

What is **Socialism**? What is **Bolshevism**? Socialism is a philosophy, a propagandist movement, and a form of society. It is generally referred to in the latter sense—a form of society, where social ownership and control of the means of production obtains. Is this the condition of affairs in Russia today? If so, then the Bolshevik leaders are guilty of hiding the facts from the rest of the world. In his article on the "Economics of a Transition Period," in "Soviet Russia," July 31, 1920, Lenin, after explaining in detail how private property in land was abolished on the 1st day of the dictatorship, goes on to show that it was impossible to put social ownership into operation, and ends with the statement that "small production for profit remains the form of rural economy."

In article No. II. of "Russia Under the Soviets," compiled by Pritchard, from a conversation he had with W. R. Humphries, and published in the "Red Flag," this keen observer, and clever student, more lengthily explains why the Bolsheviks did not, and could not, carry their land programme to conclusion.

Again, in the front page article of "Soviet Russia," June 26th, 1920, Lenin tells us that during the past two years they had gained some knowledge of the foundation of Socialism, but that there were still many things lacking for the realization of such an aim.

The same thing is true in regard to the industries, as I can prove by numerous quotations from the Bolshevik leaders should such be demanded. Many factories are still owned by capitalists who exploit wage slaves in order to make profits. Of course, I am allowing for the possibility of Lenin not understanding the conditions in Russia so well as Comrade McKenzie, though I would require a little more proof from the latter concerning his qualifications.

But, does my critic himself honestly think that Socialism prevails in Russia? His first statement says it does not, but before he finishes the paragraph he modifies the assertion to: "But nevertheless it is Socialism in the making." What mode of reasoning is this? Right there we can find that **Bolshevism** and **Socialism** are not synonymous terms. Bolshevism, as a social system, is proletarian dictatorship, with the ultimate object of Social ownership and control. A bitter discussion is now being waged by the Kautskian and Leninian Schools as to the possibility of Bolshevism developing into Socialism. In my article I stated that time alone would solve this problem, and this statement still stands.

Next let us look at the quotation taken from my article: "As many impartial persons and delegations have testified, it has had a detrimental effect, in many ways, on the working class movement in other countries." A glance at the original suffices to show that this quotation has been torn from its context and made to mean something very different from what it says. My statement was that the persons and delegations testified to the beneficial effects of the Revolution on the Russian workers, and not to the detrimental effect it had on the workers elsewhere. The latter was my own comment.

On this conclusion my opponent emphatically disagrees. One has only to review the attempts to imitate the Bolsheviks, made by various organizations in the United States and Europe to see that notwithstanding the fact that the Russian Revolution is an inspiration to all workers in the fight for freedom, the lack of knowledge concerning the situation, as exemplified in the case of my critic, has had an injurious effect on working class policy. Here in the U. S. we had numerous examples of the formation of "Soviets" and "Workmen and Soldiers' Councils" founded on enthusiasm alone, and advocating the suspension of education, and the taking of mass action against a ruling class strongly entrenched in the realms of power. This "spontaneous upsurge theory" with its down tools, and street demonstration policy, could have none other than a detrimental effect on the numbers who openly assailed the capitalist citadel with nothing but good intentions to warrant their actions.

In the "Revolutionary Age," May 24th, 1919, a Bolshevik writer—Mescheriakov—tells of how the English workers tried to copy the Bolsheviks by forming "Workmen's Councils." He says that they

did not understand that councils "as organs of the revolutionary struggle, and proletarian dictatorship, can work successfully only in the atmosphere of a proletarian revolution." The attempts in England had met with complete failure.

Comrade McKenzie's attack on the 18th paragraph of my article is weak and vacillating. In most cases he has answered himself. One sentence particularly merits examination: "The majority of Russian workers were and are solid for Socialist principles." A review of Lenin's article on "The Work in the Villages," "Soviet Russia," February 7, 1920, is sufficient to brand this statement as entirely incorrect. He there shows that the reserve of science, knowledge, and culture, without which Communism cannot be built, is in the hands of bourgeois specialists who do not sympathize with the Soviets. That among the peasantry are extraordinary disaffections which reach the stage of the repudiation of the entire system of Soviet economics.

