same as physical cleanliness put an end for all time to the one time inevitable Pest microbe.

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

Uploaded June 2010

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