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CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

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## THE WANDERLUST

GERALD DESMOND

All thro' the years that are past and gone,

Since I was a child,  
The wanderlust has spurred me on,  
I have heard the call of the wild.  
Today I rest, but not for long,  
Travel soon I must.

The distance sings its luring song;  
I feel the wanderlust.

'Tis may be drop of gypsy blood  
Somehow has come to me;  
To beckon over fell and flood,  
To call o'er land and sea.

May be from old Phoenician sprung,  
A reckless, roving strain  
Of impulse, down the ages flung,  
In me crops up again.

May be some Viking staunch and stout,  
Rover of ancient days,

Through me still sends his spirit out  
To tread life's devious ways.  
I only know that, south or north,  
After the sun's decline,

Whatever stars may glitter forth,  
I hail old friends of mine.

I've roved beneath the northern lights  
In lands of ice and snow,  
I've slept where tropic fireflies light  
The jungle with their glow.

The white cliffs fade, I feel no grief,  
What tho they fade away?  
I'll see the peak of Teneriffe;  
I've friends in Table Bay.

I know Australia's sunny shore,  
I've tramped Canadian snow;  
Their coast of Labrador,  
Rich plains of Mexico,

From Biscay thro' the narrow straits,  
Where Gibraltar stands,  
To where voluptuous Naples waits—  
Smiling with outstretched hands.

And on and on. It's now Port Said,  
Colombo springs in sight;  
The twinkling lights of Adelaide  
Are showing in the night.

And on and on, the swift miles glide,  
The swift hours fade and die;  
O'er Sydney harbor, Austral pride,  
The southern cross swings high.

'Tis good and yet I cannot stay—  
Fresh scenes, fresh faces wait.  
A few short weeks and then away—  
Hey for the Golden Gate.

Then all aboard; the clanging bells,  
Swift wheels which grind away,  
Chicago's good, but fare her well,  
I'm off to old Broadway.

'Tis stale! 'Tis dull! What's there to  
choose?

There's better things by far.  
I'll see the girls in Vera Cruz,  
The boys in Panama,  
I'll rest a while, but not for long;

The wanderlust spurs still,  
Hey for the rolling Amazon,  
The forests of Brazil.

Heigho! Heigho! I've seen them all,  
I've travelled far and wide,  
Yet still to me the voices call,  
I'm still unsatisfied.

I'm resting now, but not for long,  
Travel soon I must—  
The distance sings its luring song.  
I feel the wanderlust.

The official valuation of the real  
estate of Montreal is \$330,660,201. As  
the population is less than four hun-  
dred thousand and the valuation of the  
property is low it results that there is  
one thousand dollars of real estate for  
every man, woman and child of the  
population. Taking the ordinary fam-  
ily as being composed of five persons  
there is five thousand dollars of real  
estate for every family. Think on that  
you working plucks, who sweat to pay  
rent to men and women who do not do  
one stroke of work to earn a living.  
You men have built the houses and  
others possess. Under socialism every  
family will have the right of habitation  
in a home without having to pay rent,  
interest or profit to the labor thieves.

Now comes the rumor of an amalga-  
mation of all the coal and iron compan-  
ies of Canada with a capitalization of a  
hundred and twenty-five millions. This  
is all in line with the socialist doctrine.  
The capitalists are consolidating and  
organizing industry and the socialists  
will expropriate.

The German International Metal  
Workers Association has decided to  
contribute \$125,000 to assist the Swe-  
dish strikers.

The Chicago juries have been pack-  
ed and bribed for many years past.  
"Jury fixing" is a part of the necessary  
evils of capitalism.

In twelve months crude rubber has  
jumped from 87c to \$2 10. The  
Liverpool crowd have cornered the raw  
material. Everything that man needs  
getting cornered these days.

The British Tories are trying to be-  
fog the people with tariff reform. The  
Tories are such back numbers that they  
think protection is a remedy for unem-  
ployment.

