

# The People.

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SECOND EDITORIAL

## A SIGNAL SURRENDER.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**T**he Socialist Labor Party is able to report a signal surrender to which it has just forced the *Volkszeitung* Corporation.

It will be remembered that, on last July 14, that Corporation initiated legal proceedings looking to the plunder of the Party. It will also be remembered that the Party triumphantly resisted the attempt, and blocked the Corporation's contemplated theft of the Party's organ. Once dragged into Court, the Party did not rest satisfied with a mere defensive posture; it took the aggressive; and it carried the war into Africa by means of the very Courts that the Corporation itself had sought to smite the Party with. The result was seven law suits started against the Corporation. Two of these were of such nature that they could be immediately pressed; and in both the Corporation was lassoed and brought down, preliminarily to as complete a come-down in all the others.

The first was a suit for moneys given to the Corporation as trustee for the Party by Comrade MAX FORKER. The defection of the *Volkszeitung*, and its immediate expulsion from the Party, deprived it of all rights in such moneys,—\$228. These moneys were sued for; the Corporation tried to escape; failed,—and was forced to pay up like a little gentleman.

The second surrender took place eleven days ago. It was infinitely more significant than the first. At the time that the *Volkszeitung* was expelled from the Party, the former held, under some previous agreement, a number of *Socialist Almanacs*, a valuable Party publication, compiled by LUCIEN SANIAL. This fact was discovered only last January. Suit was immediately instituted for this Party property. The Corporation, with characteristic dishonesty and stupidity, tried a characteristically stupid and dishonest dodge. It answered that it recognized the debt, but that there were two National Executive Committees of the S.L.P. (!!); that both were making the demand, and it could not tell which was the right one (!!);

and that it was ready to deposit the property in Court. But the dodge did not work. The Corporation was pushed to the wall, and was forced to surrender unconditionally. Despite its claim—SWORN TO, be it remembered,—that there were “two N.E.C.’s of the S.L.P.,” and that “it could not tell which was the right one,” it meekly surrendered on Wednesday, the 9th instant{,} at the headquarters of the S.L.P., 61 Beekman street, the *Almanacs* that it still held, 280 in all, and \$60.72 in payment of those that it had disposed of, besides all the costs of the case.

There will be no let up on this outpost of reaction and corruption. One after another it will have to swallow its own oaths, till its surrender to the Socialist Labor Party, that it sought to betray, will be complete, and the path of the Movement will be clear of such rubbish.

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