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EDITORIAL

## WAR!

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**T**HE A.F. of L. *Volkszeitung* has declined the overture which the attorney of the Socialist Labor Party took it upon himself to make to the former Social Democratic party, and the purport of which was that both sides pledge themselves to guarantee the other's name. The ex-S.D.P. declined. It thereby has been forced to come from cover.

The language that the *Volkszeitung* Corporation has been holding through its press was that the proceedings instituted against it for assuming the name of "Socialist" were an attempt on the part of the S.D.P. to fish in troubled waters, and a case of wilful recourse to capitalist courts. The purpose of these claims on the part of the Corporation was to fish for the sympathy of the sentimentalists. Lawyer Patterson's overture called their bluff. The Corporation's mask has dropped. The initial step against it by the S.L.P. is thus proven to have proceeded from a correct estimate of the Corporation. Its attempt to assume the name of "Socialist" was, just what the S.L.P. had surmised—an underhanded and deceitful way of trying to steal a march upon the Party, and by such trickery gain a position from which it could steal the Party's name, after having ignominiously failed to do so six years ago. The silly head of the Corporation was turned by the immaterial decision of the Board of Elections, it "got its shirt off" and considered itself so safe that it could dare the S.L.P., expecting that the untterrified S.L.P. which had whipped it all along the line, and will yet mop the earth with its corrupt A.F. of Hellism, had been cowed at last. In short the Corporation chose war—AND WAR IT SHALL HAVE.

The decision of the Board of Elections was wholly inconsequential. The case will be appealed to the Supreme Court and the case which the Corporation instituted before the Secretary of State for the Second Judiciary nominations will be contested. Even the decisions of these latter tribunals, should they be adverse to the S.L.P.,

will be of no special value: the issue will be carried to the Court of Appeals next year, where the real issue will be decided for the whole State. The Volkszeitung Corporation party having acquired its official status through a false name has no standing whatever; the Socialist Labor Party having been in existence and on the ballot ever since 1890 without excepting a single year has rights which neither the Volkszeitung Corporation, nor any other marauding party can usurp.

They want war? They shall be accommodated, once more. War it shall be. No monkeying with the buzz-saw of the Fighting S.L.P.!

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