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EDITORIAL

FALKENDORPH—WITH A DIFFERENCE.

By DANIEL DE LEON

HENRY FALKENDORPH, an animal trainer, now has thirty-five stitches in his scalp and a good and thorough shaking up as a result of over-confidence. He was sure he possessed infallible means, in his hissing lash and red-hot pokers, to tame the powerful animals of the desert whom he made his living out of.

There are lots of Falkendorphs. There are lots of persons who think that the lash of hunger and the red-hot irons of material want will forever suffice to keep the people dumb and obedient as they go through their daily performance in the interest of their exploiters.

There are the Falkendorphs of the Gov. Sparks of Nevada type, who by misrepresentation succeed in getting the aid of the U.S. militiamen to force illegal and worthless money upon their employees.

There are the Falkendorphs of the Paper Trust type, which in a lengthy statement plumes itself on the fact that during the crisis it has not cut wages; but which almost silently passes over the fact that it laid off completely half its workers, thus not cutting, but altogether wiping out their wages.

There are the Falkendorphs of the Connecticut Railway and Lighting Company, which in anticipation of a strike, compels its union motormen and conductors to break in and train the strikebreakers intended to take their places.

There are the Falkendorphs of the Carnegie type, who permits such things to go on in his iron works as men being sent to work in unsafe furnaces, in constant risk of the fiery death which constantly menaces them and often overtakes them.

There are the Falkendorphs of the Georgia and Tennessee type, who rent convicts from the State as they would mules from a livery stable, and treat them in a way they would never dare treat a mule owned by a stableman, so that the

convicts often die of exhaustion and brutal handling.

There are Falkendorphs of many styles and varieties, but the Falkendorph fate awaits them all. The object of their exploitation have all the love of life and of liberty surging strong in their veins, awaiting the opportune moment to end the tragic comedy.

But between Falkendorph and his peers is a difference: He, as a result of his career, met the teeth and claws of his former subjects. The Falkendorphs, of modern society will meet but the organized will of the working class, that they cease their exploitation and go to work like honest men.

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