

EDITORIAL

INVESTIGATE NEARER BY!

By DANIEL DE LEON

FROM Washington a number of investigations are radiating.

One investigation concerns San Diego.

Another investigation is directed against the Bummery who sail under the false colors of the I.W.W.

A third investigation concerns Judge C.W. Hanford of Seattle.

All these investigations are, no doubt, legitimate.

What more legitimate than thoroughly to overhaul the judicial pervert who, either out of criminal ignorance, or criminal motives, dared to annul an honorable citizen's naturalization papers—to annul the same, to disfranchise him without process of law—to treat him worse than the felon, caught red-handed, is treated. The investigation of his DIShonor Judge Hanford can be undertaken none too quickly, none too thoroughly, nor can the bench be too promptly cleansed of such soilure.

Nothing more legitimate than the investigation of a conglomeration that is animated, inspired, prodded on and goaded from a head-center that issues literature reeking with suggestions of crime, personal and civic,—theft, striking at the ballot box with an ax, lying, sabotage, and even murder. The investigation of the Bummery is a public duty than none other more imperatively urged by social safety.

Equally imperative is the investigation of the San Diego “Vigilantes”—self-appointed executors of the law who, in the name of the law, violate it; in the name of peace legalize terrorism; in the name of Civilization swaggeringly smite both the cheeks of Civilization.

There is nothing to be said against these investigations. But why limit the investigations' scope to distant localities? Why not investigate nearer by, where matter in plenty will be found?

Look at Paterson—

All the felonies, that are to be the subject of the above named investigations, are there found in a bunch—judicial usurpation and Anarchy.

In Paterson the police has been degraded into gougers for certain silk manufacturers; the Recorder's Court has been turned into a backyard of the said manufacturers, whither the gouged workingmen are dragged and handled as tho' Paterson were in a state of siege; and the county jail, a place supposedly for law-breakers and into which both Recorder and police should be dumped, has been filled with innocent workingmen, honorable men, part of the bone and sinew of the class that feeds, clothes and shelters the land.

In the style of the San Diego Vigilantes, silk manufacturers, police, Mayor and Recorder, have banded themselves into a law-breaking privileged set—privileged by their office and their wealth—a wealth extracted from the blood of workingmen, women and children—offices profaned by misconduct.

In the style of Judge Hanford, Recorder Carroll deprived Rudolph Katz of his liberty for 6 months for no cause other than that he is the leader of the I.W.W. strike and the nominee of the Socialist Labor Party for Congress.

Why not investigate Paterson, gentlemen of Congress! Why not clean that Augean stable of capitalist and capitalist officials' riotings! Is it that Paterson is too near?

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