Samuel B. Lingle, a Chicago land-  
lord, likes to have children in his flats.  
Most landlords do not. Under social-  
ism it won't matter whether a landlord  
likes children or not as there will be  
no such things as landlords.

Barcelona is still in unrest, and  
causing great anxiety to the master  
class. The social revolution is about  
to break forth in Europe and the inter-  
national capitalists are watching the  
danger spots in great fear.

The Fulton-Hudson celebration is on  
in New York and the police have been  
arresting all unemployed who are pen-  
iless and the judges have been jailing  
them for six months. Our capitalist  
civilization is hell for the poor.

The Jews have experienced another  
outbreak against them at Kiev, Russia.  
The Russian authorities at first denied  
that there had been any trouble. Later  
they admitted that there had been  
"slight disorder." What really oc-  
curred was a massacre.

Major Stevens of Montreal, in speak-  
ing for the Board of Control, declared  
that through their votes the workmen  
are masters. If the workmen  
will only wake up to this fact, and to  
their own interest, socialism will get a  
quick boost into actuality.

A long account appears in the capital-  
ist press about Turkish brutality.  
The capitalist press is silent on Ameri-  
can, Canadian and Mexican brutality.  
The master class gets dividends by such  
brutality and in the eyes of a flunkie  
press, such brutality is good.

"The Socialist Sea Scouts" are  
spreading the doctrine of socialism  
among the sailors of the world. James  
F. Davidson, able seaman aboard the  
Anchor Line S.S., is the leader of the  
movement. "The Red Flag" is now  
being sung in many a forecastle.

Rosebery has deserted the Liberals  
and gone over to the Tories. The Bud-  
get was too much for his capitalist  
nerves. The Budget is a tame affair,  
but it is the thin edge of the entering  
wedge that will split the British politi-  
cal parties into socialist and anti-social-  
groups.

A report comes from Port Arthur of  
a rich silver find with ore running  
twenty thousand ounces to the ton.  
With all these rich silver finds, silver  
will have to be trusted or else the  
market will be smashed. In either case,  
there is a hard time coming for the  
miners.

The Missouri, Kansas and Texas  
Railway Company are suing the Ameri-  
can government for sixty-one million  
dollars. The Railroad claims that the  
government has agreed to give it every  
alternative section of land along its  
lines in the Indian territory and Kansas.  
The sixty-one million dollars is the val-  
ue of the land they did not get. The  
more of such kind of suits the capital-  
ists can bring against the government,  
the better. The more suits, the quick-  
er the people will wake up to the fact  
that they are robbed.

## A POSITIVE PHILOSOPHY

GERALD DESMOND

(The writer wishes to make it clear  
to all the opinions as expressed in the  
latter half of this article are not intend-  
ed to be taken as the expression of the  
socialist party or any section of its  
members. The socialist party, being  
a purely political party, has no views  
on death at all. The writer's monistic  
beliefs and teachings belong to himself  
personally.)

A few weeks ago a correspondent of  
Cotton's asked for some positive teach-  
ing in regard to life and death. He  
said, and I think wisely, that a purely  
negative teaching of philosophy is not  
sufficient. I myself am not satisfied  
with pure negation. On the other  
hand, I affirm, with confidence being  
sure of the weight of the evidence at  
my command, a very positive teaching  
and philosophy in regard to both these  
matters. My view point of life is al-  
ways and ever that of the absolute ly  
convinced, class-conscious, socialist.  
My view point of death that of the  
equally straight forward materialist  
monist.

