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EDITORIAL

## EMULATING '48.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**U**NDER the title “Behind the Curtain” will be found elsewhere in this issue a document of not a little interest to all those who realize the importance of “seeing the trees” in the woods.<sup>1</sup> The document testifies to the fact that the move of the Volkszeitung Corporation in passing its English poodle, *The Worker*, over to its party in this State was, not a result of a conversion to the necessary Socialist policy of party-ownership of its own press, but a scheme to sicken the *Volkszeitung* “partei” against the Socialist policy of controlling its own press. Of course, there was a little more to this that Manager Krafft did not let out. The full story is that *The Worker* has long been dead. Rather than have the poodle die on its, the Corporation’s{,} hands, the Corporation decided to pass the corpse over to the “partei”; when the “partei” would finally drop the thing, then, the Corporation could draw the advantage of claiming that party-ownership did the killing. Essentially the Krafft story is, nevertheless, correct. It is in the correctness of the story that lies the real moral.

Whenever, driven from ditch after ditch, a capitalist defender of Capitalism and assailer of Socialism finds he has no further arguments, the trump card he plays is the “fiasco of the workingmen’s shops during the French revolution of 1848.” The fiasco consisted simply in that the bourgeois government pretended to yield to the Socialistic demands of the workers, and these, still green on many a thing, fell into the trap of accepting as Socialistic a sop which the bourgeois government took, and was bound to take particular care in turning into a bitter fruit. The workingmen’s establishments proved utter “failures”—as utter “failures” as Dumas are proving under an autocratic ruler—and as utter a “failure” as party-ownership of its own

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<sup>1</sup> [To be appended at a future date.—R.B.]

press will be turned into by the machinations of the *Volkszeitung* agents in the Corporation “partei.”

Imitation or emulation is the test of admiration. The *Volkszeitung* Corporation, to the core a bourgeois concern gotten up to turn pennies by hook or by crook; the *Volkszeitung* Corporation, so deep-dyed in the bourgeois sentiment of racial hatreds that it pronounces “the Irish corrupt to the marrow” and the “Americans hopelessly stupid and corrupt”; the *Volkszeitung* Corporation, so bourgeois-like hypocritic that, while claiming to aim at the promotion of the working class, is but a rounder for the “bulwark of capitalism” in America, the A.F. of L. craft unions, and a sharer with the “labor lieutenants of the capitalist class” in the plunder these levy upon the rank and file;—what wonder that, according to the admission of its own high paid pensionary, Manager Krafft, the Corporation has started to emulate the French bourgeois of 1848 within its own “partei”?

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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[slpns@slp.org](mailto:slpns@slp.org)