EDITORIAL

AN IDEAL COUNTRY.

By DANIEL DE LEON

MARK Hanna, in a double column, double-leaded article in the Canton, Ohio, Repository says:—“Your country gives you tremendous benefits—It guards your home, your family, holds up high ideals for you and your children.” Great is protection, and great is the “home” as the class of Hanna makes it.


That is what the Times, which has “all the news that’s fit to print,” gives its readers. It occupies about half of the news space. The headlines indicate that society is a seething mass of crime and corruption, and the news stories more than bear this out. There is everything from petty larceny to murder, from a mere panhandler to a wholesale thief.
The *Sun*, of the same date, has a few other things, but the *Sun*’s stories are more extended because it gives all the news that isn’t fit to print.


The news of the day tells a direful tale of protection, and a direful tale of how the home is honored and respected. Every one of those crimes, of which the newspaper is the ever increasing catalog, can be traced to the capitalist system, of which Mr. Hanna is a gold-framed masterpiece. The activity of the government is the activity of a morgue wagon that carts away the dead.

Monday there were over thirty girls arrested in New York alone for being inmates of disorderly houses—and the capitalist system makes the disorderly house a necessity. The New York papers only give fragments of the day’s history. From other papers, published here, there could be culled as many more local crimes. Were all the papers of the country to be taken, and were all the crimes to be strung out, it would make a list long enough to hang capitalism higher than the first fixed star.

But chronicled crime is not the most extensive, nor the most glaring. There is the legalized crime, the crime for which Mr. Hanna wishes to have the protection of all the powers of government. That sort of crime would make a list even longer than the one which the papers give.
There is but one cure for crime, and its concomitant misery, and that is Socialism. There is but one party that can and will bring Socialism about, and that is the Socialist Labor Party.

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