

“The Latest Rumor” (April 1872)

Abstract

“Bankruptcy is coming!” [“Die Pleite kommt!”] In alarmist fashion, this caption conflates the economic setbacks and political scandals of the “Founding Era” [Gründerzeit] of 1871 to 1873. The panic depicted here is allegedly the result of “swindles” by banks, joint-stock companies, building societies, railway entrepreneurs, and stock exchange dealers. In the original German, the title of this image, “Das jüngste Gerücht” [“The Latest Rumor”], was a pun on the German term for “Judgment Day” [“das jüngste Gericht”]. It was published in the satirical journal *Berliner Wespen* in April 1872.

Source



Source: “Die Pleite kommt!” [“Bankruptcy is coming!”]. Caricature from *Berliner Wespen* (April 26, 1872). bpk-Bildagentur, image number 30002791. For rights inquiries, please contact Art Resource at requests@artres.com (North America) or bpk-Bildagentur at kontakt@bpk-bildagentur.de (for all other countries).

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