

# DAILY PEOPLE

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EDITORIAL

## POSITIVELY COOL.

By DANIEL DE LEON

“I DO not think,” said Premier Asquith in the House of Commons in refusing the demand of the Laborite members for taxes on large estates, “I do not think that there is any doctrine more fatal to the root of the principle of finance than that a democratic government should be concerned with the constant amelioration, at great expense of the community, of the social conditions of the less favored classes of the country at the cost of other classes.”

We are here accustomed to the hot effrontery of the bourgeois in calling this an ideal democratic government, the effrontery of Premier Asquith in styling “democratic” a government under which large proprietors have several votes, and under which these proprietors have hereditary legislative authority—that effrontery passeth the point of heat and becomes “cool.”

We are here accustomed to hear press, pulpit, professors and politicians boast hotly of the prowess of our large capitalists, the boast of Premier Asquith concerning the immunity that should be enjoyed by the more favored classes, classes whose place of vantage was born of feudal-physical rapine, seasoned in profligacy—that boast passeth the point of heat and becomes “cool.”

We are here quite familiar with the perfervid pleas made by the representatives of the ruling class in favor of the “consumer,” and we all know that the real “consumer” is the Ruling Class seeing that it produces nothing and only consumes, but the argument of Premier Asquith against the less favored classes of the “community,” when what is left of the “community” after the “less favored classes” are subtracted is a negligible quantity, a quantity, moreover, that could not exist but for the toil of the “less favored classes”—that argument is “cool” indeed.

We had thought that our own politicians were “the limit.” The British politician is positively “cool.”

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