

Daniel De Leon

## **Editorial: “Coming Together”**

We regret to find this naive passage in the columns of our brother the *Journal of the Knights of Labor*:

Two things to be noted—The owner (a Congressman) of a big daily newspaper in Washington marched in the Labor Day procession with the printers of his office, and Congressman Cummings was a marshal of his Union in the parade in New York. They are getting together everywhere.

When Wat Tyler’s rebellion threatened to engulf the throne, Richard II. rode up to the crowd that Tyler led and said: “Take me into your ranks; let me march with you; I shall lead you”—and he did, to the gallows.

The Congressman, owner of the “big Washington daily,” and Cummings of the New York *Evening Sun* live as completely off the sweat of the brow of the working class as did Richard II. upon the peasantry in revolt. As the latter felt his throne shake under the blows of Tyler, so do the former now feel their bread, fleeced from the workers, endangered. As the former, having succeeded in being “taken into the ranks” of Tyler’s men, led them to destruction, so do the latter, can the latter, have no purpose other than to bunco their wage slaves into the capitalist shambles.

The “coming together” of the goats and the sheep is no cause for joy. The vulture will never “come together” with its prey but to devour it. Only those must “come together” who have

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one and the same class interest. So long as the sheep imagine the wolf to be a friend they will be slain. Their safety begins only when they have ascertained the wolf's inherent hostility to their race.

This "coming together" of capitalist congressmen and workers is cause for sadness. It reveals that the workers who tolerated those gentry in their ranks have not yet stepped upon the first rung of the ladder that leads to their emancipation.

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