

could be used to good effect at home, they say. It is only the workers that get the doses, why should we object? But when some of the mouthpieces of Capitalism are arraigned and sentenced to death for their counter revolutionary activities, how they holler. But there is one thing they forget, and that is in Italy the organisation is getting so top heavy that in order to exist they will have to give Castor oil to one another and there is where the danger to it lies.

Socialism will go forward, there is no doubt. The inculcating of knowledge is desired. All the barriers placed against the Socialist movement that is the only natural salvation for the race, must fail. The way is open for all to learn those drawbacks that exist, so far as our slavery is concerned. The Fascisti may be formed here under a different cloak, but fear it not as it is only a temporary check so far as progress is concerned. Educational work must be carried on. Enthusiasm for a cause will never win it alone. Billy Sunday Communists may bark, but "facts is facts," and they are being realised more day by day. A movement that is built on the solid rock of knowledge will go a longer way to accomplish the world's revolution than slogans and tactics of the Mussolini order. Watch Italy and watch her well, as the only order that exists in that country that can save it from chaos and anarchy, even with all the handicaps against it, is still on the job and doing the work.

COMMERCIAL ART.

A Letter From An Artist

A RECENT article on "Commercial Development" showed (with apologies) how destructive to the cause of Art, is production for profit; backing up the statement from the writer's own experience.

Here, along somewhat similar lines, is further proof of the evils of Capitalism, in that respect.

For nearly twenty years, the undersigned (who also holds a London, Eng. Art Teacher's Certificate), was a lithographic artist and, in that capacity had worked in jobs ranging all the way from beer and whiskey labels to linoleum catalogues and medical plates. Limited opportunities for employment and the exacting and wearing nature of the "profession" have, for over ten years, caused him perforce to earn a meal ticket otherwise.

But at one period of his career he was engaged on a bastard kind of litho. work, turning out photographic halftone picture postcards of various kinds. The firm he slaved for and which extracted the last amount of labor-energy by a "bonus" system, over and above the necessary weekly product, was located north of the British river Tweed; and, as it was in the pioneer stage, the artistic staff consisted only of himself, an apprentice and a foreman. One of the cards which, to start with, he was engaged on, was a halftone colored reproduction of a famous picture by Thomas Faed, entitled "A Highland Mother," and represented a Highland Scotch woman suckling her child. There was nothing wrong with the picture, and yet one of the old man's sons, with not a quarter of the grit of his father, the founder of the business ordered your artist to paint a strong wipe of color, the same tint as her dress, over the woman's breast, in order to hide the immodest operation!

However, soon the business increased with mushroom-like rapidity and many more artists and girl colorists were taken on. Of course, a market had then to be maintained for their products. Now, it did not take the manager long to figure out that nothing succeeds in selling effect like something that panders to humanity's sexual lusts. Accordingly, your artist was set to work on a series of (lowtone) photographic halftone (and more than half undressed!) bathing-girl cards; and these, as it was not his concern what use his purchased labor-power was put to he proceeded to litho-color.

However, they proved to be just a bit too strong to be acceptable for some of the more "respectable" retailers. It was then—on the principle of "it's a pity to waste it"—that a way out of the difficulty

(Continued on page 4)

Marxism and the Servile State

BY J. CONLAN.

WHITHER are we drifting, to Socialism or the servile state?

In some people's minds there still seems to exist a grave doubt as to what will be the outcome of the present state of affairs existing throughout the capitalist world especially in Europe.

They seem to realize that the chaotic conditions now existing are proof of the utter inability of capitalism to function usefully, that such a system has become a fetter upon the progressive development of mankind, and yet, when they read of the sufferings of the masses in Europe and do not hear the joyful sound of revolution, they become pessimistic and are prone to fall into a position of doubt.

This is exactly what the Bourgeois press is seeking to accomplish. To begin to create a skeptical feeling in the minds not only of those ignorant of the teachings of Marx and Engels, but also in the minds of those young enthusiasts who have drifted into the movement within recent years. Some of these now speak as though socialism is not inevitable, but that there is the possibility of something else taking its place. Questioned on this something they say, benevolent paternalism or an industrial slave state, or servile state or some other fancy name.

