

THE NE TEMERE DECREE

The ne temere decree of the Catholic Church is creating a great furore throughout Canada. This is the decree of the Catholic church which declares that the marriage of a Catholic and a Protestant is not a marriage at all.

In the Province of Quebec a marriage of this kind has recently been annulled by the civil courts. The Protestant ministers are up in arms. The anti-Catholic papers have something to talk about, and many pens are being pushed by wage slave writers and much ink and paper, produced by wage slaves, is being consumed, and many wage slaves are employed to help the masters fight over this squabble. The remedy is simple to stop this squabble. But it will be dragged along as long as it can.

According to the constitution of Canada, British North America Act, 1867, paragraph 25 of section 91, marriage and divorce are handed over to the Dominion Parliament to legislate about. According to paragraph 12 of section 92 of the same act, the solemnization of marriage within the province is handed over to the various provinces. So the Dominion parliament can lay down rules governing marriage and divorce, while the provinces lay down the manner in which the marriage shall be performed, what officers shall tie the knot, what the fees will be, etc.

The Dominion government has never legislated about marriage and divorce. So the province of Quebec has thought fit to deal with the question by referring it to the various religious bodies.

According to the Quebec law, marriage is a religious rite. Only ministers of religious denominations recognized by law can perform the ceremony. Thus only Jewish rabbis, protestant ministers of recognized denominations and Catholic priests can solemnize marriages.

The impediments to marriage are laid down in the Civil Code. Thus marriage is prohibited between mother and son, father and daughter, aunt and nephew, uncle and niece. Articles 127, 128, 129 of the Civil Code of the Province of Quebec, then goes to state.

"127. The other impediments recognized according to the different religious persuasions, as resulting from relationship or affinity OR FROM OTHER CAUSES, remain SUBJECT TO THE RULES HITHERTO FOLLOWED IN THE DIFFERENT CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES.

The right, likewise, of granting dispensations from such impediments appertains, as heretofore, to those who have hitherto enjoyed it.

128 Marriage must be solemnized openly, by a competent officer of the law.

129. All priests, rectors, ministers, and other officers authorized by law to keep registers of acts of Civil Status, are competent to solemnize marriage.

But none of the officers thus authorized can be compelled to solemnize a marriage to which any impediment exists according to the doctrine and belief of his religion and the discipline of the church to which he belongs."

That is the law of the province of Quebec. According to the law strictly interpreted, no Turk nor atheist nor pagan Chinaman can get married. For they have no functionary before whom they can go to be recognized as man and wife.

The province declares that each religious denomination can put what impediments they like in the way of the marriage of their adherents. The Catholic church declares that none of their members must marry a heretic. If such a marriage occurs, whether it is solemnized by a Catholic priest or a protestant minister, the Catholic judges of the provinces will hold that the marriage is invalid.

The Quebec law is hell. The Dominion parliament could easily pass a law governing marriage and stating what qualifications are necessary for marriage. The province could easily pass a law appointing civil officers for the solemnization of marriage.

"Why don't they do it?" Is that what you want to know? The question is easily answered. The ministers and priests are shouting into each others' ears. The people are being roused over a religious issue. It is a good thing for the capitalists that this is so. As long as the people are working themselves up into fury over a religious marriage question, they will not be working themselves into a rage over how Forget and Lord Strathcona and Perley and Booth and Mann are robbing them. See.

If the politicians should pass a little law that would stop the agitation the people now taking up the question would be turning their attention to the question of slavery in Canada.

So the politicians will not pass laws that would stop injustice. They will talk about the question and egg

on the agitation. It ought to be good to last four or five years. And if it does there is just that much time gained for the parasites to garner up the title deeds to the natural resources of the country.

That is why the politicians rejoice when they see the Catholic and Protestant preachers rubbing their followers' ears over a religious question and sowing them on to each other.

THE TAYLOR SYSTEM

The Taylor system of scientific management is creating added misery among the workers. It is preparing the way to dispense with workers almost altogether.

The Taylor system studies scientifically the number of motions it takes a worker to do a certain thing, such as to lay brick, to shovel earth, to nail on a board.

When this is found the workers are forced to perform just these motions. They must move like machines. Each set of motions must be repeated exactly for every brick laid or board nailed. The Taylor system makes men nothing but machines.

