

AN EASY LESSON

By William H. Leffingwell.

Proposition (a): Production under the present system is for profit, and not for use, the use value of the thing produced being a secondary consideration.

That the above statement is true is apparent to even the dullest of minds. Can you think of any good reason, for instance, why an article of food should be adulterated? Did you ever notice an article of clothing that was made of the cheapest of shoddy, or a piece of furniture made of cull lumber? Is this not because the manufacturer can make a little more profit than he could had he used the genuine article? I think you will agree with me on this score.

Proposition (b): Profit is the difference between the cost of producing and distributing and selling price; and signifies that the worker received only a small portion of the value of his product.

His proposition is a little harder. The workingman who produces an article, or rather the set of workingmen who produce an article, receive a portion of the value of their product in wages—but only a portion. Uncle Sam says it is about 17 per cent. Is the rest all profit? No. Besides the profit of the capitalist whose factory the article is made, rent and interest, advertising and several other men's profits enter in, but nevertheless a large portion of it is either rent, interest, or profit; and no matter by what name it is known, the person who received it did no useful work as an equivalent. Do you see where YOU get off on a deal like this? The working class receives 17 per cent of the value of its product and of the balance, what is not wasted in useless labor goes into the pockets of the capitalist class.

Proposition (c): Profits are not made unless goods are sold. The workers, who only receive part of the value of their products in wages, cannot buy it all; therefore foreign markets must be secured or overproduction and a consequent panic occurs.

Read that over twice. Profits are not made unless goods are sold. It would not make any difference if the workers created enough to last them a million years, if the boss could not sell the products he could not make profits and consequently the products would be of no value to him. He wasn't worried very much, when you were making these things, as to whether YOU would get YOUR share of them or not—that is, it was not your personal interests he was looking after. But he was worried pretty much about selling them to someone. Now, suppose you produced an article that sold for \$1 and you got seventeen cents for making it (this is the average percentage.) Don't you see you would have to produce six of them before you could buy one for yourself? Who would buy the other five? Well, that's the all-consuming question.

For many years, about half of the workingmen in the United States were producing things and the other half were building factories, machinery, railroads, etc. But this work is almost finished; and the result is, most of them are producing things, and producing them in such large quantities that "we" (meaning our capitalist friends,) have to pick fights with foreign nations and force them to buy the surplus. At any rate the goods have to be sold somewhere else—workingmen here cannot buy them. Every ten years or so a panic takes place—the market is glutted. Then people have to starve because they freeze because there is too much fuel, and a great many other wonderful things occur. It usually takes three or four years for the country to get over the panic; then everybody starts all over again and the same old game is played again.

Proposition (d): All civilized nations are capitalistic nations and hence subject to the same conditions. This accounts for the repeated wars of conquest upon the partially civilized nations.

I think that statement is plain enough. By a slight glance over the daily papers you will notice that Germany, England, France and others are all in about the same boat as the United States. All are striving for foreign markets.

Proposition (e): Foreign markets

being exhausted, overproduction will bring upon the capitalist countries a cessation of business, and capitalism will fall.

Now, I presume you have followed my logic pretty carefully.

First, I proved to you that the capitalists were in business for profit, not for your good as many suppose.

Second, I showed you that the worker only gets 17 per cent of his product.

Third, that goods not sold in this country must be sold to foreign countries.

Fourth, that all civilized countries are in the same straits.

Now, I want you to think carefully. What would happen if the foreign markets should become exhausted? Perhaps you think this is impossible. To say the least there is a limit to them, isn't there? But to get right down to hard facts, every capitalist nation is much worried over this subject. They are all willing to slaughter millions of you poor fools as well as millions of other fellows in order to get possessions or colonies. See them scramble after China. Doesn't this make it very plain to you that a crisis is coming? When it is to arrive no one can say; but that it is very close at hand, no one can deny. When foreign markets are exhausted, business will cease and capitalism will fall. What can prevent it? Nothing—nothing under the sun can prevent capitalism from falling. And there is only one thing that can prevent you poor fellows who create all the wealth from starving to death, and that is Socialism. If it comes to a show-down, I rather think you will choose Socialism before you will starve. How about it?

Adam and Methuselah Shown Up

"Methuselah loses his famous record, for his 969 reputed years are whittled down to 783."

Thus says the Jewish World, of London, Eng., in a discussion of Jewish characteristics.

There has always existed a certain amount of doubt even among believers in the literal truth of the Bible concerning the great age to which the Jewish patriarchs are recorded as having lived. Some of the theories evolved to reduce the biblical records of this kind to something near the allotted span of man are dealt with in this article.

