

WITH THE SOCIALISTS

The Personality, Aims and Hopes of a Rapidly Increasing Party

The Coming Man

Ah, not for the great departed,
Who formed our country's laws,
And not for the bravest hearted
Who died in freedom's cause;
And not for some living hero
To whom all bow the knee.
My muse would raise her song of praise
But for the man to be.

For out of the strife which woman
Is passing through today
A man that is more than human
Will yet be born I say.
A man in whose pure spirit
No dross of self will lurk,
A man whose strong to cope with wrong
A man who is proud to work.

A man with hope undaunted,
A man with a godlike power,
Shall come when he most is wanted,
Shall come at the needed hour.
He shall silence the din and clamor
Of clan disputing clan,
And toil's long fight and purse-proud
might

Shall triumph through this man.
I know he is coming, coming
To help, to guide, to save,
Though I hear no martial drumming,
And see no flags that wave.
But the great soul-travail of woman
And the bold free thought unfurled
Are heralds to say he is on the way,
The coming man of the world.

Mourn not for vanished ages
With their great, heroic men,
Who dwell in history's pages
And live in the poets pen.
For the grandest times are before us
And the world is yet to see
The noblest worth of this old earth
In the men that are to be.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

A COMMON IDEA

A common idea of the Socialist, an idea which is happily passing, is that the Socialist is a wide-eyed individual, with tangled beard, whose chief occupation is to wave red flags and to throw bombs. This individual is presumed to have nothing and to desire to acquire by force the savings which the workers have laboriously earned.

It is needless to say that this idea is erroneous. There are two fundamental ideas underlying Socialism. These two ideas are the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God, and the earth for the workers.

Civilized humanity gives an intellectual assent to these two propositions. But when the Socialist seek to carry these two theoretical ideas into actual practice those who are not trying to practice them raise a great outcry and draw horrible pictures of the imaginary Socialist.

Socialism is a generic term like Democracy. When the idea of Democracy was first broached in its modern form, there was the same outcry on the part of kings, nobles and rulers as there is at present against Socialism and just as Democracy has triumphed to a greater or less extent over absolute kingship, so Socialism will triumph to a greater or less degree over industrial anarchy or absolutism.

DIFFERENT KINDS OF SOCIALISM

The cry is raised against socialism that the Socialists do not know what they want. We hear of the Fabians, the Impossibleists, the Revisionists, the Immediate Demands Party; we hear of the Christian Socialist and the Socialist that belongs to a Godless party and the conclusion is hastily reached that the party is absolutely disunited and that therefore, it is quite impossible to hope for the ultimate success of Socialist ideals.

The same argument was raised against Democratic ideas among the rulers before the French Revolution and to-day although the Democratic form of government is firmly established, nevertheless we find a great diversity in Democratic forms of government in different countries and we also find a great diversity of political opinion among persons who are absolutely convinced as to the benefits conferred upon humanity by the overthrow of the ancient forms of absolute government.

The whole tendency of modern political thought towards Socialism although in no country have the Socialists captured

the reins of power. As the socialists are endeavoring to put into practice a theoretical form of government it is only natural that many visionary persons should put forth views which would prove to be impracticable in actual political experience. All new movements have their visionary leaders and Socialism is a new movement.

ECONOMIC THEORIES

Carl Marx, the German economist, is the founder of the modern socialist movement. He wrote at a time when Adam Smith was considered as having said the last word in his wealth of nations upon economic topics. Carl Marx's philosophy is opposed to that of Adam Smith and was ridiculed at the time of production.

Adam Smith based his theory upon competition and the idea that things right themselves. He believed that in the struggle for business prices should be kept down to the cost of production and that any government interference with trade, either by monopoly or protection, was harmful. Adam Smith lived in an age of the small trader and keen competition and he took a passing phase of economic life as an eternal condition of human endeavor.