When the motions have been studied out and made machine-like, the natural result will be that machines will be invented to do these motions. Then the human machines which need wages to feed, clothe and shelter themselves can be replaced by machines of iron and steel which do not need wages. Then the working class can go starve.

George Bernard Shaw, in a gathering of rabid revolutionaries, once moved, "Resolved that the working class is expensive, useless and extravagant and ought to be abolished." The Taylor system is making possible the resolution introduced by Shaw.

The Taylor system, rendering the workers unnecessary, the workers can prepare to get off the earth.

If they do not want to get off the earth their only alternative is Socialism.

NOTHING TO ARBITRATE

We have nothing to arbitrate with the capitalist class.

We have nothing to arbitrate about wages, nothing about accident insurance, nor about old age pensions, nor about slum areas, nor about rent, interest and profit.

We have nothing to arbitrate whatsoever. We are out to put the capitalist class out of business.

Our aim and object is revolution. We will take away from the capitalist class their ownership of the means of production and distribution.

The capitalist class would dearly like to get the Socialists to agree to arbitrate. That would be an admission on the part of the revolutionaries that the capitalist class had some justice on their side, some rights which the workers were bound to respect and that there was a debatable region between the rights of the capitalist class and the working class.

We will not give them that satisfaction. We say to the master class, "You are robbers. Your possessions are unjust. Your revenues are thievery. You have no rights which the working class are bound to respect."

The class war means a war to the finish. It means that the workers are out to conquer the capitalist class, their camp-followers and hangers-on, and to absorb them into the ranks of the useful workers.

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Let us not disguise ourselves. We are not reformists. We Socialists are revolutionaries. We adopt constitutional means for our revolution because the present constitution gives us scope for revolutionary activity. When the people want to change their constitution in Canada they can. But if a change of society cannot be brought about by peaceful means when the majority of the people of Canada want a change of society, then force must be used. For when the minority appeal to force to defeat the will of the majority, then the majority must appeal to force also in order that the will of the people may be carried out.

"Home, sweet home," the song that so many have sung was written by Tom Paine, the man who never had a home of his own, who was a wanderer and who died in a distant land. Many capitalists want the workers to sing "Home sweet home," but the irony of it is that the workers are like Tom Paine. They have no home of their own. The capitalists own them.

HOW MARSHALL FIELD GOT HIS MONEY

By James Pratt.

As has always happened in the development of our cities, there have been men who, by chance or foresight, owned tracts of land that increased enormously in value in a short period of time. Some of these fortunate people always live as ordinarily as ever, while others use their easily attained wealth as a means of obtaining more—by frauds, law-breaking, and worst of all, by robbing men of that which they earn by irksome labor.

In all the history of the United States it is impossible to find a man who took as great an advantage of the working class as did Marshall Field, famed for honesty and industry, because he sung his own praises in the ears of his biographers and returned to charitable institutions an insignificant part of the amount which he stole from the community.

If it had not been for the civil war we should probably not know of Marshall Field today. When the war began he was a partner in a Chicago dry goods house. The firm proceeded to hold up the nation for exorbitant prices in its contracts, and forced the government to pay the highest sums for the poorest material.

The national officers were in collusion with the contractors, so the company to which Field belonged received enormous profits, the money with which Field purchased hundreds of acres of land which is now occupied by the city of Chicago.

Once started, he needed no continuance of the conditions which prevailed in a time of war to keep him accumulating money. The means of those who were less fortunate than he were insufficient to withstand him, and he preyed upon them with almost inhuman greed.

In 1887 his partners, Leiter and Palmer, were dropped. This left him in absolute control of the company, and he at once began the manufacture of dry goods and continued to sell them at wholesale and retail, thereby getting the profit that is usually divided between three companies.

According to Gustavus Myers, in his book, entitled "History of the Great American Fortunes," Field's income at this time was estimated to be at the rate of about \$500 to \$700 an hour, and this was because thousands of the people who worked for him were getting wages which were inadequate even for a bare existence.

Ninety-five per cent of the laborers received \$12 per week or less. The women who toiled at the sewing machines all day making clothes to be sold in the Field stores, were paid only \$6.75 a week.

