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EDITORIAL

## THE TENTH OF JULY.

By DANIEL DE LEON

One year ago to-day there happened an event of which the masses are wholly ignorant, but which was of vital importance to their welfare, and which the historian of the future will have to look back to as the point of departure for a new era in the Socialist Movement of America.

On that date, at the hour of midnight, those who stood for progress within the Socialist Labor Party met and defeated the physical assault of those who, arrived at the end of their tether, made a desperate plunge to smash the Party or hold it back and make of it a semi-social club, wherein the freak and fakir, imbecile and crook, reformer and reformed, might meet and enjoy themselves in discussing the involved correlations of the connotated whenceness of the how, occasionally varied with an excursion as the tail of some crook political scheme of played-out labor fakirs, into outer darkness.

It was no mere war of words that was waged that night, but a sanguinary conflict fought on the part of the enemy with iron clubs and wooden mallets. But the defenders of the Party, armed only with the weapons given them by nature, disarmed their foe, overcame them, and ended once for all the dominance of the Past over To-day.

During the last twelve months the Socialist Labor Party, freed from the incubus that was holding it back, sprang forward, and now stands the real movement of the working class, unterrified and undeterrable, armed with modern weapons, fighting the common enemy of the human race—Capitalism—and marching straight to its goal.

One year ago to-day the Party put behind it the time of struggle for life against the foe within its own ranks, and took up, never to lay down until final and complete victory shall come, the work of ousting from power capitalism and the robber class that maintains it.

We can to-day realize the power for harm that was exercised by the Kangaroos

of the days before “The Tenth of July.” Looking over the work of the past year, one also realizes how necessary was the Battle of the Tenth.

“The Tenth of July” marks an epoch, and marks that epoch all the more clearly by reason of its being a day of battle. Let us hasten the day when, having lined up the forces of capitalism, as we lined up the Kangaroos, we shall hurl those forces down and out as we hurled the forces of reaction down and out on the last Tenth of July.

On this first anniversary of that memorable date, well may we say:

“How many ages hence  
Shall this our lofty scene be acted over,  
In states unborn and accents yet unknown!”<sup>1</sup>

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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<sup>1</sup> [William Shakespeare, *Julius Caesar*.]