Were we to ask them what would be the foundation of any of these systems, I think we would put them out of court. Paternalism had its day in Germany under Bismark. If ever a servile state existed it surely existed there and accomplished wonders, but just the same it did not save the rulers of Germany, neither did it stop starvation and hunger from visiting the workers who had been cajoled into licking the hand they supposed was feeding them and for whom so many nobly gave up their lives. But in spite of all, the German worker is suffering just as acutely today as is the proletariat in other countries where capitalism has a stranglehold.

This is not to be wondered at as the "State Socialism" of Bismarks was nothing else but an attempt to offset the growth of the real baby, and to raise the state to the position of a fetish with "Willy" at its head.

In this he was ably assisted by many of the petit bourgeois intellectuals of that country, who captured the S. D. P. and have seen to it, that it should henceforth serve the interests of the Fatherland, which means the capitalists of Germany, and not the workers. Today it is still trying to pull against the ever-growing volume of an adverse tide in an effort to save capitalism but it is doomed.

Just so long as private ownership of the means of life survives, so long will they play a losing game. They may juggle phrases of Marx as they will, they may call themselves socialists in an effort to gain the support of the masses, but the fact that they do so, is an admission that they see the inevitability of socialism, that to come out in the open as supporters of capitalism would mean their elimination. They realize that conditions have reached a point where the masses can see the necessity for a change, and the masses in their ignorance of what really constitutes socialism have voted into power the wolf in a sheep's lining, and still they see that they are no better off than before.

Why is this? It is because there has been no attempt to socialize the machinery of production, and to introduce production for use instead of for profit. The old evil still remains, also all the old miseries.

The present lethargic condition of the German workers is due to the fact that they think Socialism has failed instead of the reverse, namely, Capitalism under its new cloak. They are now in nearly the same frame of mind as the early Christians in the days of the Roman Empire and for the time being may have given up the hope, excepting of course an ever growing minority.

We ourselves must see to it that the gospel is carried on among those near to us and by so doing help to dispel the doubt that still lingers in the

minds of many.

We must at all times point out to the workers the function of the state. To break down the Fetish that still exists among them in regards to the afore-said instrument of oppression, for an instrument of oppression it surely is.

Frederick Engels put it clearly and consisely when he said, "The State is tantamount to your acknowledgement that the given society has become entangled in an insoluble contradiction with itself, that it has broken up into irreconcilable antagonisms of which it is powerless to rid itself."

Exactly! The only way that these antagonisms can be eliminated is by the proletariat seizing political power and abolishing the cause, i.e., private ownership, and this, Marx says is inevitable.

In the wind-up of the first chapter of the Communist Manifesto he says: "The advance of Industry, whose involuntary promotor is the Bourgeoisie, replaces the isolation of the laborers, due to competition, by their involuntary combination, due to association. The development of modern industry, therefore, cuts from under its feet the very foundation on which the bourgeoisie produces and appropriates products. What the bourgeoisie therefore produces, above all, are its own grave-diggers. Its fall and victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable."

Surely that is plain enough for anyone to understand, no doubt is expressed here, and if anyone understands Marx and remains by his teachings—they also will possess no misgivings as to what is to follow capitalism.

The longer capitalism lasts, the more numerous become the proletariat and the more the very existence of the mass is threatened. Finally, and I don't think anyone, who understands the least thing about the evolution of society, will deny it, revolutions do occur and that the class in power during such stirring times are swept away and a new class takes its place.

Marx has well pointed out how the various classes in the past have been eliminated until under capitalism there are but two classes left who must sooner or later come to grips.

The victory of the proletariat in no way presages a servile state as its object is the socialization of the means of livelihood which automatically does away with classes as such only exist on a property relationship.

To again quote the Communist Manifesto, referring to the proletariat: "If, by means of a revolution it makes itself the ruling class, and, as such, sweeps away by force the old conditions of production, then it will, along with these conditions, have swept away the conditions for the existence of class antagonisms, and of classes generally and will thereby have abolished its own supremacy as a class."

No separate classes, no servile state.
No servile state, no slaves.
No slaves, no masters. No masters, equality.
Equality, Socialism: This is what Marx teaches us.

ECONOMIC CAUSES OF WAR

By PETER T. LECKIE.

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