

A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION OF SOCIALISM.

In order to gain a more comprehensive view of Socialism in its present state, it will be well to notice at the outset that there are several distinct organizations known under different names, but all of them coming under the general head of Socialism. For the purpose of this work it will not be necessary to attempt giving the history of each of these divisions; I will merely state the titles under which they can severally be recognized, but it should be borne in mind that Socialism in Great Britain is divided into two general groups, viz., Evolutionary and Revolutionary.

In the Evolutionary group we find:

1. The "Fabian Society."
2. The Independent Labor Party.
3. The Labor Party.
4. The Clarion Organizations (Clarion Scouts, etc.)

In the Revolutionary group we have:

1. The Social Democratic Federation, and
2. The Socialist Party of Great Britain.

It should also be borne in mind that although the sections may differ from each other in many minor matters connected with Socialist doctrines, they are all agreed upon and subscribe to a fundamental basis which is common to all.

In order to gain a still closer view of the Socialist doctrines as a whole and the methods by which they carry on their work it will be advisable to examine somewhat in detail the working basis of one or two of the named organizations.

We will first take the Fabian Society, one of the Evolutionary group. It was founded in 1883 and has ever since played a prominent part in social and political movements in England.

Mr. Bliss, one of the leading Socialist historians of this Society, says: "Ten years ago the characteristic note of the London workingmen's clubs was one of negative Radicalism. Today it is one of positive Collectivism. Many trades Unions belong to it (the Society). Equally successful has the Society been in politics. By manifestos, tracts, and articles in papers and magazines, a Socialist programme has been placed before the political public, and the two great parties have been led to seek votes by adopting portion after portion of this programme. There are now over fifty local Fabian Societies to be found in the most important Eng-