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EDITORIAL

REVOLUTIONARY HUGHES.

By DANIEL DE LEON

WHEN Socialists maintain that Socialist Society is a whole and not an aggregation of isolated things, they are called “pig headed.” When Socialists maintain that, upon the same principle that the “One Nation,” born on July 4, 1776, could not be born one acre at a time, one county at a time—in short, could not be born piecemeal, but had to be born in lump, it being a social entity—when Socialists maintain that they are called “wild-eyed revolutionists.” By this token Gov. Hughes of the State of New York takes his place among the most wild-eyed of revolutionists.

A bill has just passed the Legislature providing for the equalization of the salaries of male and female teachers in the City of New York holding the same position. The Governor vetoed the bill. His reason for so doing is that “the principle involved was one which should be applied generally throughout the Civil Service, and SHOULD NOT BE ADOPTED IN ANY ONE INSTANCE UNTIL THE STATE IS PREPARED TO MAKE EQUAL PAYMENT TO MEN AND WOMEN DOING THE SAME WORK IN ITS SERVICE THE FIXED STATE POLICY.” In other words justice to women must be born in lump; not until all the women employees in the Civil Service of the State are given equal pay with men for the same work may any set of the State’s women employes be done justice to. Or shorter yet, whole hog or none.

Perish the thought that Gov. Hughes is a blower of hot and cold! Perish the thought that the Governor pretends to want the “whole loaf or none” when the beneficiaries can receive and profit by a half-loaf, but that he will turn a somersault back and preach “half-a-loaf is better than none” when by so preaching the beneficiaries may be effectively kept out of the whole loaf! In short, perish the thought, the Governor is a fit representative of capitalism with whom principle is

good only to find pretexts to keep Labor out of its own. Perish that thought! Did not the Governor, when a candidate last year, announce himself a devotee at the shrine of Labor?

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