

Revolution is not rebellion. Reform is not revolution. Rebellion is not reform. With these distinctions in mind, let us look briefly at the existing state of things keeping in mind the decision of Judge Torrance of the Superior court of this county. As effecting the Referendum in San Diego city and the people's rights to govern themselves generally.

There was a time when the people of America bowed to the will of a king who ruled by divine right. When his ruling became unbearable the people sought reform. Failing in this, they rebelled against the king's authority, and banished his authority from the land. This gave them a clear field, they could have set up a new king and secured the reform they had sought. But if this was done the absolute power of a king was likely to bring the same results as formerly. Thence the rebels proceeded to revolutionize their government and the establishment of a representative government was the result. Time passed and ambitious men learned how to use the power of a representative government to enrich themselves at the expense of the toiling many. The people sought reform and to this end sought out good men whom they hoped would represent them.

But alas, human endurance has a limit and each man has his price. So the corrupting influence of aggregate wealth was brought to bear and most efforts at reform have been frustrated. It is true that the price of some of the peoples representatives was very high, it was placed at nothing short of their life. And in these cases when it was necessary they laid down their life, but the corrupting power moved on to victory.

Often repeated efforts at reform were made and as often baffled. Until the people at last realized that reform was useless and made a puny attempt at revolution by recalling to themselves the right to make laws for their own government which they had formerly delegated to their representatives. This however is not to be permitted by the powers that be.

For according to Judge Torrance "the people of California will have to clearly express in the constitution their purpose that the municipalities of this state shall become local Democracies," or in his judgment the law-making power of a city must remain in a representative legislative body. And inasmuch as his judgment is law, it looks as though the people will have to amend the constitution of this state in order to hold in check the corruption of public officials. The learned (?) Judge "has given the subject much consideration" and believes that the people should be set right on this subject at once.

Had he given the subject some more "careful thought", and he may do it yet) he would have pointed out that it required an amendment to the constitution of the United States, in order to make an amendment to the California constitution constitutional. In fact he has already laid the foundation for such a decision in the present one as our learned District Attorney points out. Then to amend the constitution of the United States or of California it is necessary according to the constitutions to permit it to be done by representatives who are still subject to the corrupting influence of privileged wealth. In other words the people have created a power greater than themselves and are now subject to this monster of their own creation.

Nor may they undo what they have done. Our ancestors, some time in the past, agreed between themselves how they would govern themselves and while they were about it said how their children should govern themselves and even though conditions so change that it becomes impossible to secure justice in the new environments under the old agreement (for after all what is law but an agreement reached by a majority) the intellectual prostitutes called lawyers who control the judiciary of our country decree that we shall not alter the old agreement.

In Russia the people have long sought reform but were repeatedly defeated in their efforts so they at last come to rebellion, in order that they may establish better conditions for themselves. Do our rulers intend to force the same thing here or will they permit us to alter the old agreement to suit the new conditions. And the public press that molds the minds of men, what do we find it doing? Humbly bending in the dust to the very power of crime, debauchery and corruption. For instance the San Diego Union pointing out that back of the referendum law lies a plan for the destruction of the family. Though it (unwittingly perhaps) told the truth when it said that new social

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conditions would be the result of the universal adoption of the Referendum. This can be said, however, if the people do not wish to find themselves completely subjugated they will need to elect men from the industrial classes to do some mending of those constitutions instead of electing men who have their intellect for sale to the highest bidder, right or wrong, in other words, find out what Socialism is and you will vote that ticket.

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