

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 10, NO. 326.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 22, 1910.

TWO CENTS.

EDITORIAL

EUSAPIAN, OR THEODORIAN?

By DANIEL DE LEON

LOUDLY are the rumblings still heard of the alleged exposure of the celebrated spiritualist medium Eusapia Palladino; and, simultaneously, the subject that seems to have seized the public fancy most forcibly in Mr. Roosevelt's procession through Europe is the scene of himself and the Kaiser watching the sham fight of 12,000 soldiers from the heights of Mill Hill near Potsdam.

By providential accident the two events coincided—and greatly they illumine each other.

Eusapia, who claims to levitate tables, to produce breaths, and to materialize departed souls, is said to have been “caught at her tricks,” and learned professors and dapper reporters are full of “explanations” of what they term the false pretences of Eusapia, while equally enthusiastic upholders of the medium sing her praises and swear by her sincerity.—This much for Eusapia.

Theodore, our own Theodore, Theodore I, otherwise known as Theodore Roosevelt, the winner of the Nobel prize as a “peacemaker,” and fresh from a visit to the Scandinavian capital from which the prize was awarded him, is reported to have “shouted with joy,” at the spectacle of 12,000 men going through the evolutions of slaughter.

Who is the sham—Eusapia, the alleged “table-tipper,” or Theodore, the alleged “peace maker”? And, looking from the central figures to their admirers, what name should this age bear? Shall it be called Eusapian or the Theodorian Age? Either name will designate fittingly the Age of Sham—of Humbugger and Humbugges.

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Uploaded May 2011

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