

EDITORIAL

## THE UNIVERSAL MONARCHY.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**I**N the authorized publication, issued last September 28, of his views on and favoring “the reunion of the scattered branches of Christendom,” Cardinal James Gibbons conditions, as “the first essential requirement,” the recognition of the Pope as the head of Christendom, on the ground that “every organization, whether religious, civil or political needs a head for its peace and security, indeed for its very existence.”

As Socialism deals not with religion, we have no opinion concerning the correctness, or the incorrectness, of the Cardinal’s dictum, in so far as it is to the effect that a religious organization needs an international head, one head the world over, and that head the Pope, for its peace, security and very existence. The Cardinal may be right, for all that Socialism is concerned.

In so far, however, as the Cardinal’s dictum expressly embraces civil and political organizations, the dictum concerns Socialism intimately.

Seeing that the identical Pope, who the Cardinal holds should be the head of Christendom, asserts its claims, as a temporal, that is, a civil and political power, the Cardinal’s dictum resolves itself into these conclusions:

First—The United States, being a civil and political organization, should be under the overlordship of the Pope for the country’s peace, security and very existence.

Second—All other Nations—they being likewise civil and political organizations—should likewise, for the sake of their peace, security and very existence, be under the overlordship of the Pope.

Third—An international overlordship would turn the world into a Universal Monarchy, with the Pope as the monarch.

There is no escape from these conclusions as inevitable from the civil and political

theory set up by Cardinal Gibbons. That theory Socialism rejects, and human Progress has overthrown for all time, as destructive of Liberty, as corrupt, as vicious—and is so branded by that most enlightened and pious Movement among Catholics themselves, to wit, the Modernists.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
Uploaded March 2017

[slpns@slp.org](mailto:slpns@slp.org)