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EDITORIAL

## NAGGING, AGAIN.

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**A** FURTHER evidence is furnished by Mr. E.A. Grant of Cleveland, O., of the feverish effort that is being made by the “Interests” to supplant without abolishing the Political State.

Mr. Grant, evidently wording the views and even acting under the direction of the Banking Interests, has issued a booklet “offering a plan” by virtue of which “the financial legislation will be placed under the guidance of the United Banks of the country, where it properly belongs,” and thereby taken from the hands of the Political Government, which hitherto has had the enacting of such legislation.

Mr. Grant’s, or the Banking Interest’s proposition, is a chip of the identical block from which Pure Food Commission, Tariff Commission, Railroad Commission, and all other such propositions are chips falling with increasing frequency. They denote increasing nervousness on the part of the “Interests” to have their cake, and yet eat it.

The Political Government is an inseparable feature of class rule. From the earliest period when class rule began to be noticed in history, there began a differentiation between the directive authority of production and the directive authority of repression. The latter had not existed before. A central directive of production is in itself an order-keeper. But order-keeping under communism is not the thing that it becomes under class-rule. The evolution of Government from that time on tended to strengthen its arm. Increasing numbers, belonging to a class that had to be kept under, required a proportionally increased exertion of power. At the same time the exigencies of the case required the identical social organ of repressive functions to be the general legislator. It thus happened that, while the ruling class ran the economic machinery independent from the Government, the Government exercised over the ruling class functions of regulation. Never pleasant to the ruling

class, the functions of regulation had to be submitted to. It flowed from the general theory that underlies the Political State; moreover, such regulation imparted to the political Government a color of nationality, or popularity, or impartiality. In the measure that social evolution approached the present capitalist stage the appearance of its being national, popular and, therefore, theoretically impartial, become essential to the stability of the Political State, and thereby to the welfare of the ruling class itself.

This fact the “Interests” recognize. All the same the under-tow of the Social Revolution, which carries in its folds the rejuvenated Industrial State of old, is making the “Interests” feel uneasy, so uneasy that they are seeking to rid themselves of the functions of regulation by the State—and that brings about this nagging, which will do the “Interests” no good. When the Political Government goes, the “Interests” also must go.

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

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