

The People.

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HENRY KUHN, NAT'L SEC'Y, S.L.P.

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FIRST EDITORIAL

VAINLY SEEKING TO BLOCK THE *DAILY PEOPLE*.

By DANIEL DE LEON

Bodily thrashed on the night of July 10, walloped hollow within the Party ranks by general vote, and every bone within its body broken at the last election, the Tammany Volkszeitung Corporation conspiracy of Labor Fakirs, retailers of Egyptian onions and taxed beer, usurious money lenders, and discredited characters generally, who sought to scuttle the Socialist Labor Party by trying to steal the Party's property, is still straining to reach its end by devious ways, its objective point just now being to prevent the appearance of the Party's daily, the bare thought of which justly sends the shivers down the spine of Crookdom.

The latest move in pursuit of the devious course followed by the conspiracy to block THE DAILY PEOPLE, is the starting of proceedings, on the 17th instant, to punish DANIEL DE LEON, the Editor of THE PEOPLE, for Contempt of Court!! The theory upon which this move is made is the ostensible one that the Editor of this paper is the agent (sic.) of the National Executive Committee, and not of the Socialist Labor Party, and that, a majority of the National Executive Committee being enjoined, the continued publication of this paper is a violation of the injunction order against the enjoined members of the National Executive Committee. The actual theory, however, is that, by persecuting the officers of the Party, the Party may be bluffed into dropping the name of its national organ, and thus have the conspirators gain by subterfuge what they know they can't gain by straight-out tactics. They dared not bring their own action to trial, and they dare not now face the trial of the action by the Party against them.

Wise, accordingly, was the step taken the day previous by the enjoined members of the National Executive Committee, as will be learned from the report of the National Executive Committee printed elsewhere. By their resignation, the

bottom is knocked from the false theory, clearly foreshadowed a few weeks ago, upon which the Party officers engaged in publishing THE PEOPLE are construed to be the “agents” of the enjoined comrades, now no longer members of the National Executive Committee. This step will now drive the conspirators to scheme some new theory. Which?

But whatever they may do, they are laying up store for a retribution that the Party will certainly one day (and who knows how soon!) mete out to one and all, while in the meantime their real purpose will fail. The Socialist Labor Party will not be chicaned out of its rights, nor cowed by Crookdom. Let the wrongfulness of these proceedings be piled up; the higher the pile, the sooner it will break the back of the malefactors engaged at it.

In the meantime, we repeat: The Socialist Labor Party is not an Anarchist concern; it recognizes the need of order and of acquiescence in the decrees of justice. In the fair and open warfare of a trial of what it asserts and holds to be its rights, it would certainly bow before defeat, however unmerited, and seek redress through proper channels. Accordingly, the Party courts now, as it has for ten months, the settlement of the issue as to the rightful ownership of this paper’s name by a trial in which the issue is directly joined with the Party. For the same reason, however, the Party will not yield an inch to the Anarchistic tactics of avoiding the direct issue and reaching the point by indirection and fraud. Hence the Party challenges whatever foe be honest to a combat in the open, and the gauge of battle—THE PEOPLE’S name—will continue unterrified to dare whomsoever chooses to an honorable trial of strength.

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To the wise the above is ample information. Rush the funds for THE DAILY PEOPLE!!

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

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