

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 4, NO. 315.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 10, 1904.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

SUNKEN PIERS.

By DANIEL DE LEON

WITHIN one month two important decisions have been wrung from the courts by the Socialist Labor Party, thereby it sunk deep and sound two of the piers on which to rear the superstructure of manhood and freedom for the American workingman. The first of these cases was that of Michael T. Berry against the Tobin-Carey Boot and Shoeworkers Union, the second that of Charles Corregan against the Lynch-Hanford-Hayes Typographical Union. In both cases, the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class who run those so-called Unions, "Secret Committees" and other schemes, sought to victimize an S.L.P. member for holding his political convictions and for free speech. In Berry's case they managed to throw him out of work because he refused to bend the knee to an organization that, under condition of the employer's paying its officers for the label, promise the employer immunity for any rascality that he may commit against his employes. Berry sued and got judgment for \$1,300. In Corregan's case they threw him out of work after a "trial" to which he was not summoned and on charges that he was not notified of, these charges being that he exercised the right of free speech on the political stump and proved the labor fakers of his union to be a scabby crew whose actions were detrimental to the workers. Those two actions were signal calls. The posture of the S.L.P. men in these cases was one to encourage the workers everywhere. How much encouragement may be judged from the circumstance of the tomb-like silence observed upon them by the capitalist press. Most remarkable is their silence in the Corregan case. This case was decided against Corregan in the lower court several months ago. Immediately the capitalist press of the city burst forth into flaming head-lines, rejoicing at the way "the Socialists were downed." Now that the Appellate Court reversed the decision as preposterous, not a line have these same capitalist papers {printed}. These papers know their friends and the foe

of their class.

The New York *Sun* had to bite the dust before the labor fakirs who own the International Typographical Union, and pay them \$300,000. The SLP makes the fakirs bite the dust.

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

Uploaded June 2007

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