Carl Marx on the other hand, foresaw that the struggle for trade would one day disappear. He predicted greater and greater combinations of capital. He foresaw that the little man in trade was doomed to defeat. In short he recognized that the old struggle for power was to be worked out in the industrial world and that the great mass of workers would toil for the luxury of the few in the world of trade and that princes of industry would replace the old nobility and just as the old nobility had to be dethroned in politics so the princes of industry would eventually have to be dethroned in the same manner. If the workers were not to live in hovels or slums his doctrines must prevail.

Chicago 1908

The daily papers have had many accounts about the school children going hungry to school, and the following poem refers to it.

A pint of milk on the doorstep, a school-girl hurrying by—
But, oh, the flame of hunger that flared in her hollow eye!

A glance at the street and windows, a hand that flashed out and fell—
And the school-girls theft meant a cat bereft, and a soul on its way to hell.

What holds the golden future for her who must steal to eat,
Save rank with the little sisters who live by the unnamed street?

Oh, Gods of the full-fed, call it the prayer of a witless fool—
But whose the hand that may so command the soul of a girl at school?

H. B. Jones.

A Hint to Agitators

Here is a story that may be useful at the present time. When the Great Central railway was digging its big line from London to the north of England, the management had its inevitable labor troubles. The lazy good-for-nothing, chronic grumbler was there of course—every mile or two along the way.

I remember one of the engineers and myself having a long talk about political economy and labor saving devices. He clinched every possible argument as follows, in saying:

"I stood beside a gang of laborers, some skilled, some not, come from God knows where, but we had to get the work done. Near by was a great

steam shovel scooping out tons of earth.

"The chronic grumbler said to a fellow worker. 'Ain't it a shame, George, to shovel dirt that way?'"

"How so?" said George, a much younger man and an out-of-work clerk.

"Why, that there machine is taking the bread out of the mouths of 500 men that would be wanted to do the work with hand shovels."

"George laughed.

"Go on he said, 'you don't reason right. Look here if stopping steam digging would give work to 500 men with shovels, why not get 5,000 men to do the job with teaspoons?'"

THE LOOTING OF AMERICA

Morgan has more money in art and antiquities than any plutocrat of Rome possessed.

John D. Rockefeller's annual income is larger than the largest fortune of ancient Rome.

Alexander gained less by his conquest of the east than the Vanderbilt family has squeezed from the American people.

Cortez did not despoil Montezuma of such great treasure as Jay Gould took from Americans in his railway speculations.

Warren Hastings did not despoil Hindustan of as great treasure as Ryan and Belmont looted from the traction lines of New York.

Lucullus spent \$8,500 on a single feast and was considered extravagant, but now that much is often spent for the matter of flowers at swell parties.

Caesar when he conquered Gaul did not secure as great a tribute as J. P. Morgan secured from manipulation of the stocks of the Central Railway of Georgia.

Sylla levied a tribute of \$25,000,000 on the conquered cities of Greece, but the sugar trust in one year levied a greater tribute than that on the people of the United States.

Pizarro did not secure by torture of the Incas of Peru as much as Harriman has recently gotten from the people of America, and the sufferings entailed by his work exceed the sufferings that Pizarro inflicted.

Cleopatra dissolved in wine a pearl valued at \$400,000 and the world wondered at her wicked extravagance but in New York it is comparatively common to squander as much at a supper and nothing is thought of it.

DUTY

The sweetest lives are those to duty wed,
Whose deeds, both great and small,
Are close knit strands of an unbroken thread.

Where love ennobles all,
The world may sound no trumpet, ring no bells;
The book of life the shining record tells.

Thy love shall chant its own beatitudes
After its own life-working. A child's kiss
Set on thy singing lips, shall make thee glad;

A poor man served by thee shall make thee rich;
A sick man helped by thee shall make thee strong;
Thou shalt be served thyself by every sense
Of service which thou renderest.

Browning.

Politics is mighty fine
If you can get it in line,
Sailin' onward, at your ease,
Same as in a summer breeze.

