

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 6, NO. 48.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1905.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

A NOVEL DIOGENES.

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE ruling class of Norway, represented by C.C. Berner, President of the national parliament, or Storting, as it is there called, stands to-day upon the world's stage in the role of a novel Diogenes.

Norway is now free from the irritating apronstrings of the Swedish Crown. By a popular vote, as imposing as it is emphatic—only 161 votes against, to 321,358 for—the people have decreed their political independence. But a people ruled by a class evidently are but servants, who must not speak unless spoken to, and who must shut up tight and may volunteer no further opinion after having uttered the opinion that was asked for. After having expressed the opinion called for by the referendum the masses of Norway have the backs of their rulers turned to them, and these are now “going it alone” in the person of the President of the Storting.

Does the people, who were supposed to be intelligent enough to be consulted upon the question of freedom, not possess the requisite intelligence to rule themselves? Has not Norway men enough to head the nation? To both of these questions the ruling class of Norway answers through its President of the Storting, Nay! Only they, through him, are now vocal; and he says that Norway is to continue a monarchy; and he goes about looking for a Prince!

Diogenes of old lighted his lamp and went in search of a MAN, the President of the Norwegian Storting has lighted his lamp and started in search of a—MONKEY.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded February 2008

slpns@slp.org