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EDITORIAL

THE CASE OF EICHMANN.

By DANIEL DE LEON

WITH the frank and full confession of Justice Morris Eichmann, published last week in these columns, there now only remains to sum up the case for future reference whenever occasion may require, as it surely and frequently will.

During the municipal campaign, in West Hoboken, N.J., early this year, Mr. Eichmann, a member of the Kangaroo Social Democracy, appeared as a candidate for Justice, not of his party only, sailing under the colors of “Socialism,” but also of the three capitalist parties that appeared on the field—Republican, Democratic and “Citizens’ Union.” The DAILY PEOPLE of April 10 and the WEEKLY PEOPLE of April 20 promptly grabbed the fraud by the throat editorially, and held it up to public execration.¹

It booted not that the rat crew squirmed and yelled, and through its organs hurled imprecations at THE PEOPLE. It booted not that the rat crew doubled and twisted and sought to escape by raising dust. THE PEOPLE held its course, as it always does, and followed up the castigation with further articles, notably the Uncle Sam and Brother Jonathan in the DAILY PEOPLE of April 14, tearing down all the false pretences that were raised to cover the exposed act. It booted not. The rat crew felt the effect. They turned upon one another. Finally, unwilling to be made a scapegoat, Eichmann gives the snap away. His confession shows that the corrupt deal was the work of the whole organization, and that his fellow criminals, being exposed along with himself by THE PEOPLE sought to clear their skirts at his expense. At this he gagged, and the result is the confession he makes. Nor is there little zest added thereto by the light in which two notorious and malodorous Kangaroo Social Democrats, Pankopf and Krafft, are by name placed in the confession.

As this affair is now complete, the remarks are particularly appropriate with

¹ [See “Exhibit 3,” *Daily People*, April 10, 1901.]

which the said article in the DAILY PEOPLE summed up the West Hoboken link in which the Kangaroo Social Democratic chain of which Haverhill Armory building, Worcester and Rochester log-rolling with the Democratic party, Cleveland, Sheboygan and San Francisco capitalist job-seekers are so many kindred links.

The DAILY PEOPLE said:

“The time is on when the thinking portion of the land must understand that it is bound to exercise the same judgment when it chooses a political party as when it chooses a coat. No thinking man will take any salesman’s words; he will examine for himself. He does so because experience has taught him that business is swindle. Experience—as amply illustrated, and now comprobated by the exhibit of the Social Democracy of West Hoboken,—teaches that the capitalist class has introduced into their politics the chicanery that they practice in their shops. As they advertise their shoddy for ‘all wool,’ as they advertise their stone-dust for flour, as they deal in fraudulent fires and failures, so likewise do they act in politics. Politics are the means by which they barricade themselves in power; by the aid of politics they entrench themselves behind the guns—legislative and executive, as well as military—to preserve their usurped authority. Politics is the breath in their nostrils. This breath is endangered by the awakening sense of the Working Class, and its organization by the S.L.P. In view of this, the Capitalist Class recognizes that the flypaper quality of its own old-time parties is losing its sticking power. The workingmen voters are naturally gravitating towards the S.L.P. This, if carried too far, means the death of capitalism. Under such conditions, a shoddy Socialism, a fraudulent Socialism, a Socialist party, that uses S.L.P. expressions, but that practices capitalist infamy, is needed as a shield for the Capitalist Class. Thus birth is given to the Kangaroo Social Democracy, that cribs the S.L.P., while in practice it builds armories for the capitalists, grants them franchises, accepts jobs and money from them, and harmoniously log-rolls with their candidates.

“Let the exhibition furnished by West Hoboken, be a sign-post to guide the workingmen in the picking of their way through the labyrinthian ways of the nation’s politics.

“[N.B.—The four official tickets, betraying the connection between the outspoken parties of capital and their Social Democratic stool-pigeon, are for inspection in this office.]”

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

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