

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPH

{DE LEONISTIC TACTICS.}

By DANIEL DE LEON

A COLLECTION of ladies and gentlemen—members of the Socialist party who are against the motion, now before the S.P., for the removal of Haywood from the National Executive on the ground of alleged violations of the party's constitution—have signed a resolution of protest in which they designate the proceedings against Haywood as the reviving of “De Leonistic tactics of personal incrimination, heresy-hunting and disruption.” Why did these ladies and gentlemen stop short at “disruption,” and did not complete the description of “De Leonistic tactics” by adding: “embezzling the funds of a bank in Argentina,” “furnishing scabs to the Davis shop for pay,” “denying that he was an adopted son of the Seligmans and that he was cast off by them for being a bad egg,” “plagiarism,” “denying that he is a Jew, when he is one,” “claiming that he is a Jew when he is none,” “burning with enviousness of anyone who shows any ability,” “denying that he is a Guayana Indian,” “owning the *Daily People* while claiming that the paper is party-owned,” “intriguing with French Anarchists to disrupt the German Social Democracy,” “scheming unity with the S.P. for the purpose of blowing it up,” “being an Anarchist in disguise,” “stealing the *Volkszeitung's* property,” “going out West to conspire with the gold mine owners to scuttle the Western Federation of Miners,” “writing letters [stated by the maker of the charge that he has the letters in his safe] to the cigar manufacturer Seidenberg offering to supply him with scabs,” “receiving money from Tom Platt”—all of which definitions have been made of “De Leonistic tactics” by members of the S.P. Much is lost by the present truncated rendition of the definition. For one thing, “De Leonism” is not presented in the full-orbed splendor of the conception; for another thing, the truncated rendition deprives

the ultimate consumer of the delight of a full view of the mental physiognomy of the ladies and gentlemen who truncated.

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