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EDITORIAL

GORKY'S HIT.

By DANIEL DE LEON

CONCLUDING from the report in *The People* of Gorky's address on "The Jewish Question", and a personal report to this office, made by one who was present and understands Russian, the talented Russian revolutionist and writer scored a decided point for the Cause of Progress. The characterization of anti-Semitism as a manifestation of the class struggle, and the confident prediction of its utter extinction, are bull's eyes.

Well has it been pointed out that the spirit of immorality dwells of necessity in a ruling class, together with its menials. Every aspiration that makes for a nobler relation of man to man is sneered and jeered by the capitalist class. It can not otherwise. Nobility of sentiment is a reproach to the vampire class that to-day rules the world. As with the capitalist in general, so with all subdivisions of society that are inspired by kindred sentiments. The hatred of race for race, of creed for creed—any hatred, in fact, that will so divide the people as to render easier the living of the hatred-preachers is essential to class-rule. It is a manifestation of class-rule. To classify anti-Semitism under this category is a stroke of genius.

Anti-Semitism, like class-rule, can not prevail. As class-rule is doomed, so is anti-Semitism—and for the same reason. The race of man will break through the barriers that accident has raised, and private interest has cultivated. Mechanical progress destroys the accidents, the Social Revolution will abolish the private interest. Anti-Semitism will vanish with both—along with the oppression of the working class—aye, because of the abolition of such oppression.

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