It is surmised, the Jewish World says, that in the earliest times the month, the period of a moon circle, was called a year. Thus Adam's 930 years of life, calculating a year at 294 days, works out to 754 years.

After the month year there came a five month year, the limit of five being derived from the fingers on one hand, it being remembered that primitive people always used the fingers for counting purposes. Then came the twelve month year.

Excuse for this arrangement is found in the Psalmist's limit of life to three score and ten years, and it is maintained that between the times of Noah and David no such extraordinary change could have taken place as to reduce the life of man by eleven-twelfths. On the five month year basis Abraham's 175 years work and Isaac's 180 at 74.

Some Questions Answered

Does Socialism teach "dividing up?"

No Socialist ever proposed taking the money away from those who have it and dividing it up among those who had none. Neither does it teach taking away the earnings of the industry to support the able idle.

What is the Socialist position in regard to the saloon?

The abolition of the profit in the sale of liquor would cause men to cease wanting to sell it.

What is the position of Socialists in regard to the races of men?

Socialists recognize all mankind, of whatever color or caste, as brothers.

What tactics has the Socialist party employed to keep it from the enervating influences of half-way measures?

These tactics consist in keeping clear the class character of the Socialist party as a proletarian party; to train it by agitation, education and organization for the victorious completion of the emancipation struggle; to wage a systematic war against the class state in whose hands the political and economic power of capitalism is concentrated.

—Liebknecht.

If papers or leaflets are given away at propaganda meetings, they should not be passed among the audience in indiscriminate, but should be offered gratis from the soap box to all who come and get them.

The Open Door for Consumption

And How "Father Morrissey's No. 10" (Lung Tonic) Closes It.

A low run-down condition, with perhaps a neglected cold and a little cough, is a cordial invitation to the White Plague, Consumption, to come in and make itself at home. And it seldom overlooks the invitation.

In such a case there is no time to be lost. The door must be promptly closed. This can be done by taking a complete rest, with plenty of fresh air, and "Father Morrissey's No. 10" (Lung Tonic). This medicine clears out the passages, relieves the cough and heals the delicate membrane of lungs and air passages. But perhaps most important of all, it builds up the whole system, giving Nature the needed assistance in fighting off the dread disease.

Though other remedies may have failed, don't give up. Try "Father Morrissey's No. 10," combined with fresh air and exercise, and even though you are in the first stages of consumption there is hope of a permanent cure. Sample bottle 25c. Regular size 50c, at your dealer's, or from Father Morrissey Medicine Co., Ltd., Chatham, N.B.

The capitalist press is trying to fool the public pulse. Items like the following are being inserted in the organs of plutocracy: Events at Sydney and other labor centres of Canada, where foreign labor organizations have been, or alleged to have been the cause of disturbances and interference, have, it is said, impressed the Dominion Government with the necessity to introduce legislation at the next session of parliament, with the object of excluding alien labor agitation. Do you know what that means you working plugs? It means that your masters who pull the strings of the Ottawa henchmen and make them jump want to keep you from organizing with your American brothers. It means that your thieving masters want to cut you out of the bunch of the international labor organizations of the world. It means that your masters want to squeeze the lifeblood out of you and not let your fellow laborers of other countries come to your aid. When will you men who create the wealth of the Canadian parasites wake up? When will you elect your representatives to Ottawa who will fight for your rights? Wake up and get under the flag of socialism, the only flag of the working people, the only flag that shelters the true patriots of Canada.

A Bargain in Pamphlets

Nine exceptionally good pamphlets written by the ablest Socialist writers in America, may be obtained from W. R. Shier, 314 Wellesley St., Toronto for 25 one cent stamps. Send for a set, read them yourself, then sell to others at 5 cents each, thereby spreading the propaganda and making a little money on the side.

The workers cannot resist the might of the new idea. Get the idea to them through Cotton's.

Do You Like to be Robbed

The non-socialist into whose hands this little paper may fall is respectfully asked to fill in his own answers to the questions given below:

Does it benefit you to be robbed?

Do you like to be robbed?

Would it harm you to get the full value of what you produce?

Is it right for a class which does nothing useful to live in luxury?

Is it right for a class which produces everything to live in poverty?

If your answer is No! to each of these questions, your place is in the ranks of the political party whose mission it is to change the present system into the Co-operative Commonwealth.

PLUTE SOCIABILITY.

(From "Tit Bits.")

