

modity to make profit for the possessing classes, but should claim for themselves and for all men equal rights as free citizens to work together and to enjoy the fruits of their labour. The future action of the trades' unions, then, ought to be solely directed to the end of substituting production for use in the interest of the whole of the community, for the present system of production for profit in the interest of landlords, capitalists, usurers, etc.

To accomplish this desirable alteration the principle of solidarity must be much more widely accepted amongst all classes of workers than obtains at present; the spirit of fraternity must extend beyond the narrow bounds of nationality and bring about a common understanding with the peoples in other lands. Our brethren in America are considerably ahead of us in this matter. They have realised the inability of local unions among a comparatively small section of the workers to cope with the international conspiracy of the plundering classes, and are consolidating themselves into a vast organisation, which may be termed the New Society in embryo, which will undoubtedly at no very distant date develop into a Co-operative Commonwealth. Let us emulate their example and rally to the standard of labour all those who are willing to do their duty; all who suffer from the present condition of society and all who sympathise with the sufferers; in a word all those who acknowledge truth, justice and morality as the bases of their conduct towards all men, without regard to colour, creed, nationality, or occupation. Only by so doing will it be possible to close the era of social injustice and class war and to inaugurate a happier state of society for all, in which life shall be a thing to be enjoyed, instead of, as now, for far too many of us, a burden to be endured.

Comrades, I have sought to prove the inability of Trades'-unionism alone to liberate Labour from the grasp of Capital, and I have pointed to Socialism as the next stage in the evolution of society. I earnestly hope my words may lead you to inquire more fully into the subject; and I am sure if you do so, you will acknowledge the wisdom and goodness of the principles of Socialism, and will henceforth subscribe yourselves Socialists as well as Trades'-unionists.

THOMAS BINNING.

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