Sometimes there will come a squall,
But the harm it does is small;
Some harsh words an' repartee—
Then all quiet as kin be.

Once you are a candidate,
Peerless leader, proud an' great,
Then your future is assured:
An' your place in life secured:
Got a good job if you win;
If you don't, you run ag'in!

Kindness is contagious. The spirit of harmony trickles down by a thousand secret channels into the inmost recesses of the household life. It is hard to be angry in the presence of imperturbable good nature. It is well nigh impossible to be morose in the face of a cheerful and generous helpfulness.—Henry Van Dyke.

Oh, idle rich,
Of idle ways,
The means by which
You pass your days
Makes many a guy
With anger throb,
And wish, Oh, my!
He had your job.

Don't lay away the things you don't need. Sell them. Put a little ad. in THE OBSERVER. Somebody else wants them.

GOOD BITS

From the Little Old "Appeal."

Small minds have great prejudices.

Life is a grind with a majority of people, and the result is a lot of sharpers.

Socialism will make it so every man and every woman may have and own a home.

Roosevelt is so sure that Socialism has been demolished that it is announced his first editorial utterance after he leaves the white house will be a jab at the corpse.

If the German kaiser were to join Roosevelt in his big African hunt, it would be a genteel way of getting rid of two desirable citizens who are a burden on the people because of overgrown tongues.

Mr. Carnegie is out in an interview in which he declares that at the death of rich people their fortunes should be dissipated by taxation. Anidy means this—as an advertisement for a new book he is having published.

It is reported that the kaiser has recently been fleeced good and plenty by an American wild-cat mining concern. American business has no respect for royalty. Just as no thoughtful man has any respect for American business.

Wise kings are going into commercial life as being more profitable than the king business. The emperor of Siam has recently granted himself a monopoly of the opium trade in Siam, and can proceed to coin money and kill his subjects on a far greater scale than formerly.

One of the best evidences of a revival of business is the new dreadnaught, the North Dakota battle ship, that has been launched since election. If business will not come otherwise we can send the mighty nimrod, Roosevelt, out, and let him shoot the thing and drag it back by the tail.

The superintendent of the charities commission of Cleveland, Ohio, declares that the average wage of the woman workers of the city is \$4.43 per week, and their average necessary expense is \$5. This is the capitalist conspiracy against home and marriage, in a nutshell.

Peepul who lack nolege have opinions. The wust thing about a Dogg iz, He don't care if he iz.

Men who blow their own Horns always inkore thairselfes.
A lie well stuck to beats a truth nobody keers about.

Every man likes too brag that he has maid sum uth'er feller a success.

George God Baer, head of the anthracite trust, who recently claimed that he had a deed from Deity for all the anthracite in the country, yet failed to put it on record, has been talking since election, which is another evidence of a revival of republican funny business. He merely said: "Why shouldn't I fix the price of coal? Ain't I the president of the Reading Coal and Iron company?" That ought to be conclusive.

The Appeal has a picture of an out-of-work procession in London. Two of the mottoes that show clearly are: "work or riot—one or the other," and "Work, starve or steal—which is it to be?" The men in procession are chiefly noticeable for two things, their youth and evident intelligence. The situation must indeed be bad when they will make such demonstrations as these. In a recent demonstration, it is reported, they carried at the head a skeleton clothed in the English flag, with the motto, "Shall we starve in the midst of plenty?"

Charity

Upton Sinclair, in an address before a body of Chicago Socialists, said of charity:

"The average charity, the charity of the rich, seems rather futile to me. The rich oppress the poor enormously, then they help them slightly. It is like the young lady angler.

"Why," said a man to this young lady, "do you always carry a bottle of liniment with you on your fishing excursions?"

She sighed.
"I am so sorry," she said plaintively, "for the poor little fish. And so when I take one off the hook I always rub its cut mouth with some liniment."

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