

VOL. IX, NO. 3

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1899

PRICE 2 CENTS

ARTICLE

## SIGN-POSTS

(Supplemental)

## **By DANIEL DE LEON**

t the last meeting of the Volkszeitung Publishing Association several things happened that should be brought to the notice of the party membership, supplementary to the information conveyed in the report of the previous meeting.

In the first place, the Association carried out its theory of its being the superior and the Party the inferior body. As reported before, Leib, who objected to being called to account by the party for his conduct in the Association brought at the previous meeting charges against Hugo Vogt, the Editor of the Party's German organ, for his action as a Party member in the General Committee of Section New York. The matter was referred to a committee to investigate. At the last meeting the committee reported, recommending that a severe censure be administered to Vogt. The motion was carried.

The committee must have entertained some misgivings upon the propriety of their conduct. To cure the defect they resorted to a unique devise, by themselves proposing a vote of confidence TO THEMSELVES. The identical report that recommended the censure of Vogt, recommended also a motion pronouncing the committeemen active members in good standing in the Party. (N.B.—The committee consisted of Herstein, who had demanded tolerance for Anarchists; Simon, who had stated the Association should emancipate itself from the Party and rescind its contract with the Party to publish THE PEOPLE; and Schneppe, who pronounced himself utterly at variance with the Party trade union tactics.) The motion was carried.

Finally, Justus Schwab moved that the salaries of the Editors of THE PEOPLE and

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the *Vorwaerts* be reduced to one quarter. He called upon those who had voted with him along with the majority not to throw away their victory; he regretted he could not lay the axe on Henry Kuhn, the Party's National Secretary also, but that the National Editors were in their power, and should have the axe laid to them. The motion was laid upon the table. That the motion was not of insignificance may be conjectured from the circumstance that, in its report of that meeting, the *Volkszeitung* deliberately suppressed all mention of THE PEOPLE in Schwab's motion.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America. Uploaded July 2004