J. M. Barrie is a member of the Athenaeum Club in Pall Mall. On his first appearance there, it is said, he once asked for some information from a gentleman sitting near him. To his great surprise the older member not only told him all he wanted to know, but insisted on Mr. Barrie dining with him and taking supper afterward, though neither of them knew the other's name. Upon Mr. Barrie protesting that he could not possibly accept so much kindness from a stranger, the other replied: "Don't mention it; don't mention it. Why, I've belonged to this club for twenty-five years, and you are the very first member who has ever spoken to me."

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson

WORKERS PRODUCE ALL WEALTH

How did the captains of industry acquire such colossal fortunes? By extracting their wealth from good old mother earth? No! They got them by grabbing the wealth produced by others. They got them by not paying their work-people in wages the equivalent of the wealth they produced.

All wealth is produced by labor, mental labor as well as manual labor. In other words, wealth is produced only by those who work, not by those who don't work.

It is reported that a U. M. W. striker has killed a P. W. A. worker at Sydney. The U. M. W. man was Joe. Nash, a warm-blooded Italian. In a dispute it is reported about the respective merits of the P. W. A. and the U. M. W. the Italian stabbed Max Peterson, of Dominion Mine No. 1, inflicting a gash in the left arm and cutting an artery. Peterson later died at the hospital from loss of blood. The capitalist papers throw the blame of course on the U. M. W. As a matter of fact the capitalists are to blame in sending out lying ads to the Latin countries to attract the hot blooded Italians to Canada. The Italians come and compete with Canadian labor which pleases the bosses. But when these sons of sunny Italy refuse to work at scab wages and their hot blood kills a man then it is the union to blame of course. The capitalist greed for cheap labor has a lot to account for.

How Can You Help?

If there is a public library in your town, have Cotton's placed upon its shelves, either at your own expense or by getting the librarian to put up the price.

Likewise with Y. M. C. A. libraries and reading rooms in general.

Socialist papers should be everywhere where people congregate and read.

Also draw the attention of newspapers to Cotton's and recommend their proprietors to keep it on sale.

Monsieur Edmond Perrier, of Paris, declares that a whale will voluntarily end its days when its mate dies. Man is not the only animal that possesses the moral instinct.

The expense of running New York City for 1910 will be \$184,000,000. There are many socialists who hold that the capitalist system will go down in bankruptcy. The cost of running things under capitalism seems to show that they may be right.

It is estimated that tuberculosis costs a money loss to the Maritime Provinces of over ten million dollars a year. The bluenose plagues are working away at antituberculosis leagues. They want to keep themselves from catching the disease, and they want to be able to hire good healthy working plugs to do their heavy work.

Mexico, like all capitalist countries, is investigating its officials. There is much graft going on in the Diaz army. The army has been used as a means of repression and like all capitalist armies was a great source of graft. It is safe to say that the investigations will result in little change under the present regime. The Diaz army is composed of ex-convicts and highwaymen. The army is needed by butcher Diaz and if he were to stop graft the army would revolt.

The Best Kind of Propaganda

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the fact that the most effective propaganda is the circulation of Socialist literature.

Soap-boxers who do not conclude their addresses by a convincing talk on the need of reading revolutionary literature, and clinching their remarks by selling papers and pamphlets from the rostrum, are failures as propagandists.

Hall lectures at which literature is not sold are only one-third successful. Locals should appoint a committee to have our books placed in retail stores on a commission basis.

W. R. S.

The success of the socialist movement will depend largely upon the standard of intelligence possessed by the workers. That in turn depends upon their educator, which, in its turn, depends upon experience and study. Each comrade should build up a university of his own, a good library. Invest your spare money and your spare time in literature.

THE MORTGAGE

The mortgage is a self-supporting institution.

The mortgage holds its own. It calls for just as many dollars when grain is cheap as when it is dear.

It is not affected by the drouth.

It is not drowned out by the heavy rains.

It never winter-kills.

Late spring and early frosts never trouble it.

Potato bugs do not disturb it.

Moth and rust do not destroy it.

It grows night, Sundays, rainy days and even holidays.

It brings a sure crop every year, and sometimes twice a year.

It produces cash every time.

It does not have to wait for the market to advance.

It is not subject to speculations of the "bulls" and "bears" of the board of trade.

It is a load that galls and frets and chafes.

It is a burden that the farmer cannot shake off.

It is with him morning, noon and night.

It sits with him at the table,

It gets under his pillow when he sleeps.

It rides upon his shoulders during the day.

It consumes his grain crop.

It devours his cattle.

It selects the finest horse and the fattest steers.