What is the distinctive philosophy of  
life of the class-conscious socialist?  
Briefly, in its main points, it is this:  
We regard society, not a fixed thing,  
but as subject, like all others, to the  
laws of evolution. We regard the pres-  
ent forms of production, government,  
etc., not as things that always were,  
but as having sprung from other forms  
preceding them. We regard all history  
since the dawn of civilization as being,  
in the last analysis, the history of  
class struggles. We divide society at  
present into two classes—the exploit-  
ers and the exploited—the proletariat  
and the bourgeoisie. We regard all  
members of the former class as com-  
rades in misfortune and all members of  
the latter as enemies both on the politi-  
cal and industrial field. We regard all  
pleasant incidents of life as happening  
in spite of the present system and the  
bourgeoisie. We regard all unpleasant  
incidents, poverty, etc., as springing,  
not from the inherent depravity of hu-  
man nature, but from the environment  
which the present system of production,  
the capitalist system, surrounds us with  
and for which its upholders are respon-  
sible. We hold that all, or nearly all,  
of these unpleasant incidents are pre-  
ventable and should be met, not with  
resignation nor accepted peacefully as  
the Divine Will nor as the work of the  
devil, but should be rebelled against  
and the full and complete responsibility  
for their occurrence placed upon the pres-  
ent system and all who deliberately  
with knowledge uphold that system.

Our philosophy is therefore, not one  
of passive endurance, but of active re-  
sistance. Our friends, the proletariat;  
our enemies the plutocracy. Our hope  
for the future lies in the overthrow of  
the present ruling class and the bring-  
ing about of proletarian supremacy.  
This we regard both as our individual  
life work and the work and historic  
mission of our class. So much for life  
and for the class conscious, proletarian  
teaching in regard to it; a teaching and  
a philosophy in accord with which we  
consistent ones endeavor to regulate  
our every action and take our view-  
point on every question of life.

## DEATH

An individual's attitude in regard to  
death is naturally determined by his  
answers to the following questions:  
What is the nature and origin of mat-  
ter? In what relation does man stand  
to all other existent things? What is  
the relation between life and death?  
Does present individual existence imply  
eternal individual existence, or in other  
words, individual immortality?

My teaching and belief in regard to  
those things is, as before said, that of  
the materialist monist. In regard to  
matter I accept the scientific law of  
substance, which declares it to be im-  
mortal, persistently recurring or inde-  
structible. There could be no "creation"  
of matter. Neither could there be any  
annihilation. The sum of the matter  
which fills infinite space is unchange-  
able and cannot be destroyed (E.  
Haeckel's Riddle of the Universe). I  
do not, as a natural consequence, be-

lieve in an individual God (the Mozaic  
Jehova or any other) who did, or could,  
or can create matter, nor as having the  
power to eliminate the minutest mole-  
cule of matter from space. Conse-  
quently, the Biblical and all other accounts  
of creation are false and opposed to all  
reason and present scientific know-  
ledge.

As to the relation of man to all other  
things, having eliminated creation and  
the creator or creators, I naturally  
enough do not look at man as a dis-  
tinct individual creation, but simply as  
the most highly developed form of the  
most highly developed family of the  
animal kingdom, namely:—the pri-  
mates. I believe the said superior de-  
velopment to have been the result of  
slow evolutionary processes and chang-  
es. Man, therefore, is akin to all  
nature and a part of nature and is him-  
self immortal because being a part of  
the great mass of existent matter he is  
subject to the law of substance and can-  
not be annihilated. Death, therefore, is  
a time to be regarded, or looked for-  
ward to not with fear or terror, but  
with calm assurance and confidence—a  
time when the individual life need  
neither fear a grisly hell nor buoy itself  
up with the vain hope of a  
heaven of problematic pleasurable-  
ness, but can, it's appointed work done,  
drop back into the great sum total of exis-  
tent matter and life (for all matter is life)  
from which it came.

