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EDITORIAL

THE JEWEL OF SHAMELESSNESS.

By DANIEL DE LEON

THERE is a precious jewel in the head of toad Shamelessness. It is only when the wrongdoer becomes so shameless that he cares not whether the truth be known or not, that it is really known. The following telegraphic despatch from Denver, and brazenly published by the capitalist press is an illustration in point:

“Denver, Col., April 21.—When the train bearing Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, who is to appear this afternoon before the Supreme Court for a hearing in habeas corpus proceedings, arrived to-day, accompanied by a military guard, a general fight followed.

“A number of persons were at the station to meet the party, among them Secretary Haywood, of the Western Federation of Miners. Haywood walked into the car and shook hands with Moyer. Captain Bulkeley Wells immediately made a move toward Haywood to strike him. Haywood knocked Wells down, when the soldiers attacked Haywood, knocking him under a car seat.

“Haywood was then arrested, and with Moyer taken to the Oxford Hotel. There the trouble broke out afresh, when Haywood knocked two soldiers down. The other troopers making up the guard joined in the fight, and Haywood was bayoneted and clubbed with muskets until he was insensible. A riot call was turned in, but when the police arrived the soldiers refused to surrender Haywood.

“Later Haywood recovered consciousness, and was given medical treatment. The military officials said that they would hold him on a warrant, sworn out some time ago, charging him with desecrating the flag. Chief of Police Armstrong has not yet made a formal demand for the surrender of Haywood, who is constructively under arrest in Denver on a similar charge.”

Thus we see an American citizen, who peacefully enters a car to shake hands with a friend, assaulted by a deadhead swashbuckler; when the citizen resents the

breach of peace committed upon him, he is bayoneted and beaten into unconsciousness, and when he recovers consciousness the brigands who desecrated the American flag by perpetrating such an outrage, have the citizen arrested under the charge of desecrating the flag!

It takes the shamelessness that capitalism has reached for itself to publish such a fact. Nor shall the fact revealed by the shamelessness be lost upon a thinking people!

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