

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 11, NO. 19.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, JULY 19, 1910.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

ALL “RIGHT WING.”

By DANIEL DE LEON

NO sane man, if he is honorable, no honorable man, if he is sane, will judge a Democrat, or a Republican, by what the other says of his party. Each must be judged by what he himself says and does. It is so with the Milwaukee Social Democratic party and its Socialist party at large. Never mind what the Milwaukee Republican and Democratic candidates said during the recent campaign in their city about the S.D.P. What did the S.D.P. itself say, and what are it and its S.P. at large saying and doing? That is more to the point.

From Milwaukee S.D.P. sources the country is informed that the new administration is going to furnish the city with clean streets.—Dirty streets is not a cardinal feature of capitalism.

The country is informed that the new administration is going to see to proper tenement-house inspection.—Rat holes for people is not a fundamental principle with capitalism.

The country is informed that the new administration will put an end to graft at the City Hall.—Without graft capitalism could live, love, laugh and enjoy life.

The country is informed that the new administration will render the Cream City a lovely place to live in.—The rise of land values with the consequent rise in rent is no fatality to capitalism.

The new administration promises to lower fares.—Cheap living is not only not a thing that capitalism objects to, it positively dotes upon the same.

The new administration promises free music in the parks.—Capitalism is no foe to music.

And so forth; and so forth; and so forth.

While clean streets, decent homes, absence of graft, a pretty city, low fares, music on tap, etc., etc., etc., are all of them things that do not deny capitalism,

neither must it be denied that they contribute to the amenities of life; that, as such, they are desirable; being desirable, they are worth striving for; and that, striven for and obtained by men who look upon them simply as stepping stones for a far more valuable goal, they are aidful in the attainment of the same. Accordingly, a program made up of such good things as the Milwaukee S.D.P. promises, may be legitimately part of a revolutionary Socialist Movement, constituting the extreme “Right Wing” to a “Center” and extreme “Left Wing” of a body on the march to the overthrow of Capitalism.

The feature of the S.D.P. is that, together with the whole of the S.P., it is “Right Wing” only. Thus the whole party is all “Right Wing”—a monstrous lame duck.

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Uploaded July 2011

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