## FABIANS AND REVOLUTIONISTS

W. R. SHIER

Between the Fabians and Revolution-  
ists there is considerable difference  
over tactics. The Fabians seek to real-  
ize their ideal by a process of reform,  
that is, by appealing to the sentiment  
and enlightened self-interest of the  
class in power. Hence their propaganda  
is conducted chiefly among the well-to-  
do. Theirs is the policy of permeation.  
They expect, too, that the transition  
from Capitalism to Socialism will be  
very slow, that it will be accomplished  
piecemeal by carrying first one reform,  
then another. The Revolutionists, on  
the contrary, expect the great change  
to be more or less rapid in character.  
They insist, too, that it will be brought  
about, not by the upper or middle class-  
es, but by these who, to quote their own  
words, "have nothing to lose but their  
chains, and a world to gain." Hence  
their propaganda is confined to the  
working class, to the wage-workers,  
the farmers, the independent artisans,  
the small shopkeepers, whom they seek  
to organize into a party of their own  
for the conquest of the governing  
powers and the socialization of the  
means of wealth production by the ex-  
propriation of the master class. They  
hope to carry out their program, not  
by winning the good-will of those in  
power, but by fighting them. The  
Barons of the middle ages had to fight  
the monarchy in order to preserve their  
privileges and curb the abuses of one-  
man rule. The mercantile and manu-  
facturing classes had to fight the land-  
ing nobility in order to gain their  
"rights." The New England colonies  
had to fight in order to secure their  
freedom. And the emancipation of the  
southern slaves was effected only after  
a prolonged and determined fight with  
the slave-holders. Likewise, the em-  
ancipation of the proletariat will be ac-  
complished only by fighting those who  
profit by the degradation of labor.

In 1906, the nine great nations of  
the world spent over a billion and a  
half dollars on their army and navy.

The total revenue of the twenty-  
seven dukes of Great Britain is less  
than ten million dollars a year. Andrew  
Carnegie has an income half as  
great again as the twenty-seven  
dukes. Astor beats them. Rockefeller  
could buy the lot out four times over.  
The parasites of commerce are greater  
than the parasites of land. As the  
people are rising against parasitism of  
all kinds the parasites of British indus-  
try have resolved to throw over the  
landlords to keep the people quiet.  
The Labor members eyes snap at the  
thought of the temporary feast but the  
socialist members do not forget that  
the biggest robbers are escaping.

## CHIPS FROM A BLOOM-HEAD

It is the agitators who make the  
world more forward

Society can only be adequately re-  
formed by revolutionizing it.

Darkness cannot be dispelled by  
denunciation. It can only be dispelled  
by light.

Parliamentary action is always political  
but political action is not always parlia-  
mentary.

Abusive language neither establishes  
an argument nor promotes harmony  
within our ranks.

If you are not active in the cause of  
Socialism, then you are passive in the  
cause of Capitalism.

There is only one "step" in the di-  
rection of Socialism, and that is the con-  
quest of the governing powers by the  
working class.

The problem is not low wages, nor  
long hours, nor child labor, nor im-  
temperance, nor militarism, nor free-  
trade, nor prostitution, but capitalism.  
W. R. SHIER.

The love of money is the root of all  
evil. Capitalism raises the love of  
money into a cult.

Those who are socialists have the fire  
of a great cause burning in their hearts  
They see the world in a new light.

Some of the big Cobalt silver mines  
are being amalgamated. This means re-  
duced expenses and a more sustained  
market.

The big capitalist is crooked. The  
newspapers may declare he is straight  
but they lie. He cannot be straight  
and be a big capitalist.

The churches have been captured by  
capitalism. The decent people get out  
of the churches as a result. This is  
the reason why people do not go to  
church.

There is no sign of an agreement in  
the Sydney strike. The troops are ask-  
ing for winter quarters and the struggle  
looks as though it would last all winter.  
Houses for the strikers are being built.

It is understood that the British  
Columbia elections will be pulled off  
this winter at the end of November.  
The Socialists of the province have  
been preparing for the fight for some  
time past.

The employer wants to make large  
profits off wageslaves. His wageslaves  
want to get big wages out of the em-  
ployer. The wageslave will eventually  
stop the haggling over wages by kick-  
ing the employers out of the shops.  
They can do this whenever they get  
sense enough to vote themselves into  
the places where laws are made.

A capitalist goes to Ottawa or to the  
local legislators and makes lines  
to line his pockets. He can do this be-  
cause his pals are with him in power.  
A socialist wageslave can go to Ottawa  
and empty the pockets of the labor  
thieves just as soon as his fellow wage-  
slaves send enough socialists to repre-  
sent them.

