EDITORIAL

KATZ ON THE BREACH.

By DANIEL DE LEON

ONE can read the plea made in court by Rudolph Katz—the leader of the I.W.W. strike in Paterson, and nominee of the Socialist Labor Party for Congress, arrested and sentenced to a 6 months’ term in jail for picketing—without profound gratification.

The firm and dignified and pregnant words of Katz, free from the swagger and insolence that mark the rage of the weak, marked, in turn, the moral strength that comes from manfulness, fortified with knowledge, and knowledge, fortified with manfulness.

The arrest of Katz was illegal; his trial was a farce; the sentence a miscarriage of justice;—the whole performance a conspiracy. Katz knew that.

The truths that Col. Roosevelt is, for his own private ends, blustering out regarding “predatory wealth” and its political aids; the equal truths that Gov. Woodrow Wilson is proclaiming, likewise for his own private ends, in more scholastic style against the identical bunch; the undigested indictments that both are hurling at present conditions;—all this Rudolph Katz knows all about; all this he could amplify a thousand-fold; what is more, he has thoroughly digested.

With such digested knowledge, Katz clearly saw through the stage-scenery of Recorder Carroll’s court-room; realized the same to be, for the nonce, but the back-yard of the firm of Siff & Cohen; sized up the star actors as manikins of the firm; knew in advance what the “verdict” would be;—nor had any doubt as to who had framed-up and ordered the same.

A mental or physical cripple would have gone to pieces under the provocation. Katz controlled himself. Every sentence of his plea was a shot that went home: “If there was any law broken, the police authorities did it”; “If I am convicted, it will be an injustice”; “I know why I was arrested; it was simply because the interests of Siff
& Cohen were at stake; Siff no sooner came on the scene than he said to Sergeant Nolan: ‘Arrest him and give him ninety days!’; “I maintain I had a right to do what I did, and will do it again, it is within the law”;—of these and similar firm and dignified utterances, breathing conscious ascendancy, consisted the plea of Katz, as he serenely looked in the court room over the heads of the agencies of the Capitalist Class, and saw the proletariat mass beyond; the Class for whom he stood and whom to scourge he was to be victimized, drilling to overthrow at the polls the Class the breath in whose nostrils is Working Class suffering, and to enforce the overthrow at the hustings with the power of the industrial organization.
TRIPPING THEM UP

AND THINGS IN CAPITALIST WORLD EXPOSED,

WEALTHY WOMAN Puts UP at National Merchandise Exchange, GIVES Hat Full of Tomedos to a Little Boys.

The new generally disseminated legend of the uncles being sons of a famous Pope will surely be received by Mrs. Marie Lefler. The story, according to which she is the impoverished, wet-nursed brother of St. Peter, is regarded as one of the verities of our time.

A glimpse into the fix that the Socialist party is in through its inability to give the people a clear picture of its program of work, the Socialist party is in the process of giving the people a clear picture of its program of work. The Socialist party is in the process of giving the people a clear picture of its program of work.

THE WORKERS INTO DUELS OF EMPIRE.