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EDITORIAL

LOOK—AND YE WILL FIND.

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE Hon. Elihu Root—quondam Tweed lawyer, then Secretary of State for The Colonel, and since then Senator from New York and consistent supporter of Taft and Taftism—soberly, and without flicking an eyelid, declared in the course of his Princeton address, delivered on the 15th of this month, that, in matters of government, “The difficulty is not to determine what ought to be accomplished, but how to accomplish it,” and that to overlook the principle is to “destroy independence of character,”—and more to the same effect as a counterblast to the popular demand of the people to run their own affairs.

We do not know that there is—we never came across any document to that effect,—nevertheless so many are the events taking place to-day which recall their close parallel with events that happened during the days of the American Revolution, that we opine that careful search will discover some address, delivered by some agent of the British Crown, on or about the date of July 4, 1776, which address will be found to run along these lines:

“Ills? Of course there are. Ills are inherent in all that is human, government included. But—look out how you proceed for redress. The difficult thing is not to determine what ought to be accomplished, but how to accomplish it. The how is the difficulty. Any ‘how’ which contemplates the overthrow of the Crown will be destructive of the independence of the character of the colonists.”

Nor can there be any doubt that a lot of College boys of that day, “gave the speaker an ovation”—as happened at Princeton.

Look, and ye shall find.

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