In the United States is an organiza-  
tion called the National Civic Feder-  
ation. Its object is to bring labor and  
capital into harmony so that the thieves  
may continue to plunder labor with the  
consent and blessing of the laborers.  
Gompers is a member of this organiza-  
tion which shows that Gompers is  
either a fool or a traitor to labor. This  
organization is trying to stem the tide  
of socialism but its talk is hopeless.  
Socialism is a philosophy growing out  
of the economic conditions of capitalism  
which is bound to find more adherents  
daily as the conditions under capital-  
ism grow more rotten.

## THE SQUEEZING PROCESS

A drug trust has been formed in  
New York and the Standard Oil crowd  
are said to be back of the combine.  
Henry H. Flagler, John D. Rockefel-  
ler, and other big Standard Oil men  
are known to be heavily interested in  
the large drug corporation now doing  
business in New York. Recently repre-  
sentatives of the United Drug Consum-  
ers' Company have been visiting the re-  
tail druggists in Manhattan and the  
Bronx trying to buy out the little fel-  
lows. When one hundred retail stores  
have been acquired the United Drug  
Consumers Company will start busi-  
ness. The cigar stores have been com-  
bined and the drug stores are being  
combined and the general retail stores  
are being amalgamated. This is the be-  
ginning of the process to squeeze the  
retailers out of business. When the  
various trusts have captured the vari-  
ous retail stores the various retail trusts  
will merge into one trust. Then the  
smaller retail stores will be shut up.  
That will remove the cost of duplicate  
clerks and rent bills and insurance  
charges and taxes. Then the retail  
stores will be closed altogether and the  
goods will be sold by the sample. The  
process of trustification cannot be stop-  
ped. Competition is useless and has  
to go. There must result either social-  
ism or industrial despotism.

## THE BRITISH SITUATION

Elections are probably near in Great  
Britain. The budget has frightened  
the Lords. It is not what the budget  
contains but what it threatens that  
makes them frightened.  
During the past century the fight  
has been between feudalism and cap-  
italism, between the power of land and  
the power of commerce. In France  
the fight started in 1789 and ended  
with the complete triumph of the  
bourgeoisie. There was the restoration  
of the monarchy but the work of the  
revolutionists could never be undone.  
The power of the French nobles was  
completely broken. The land was  
divided into small lots and remains so  
to this day. This left the bourgeoisie  
in complete control and as a result the  
fight in France today is the most revolu-  
tionary. The proletariat is not con-  
fused with two enemies, the land and  
the bourgeoisie, but only the enemy of the  
purse faces them.

In Germany the feudal power was  
never broken. So we see today the  
German empire controlled by feudal  
landlords. The bankers and manu-  
facturers did not succeed in throwing off  
the feudal tolls. The result is that the  
socialist movement in Germany is fac-  
ing a feudal power on the political  
field rather than an industrial one.

In Great Britain the power of the  
Lords was curtailed but never broken.  
The Lords retained their land and the  
power of veto on all bills. When the  
Tories triumphed in the House of Com-  
mons the Lords showed their claws.  
The Lords were interested in land  
while the Liberals were interested in  
commerce. Consequently when the  
Tories were in power they had a knack  
of passing factory acts which benefited  
the workers of the cities and hampered  
the profits of the bourgeoisie plun-  
derers.

The Liberals are in power and are  
attacking the pocketbooks of the  
the Lords. This is the continuation  
of the fight of capitalism against feud-  
alism. The Lords call the budget  
confiscatory. Yet they know they  
are doomed. The bourgeoisie are go-  
ing to finish them off and this is the  
beginning.

But the peculiar thing is that the  
Laborites are backing the Liberals in  
the fight instead of looking after their  
own interests. The Liberals have in-  
veighed the Laborites into being  
allies. The fight is not a labor fight  
but a fight between rival bands of  
plunderers. The socialists of Great  
Britain are doing all they can to point  
this out to the labor members but there  
are none so blind as those who will not  
see.

The class struggle is a fact, not a  
theory.