It lives upon the first fruits of the season.

It stalks into the dairy where the busy housewife toils day after day and month after month; and takes the nicest cheese and the choicest butter.

It shares the children's bread and robs them of half their clothes.

It is the inexorable and exacting task-master.

Its whip is as merciless and cruel as the lash of the slave driver.

It is a menace to liberty, a hindrance to progress, a curse to the nation.

—FARMERS SENTINEL.

WARS AND THE WORKERS

Wars are fought in the interests of the capitalist class, not of the working class. All the workers get out of them is cracked skulls and shattered homes.

Armies and navies are maintained for a double purpose by the master class, namely, to promote their commercial interests abroad and to keep their wage-slaves in subjection at home.

Three million, eight hundred thousand ready for war on the soil of Europe. This is a good thing for the productive workers under capitalism, for it greatly relieves the army of the unemployed.

W. R. S.

The Sisters of Charity, of St. Joseph's Hospital a Catholic institution, at St. Joseph, Mo., have had three men discharged for reading the Chicago Daily Socialist. Two of the employees of the hospital received the Daily Socialist from William Crandry, a news carrier for the St. Joseph News-Press. The "Sisters of Charity" ordered that the two men be discharged, and also issued orders that Crandry should not leave "any such papers" at the hospital again. Not satisfied with that, however, they wrote a letter to the editor of the News-Press, who is a bigoted Catholic, and Crandry was also discharged.



Taking on the Pilot

Who will lead you safely into the harbor of Socialism, is what you accomplish when you send in your sub to Cotton's Weekly.

Cotton's will visit you fifty-two times for only 50 cents. Will keep you posted on the rapid advance of the movement through Canada, and show you the inconsistencies and foolishness of the present capitalist system, and put you wise to the robbery of the workers.

Take Cotton's on as a pilot to an understanding of the sane system which the socialists are working for. And urge your friends to get aboard also.

Fifty cents per year; twenty-five cents for six months; ten cents for three months trial.

Only Medicine That Did Any Good

After Suffering Tortures For Years, This Lady Found Happy Relief In "Fruit-a-tives".

Frankville, Ont., June 11th, 1908.

"I have received most wonderful benefit from taking 'Fruit-a-tives.' I suffered for years from headaches and pain in the back, and I consulted doctors and took every remedy obtainable without any relief. Then I began taking 'Fruit-a-tives' and this was the only medicine that ever did me any real good. I took several boxes altogether, and now I am entirely well of all my dreadful headaches and backaches.



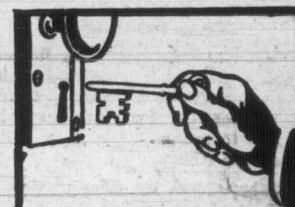
MRS. FRANK EATON

I take "Fruit-a-tives" occasionally still, but I am quite cured of a trouble that was said to be incurable. I give this testimony voluntarily, in order that others who suffer as I suffered may try this wonderful medicine and be cured."

(Signed) MRS. FRANK EATON.

"Fruit-a-tives" are sold by all dealers at 50c a box, 6 for \$2.50 or trial box, 25c—or sent post-paid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

North Adams, Mass., recently held an Old Home Week. Business needed to be stimulated because of the falling markets under capitalism. The festivities were so successful from a festival point of view that the carnival became riotous, and four thousand dollars worth of property was wantonly destroyed by the crowd.



The Key to the Situation

In regard to Socialism will be found in each one of these attractive little books. Read, learn and digest at leisure.

They are nicely printed, convenient for the pocket, and convincingly clear and to the point in regard to Scientific Socialism.

SOCIALISM MADE EASY.

By JAMES CONNOLLY. The latest and best book to put into the hands of workingmen who have as yet read nothing on Socialism. Straight-from-the-shoulder talks, simple and scientific.

THE SOCIALISTS: Who They Are and What They Stand for. By JOHN SPARGO. Admirably concise and clear. States the principles in brief, crisp chapters, and is a good introduction to the heavier books.

THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO. By KARL MARX and FREDERICK ENGELS. This book, prepared in 1848, has for more than sixty years been the accepted text-book of all International socialists. An indispensable book to the student.

SOCIALISM, UTOPIAN & SCIENTIFIC. By FREDERICK ENGELS, translated by Edward Aveling. A classic that should be read by every socialist intending to talk or write on Socialism.

VALUE, PRICE AND PROFIT. By KARL MARX. A book addressed to workingmen, clear and direct in style, which explains surplus value, especially as it affects the wage-worker.

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