

EDITORIAL

## GOVERNMENT BY DYNAMITE AND GOVERNMENT BY INJUNCTION.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**I**N passing sentence upon the convicted A.F. of L. dynamiters at Indianapolis, Judge Anderson said:

“In recent years we have heard much denunciation of government by injunction, but a consideration of the evidence in this case will convince any impartial person that government by injunction is infinitely to be preferred to government by dynamite.”

We shall not do Judge Anderson the injustice of taking him for a pessimist, one who is of the opinion that society is placed before the Hobson's choice of either “Government by Injunction, or Government by Dynamite.” We shall construe Judge Anderson's dictum literally. So construing his words, the Judge expressed a profound sociologic truth.

The march of Progress is not from Despotism to Freedom via Anarchy. The march of Progress is from Anarchy to Freedom via Despotism.

The initial step in the race's march is Anarchy, meaning by Anarchy that state of Disorder where the Individual is a law unto himself; hence, where the fist, as the summary of deeds of violence, is the first, last and only argument.

As Competition breeds Monopoly, so-called, so does Anarchy breed Despotism. Despotism, accordingly is the second milestone in the race's onward march. The further route is marked by numberless other mile-stones—some large, others small, many almost invisible—each attesting to either a positive diminution of Despotism, or to some, necessary turn on the road that finally abuts in Freedom. The long and short of the sociologic law is that Anarchy is the lineal ancestor of Despotism, which, in turn, becomes the forebear of Freedom by slow and periodically acute gradations.

The Human Race, as a whole, has traveled beyond the stage of Anarchy. Judge Anderson was right. Government by Injunction is infinitely preferable—the infinitude being marked by the gulf of the centuries that separate the Race, to-day from its cradle days—ininitely preferable to Government by Dynamite.

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