On the question of "Shaking the bloody hand of Capitalist Europe," "Tilsit Peaces," "Accepting their opponents as allies," "the cost of the Russian Revolution," etc., I can recommend (for space will not allow me to quote) a perusal of Lenin's pamphlets—"A Letter to American Working Men," "Lessons of the Revolution," and "Soviets at Work." This paragraph, however, was not an attack on the Bolsheviks for doing something that they should not do, but a plain statement of fact regarding the position they were placed in and unable to avoid. The moral, if such is necessary, is that we must study Socialism and know how to act when the opportunity presents itself. Comrade McKenzie winds up by stating that the need for education is very great. The more I see of his article the more I am inclined to agree. As for the "other, and more vigorous means" for spreading Socialism, a little further elaboration would be thankfully received.

Now, Alex., resume the attack as soon as convenient. But do see to it that you sprinkle sugar instead of vinegar on your mush before starting in. This is a big subject, and can be dealt with far better by avoiding groundless insinuations regarding your opponent. Let us examine the case on its merits, and through such means arrive at a satisfactory solution.

J. A. McD.

Literature Price List

- Communist Manifesto. Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$2.00.
 Wage-Labor and Capital. Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$2.00.
 The Present Economic System. (Prof. W. A. Bonger). Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$1.50.
 Capitalist Production. (First Nine and 32nd Chapters, "Capital," Vol. 1, Marx). Single copies (cloth bound), \$1.00; 5 copies, \$3.75.
 Socialism, Utopian and Scientific. Single copies, 15c; 25 copies, \$3.25.
 Slave of the Farm. Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$1.50.
 Manifesto, S. P. of C., single copy, 10 cents; 25 Copies\$2.00
 Red Europe. (F. Anstey, M.P.). Single copies, 50c. Ten copies or more 30c each.
 Evolution of Man. (Prof. Bolsche). Single copies, 20c; 25 copies, \$3.75.
 The Nature and Uses of Sabotage (Prof. T. Veblen). Single copies 5 cents, 25 copies \$1.
 The Criminal Court Judge, and The Odd Trick (E. B. Bax). Single copies, 5 cents; per 25 copies, 75c.
 Ancient Society (Louis H Morgan), \$2 15
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 The Protection of Labor in Soviet Russia (Kaplan), per copy, 15 cents.
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 Law of Biogenesis (Moore), cloth, 90 cents.
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 Germs of Mind in Plants (R. H. France)90c
 Economic Causes of War (Leckie), single copies, 25c; 10 copies or more, 20c each.
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SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

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PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, affirm our allegiance to, and support of, the principles and programme of the revolutionary working class.

Labor, applied to natural resources, produces all wealth. The present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of production, consequently, all the products of labor belong to the capitalist class. The capitalist is, therefore, master; the worker a slave.

So long as the capitalist class remains in possession of the reins of government, all the powers of the State will be used to protect and defend its property rights in the means of wealth production and its control of the product of labor.

The capitalist system gives to the capitalist an ever-increasing stream of profits, and to the worker, an ever-increasing measure of misery and degradation.

The interest of the working class lies in setting itself free from capitalist exploitation by the abolition of the wage system, under which this exploitation, at the point of production, is cloaked. To accomplish this necessitates the transformation of capitalist property in the means of wealth production into socially controlled economic forces.

The irrepressible conflict of interest between the capitalist and the worker necessarily expresses itself as a struggle for political supremacy. This is the Class Struggle.

Therefore, we call all workers to organize under the banner of the Socialist Party of Canada, with the object of conquering the political powers, for the purpose of setting up and enforcing the economic programme of the working class, as follows:

1. The transformation, as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, railroads, etc.) into collective means of production.
2. The organization and management of industry by the working class.
3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.