Those who made socks and stockings got only \$5 a week. So large numbers of them were forced to crowd together in foul tenements, where they subsisted on the cheapest food obtainable.

The conditions of the slums today are well known. They were as bad or worse than they are now. Field was deaf to all requests for higher wages, and if a competing firm undersold him a fraction of one per cent, he at once lowered the wages of his laborers so that he could make a greater profit than his competitors did.

If he discovered one man who was not working as rapidly as the others, that man's wages were lowered or he was dismissed. Few who were not connected directly with Field's establishment knew of the conditions which existed.

The newspapers, largely dependent on Field for support, would not print a paragraph which would be detrimental to the continuance of the wretched conditions which resulted from his avarice.

As shown by his own reports, in 1901 the business of the firm of Marshall Field & Co., reached a total of \$50,000,000. Because of this prosperity he soon became one of the largest dry goods manufacturers in the world.

He owned factories in all parts of the world and each one of his employees was paid as little as possible. He even employed, until the investigation of D. B. Anthony in 1907, the privilege of discriminatory express rates on the shipment of goods.

Besides buying large tracts of land, much of his profit was invested in stocks and bonds. He was the controlling factor in the Pullman Car company.

A biographer writes: "Field is, and for years has been, in almost absolute control. Pullman was little more than a figurehead." So Field had working for him all the laborers hired by the Pullman company. Not satisfied with ordinary profits, this company built a so-called "model" town, for working men.

The company furnished all the necessities of life—even the houses. But they did not furnish these without cost. Gas, which cost the company 33 cents per thousand feet, was sold to the laborers at \$2.25. Other necessities were to be had at proportion-

ate profits. The men were even taxed 50 cents a month for having shutters on their houses. The amount which a workingman was paid and the amount it cost him to live were so accurately calculated that the special commission appointed by President Cleveland found that the bi-weekly checks of the laborers ran from four cents to a dollar each.

In the panic year of 1893 wages were reduced one-fourth. During the following year the declared dividends were nearly \$3,000,000, and at the end of the year the Pullman workers were \$70,000 in arrears to the company for rent alone.

The workers struck, but the entire powers of the national government and those of most of the states affected were used to crush this mighty labor uprising.

The laborers were alone, and the United States judge, at the behest of the railroad companies, brought unprecedented injunctions against the strikers. So the men were compelled to go back to work, to spend more months in toiling without receiving a remuneration sufficient to supply them with the necessities of life.

Thus it was possible for Marshall Field to increase his wealth at such a surprising rate. He did not even pay taxes, according to the laws of the state of Illinois. For many years he was taxed for property amounting to \$2,500,000, and told the assessors that if they raised this valuation he would leave Chicago. But when the schedule of his property was filed in court it was found that he had at least \$17,500,000 of taxable property. A check for one million dollars quieted the whole affair but not until it was conclusively proven that this popular idol did not owe his success to his absolute integrity and pure, undefiled character.

CONSTRUCTIVE

It is time, I think, that the Socialists began constructing.

It is an open secret that the present age is a corrupt one. What with hard times, unemployed, prostitute houses in the shadow of wealthy churches, the growing slum areas, strikes, lockouts, military burdens, revolutions and other signs of an unhealthy society, it is not so necessary as it once was to attack capitalism. Capitalism is destroying itself. It is doomed.

What shall take its place? I think that this question can be with advantage brought more to the front. Much of our denunciation of capitalism is wasted. The present order is rotten. Most everybody knows it. Why waste so much time in asserting an obvious truth.

It is time for the Socialists to become more constructive, to be more positive and less negative. Let us go to the workers with the announcement that Socialism will give them the full product of their toil.

Let us tell them that they can live in homes instead of rented houses.

Man's mind is limited. When he is thinking of one thing he cannot think of another. We Socialists describe the fearful conditions that exist under capitalism. The attention of the hearers is fixed on this denunciation. Then after we have denounced capitalism for many minutes and our hearers are fatigued from long listening, we begin to tell what Socialism will do. The hearers are tired, and can no longer absorb ideas. So they yawn and say, "Rot, that's what they all say."

Why not adopt a little different style of address. Why not begin the talk with a description of what Socialism will do? Let old capitalism lie idle for a little. Fix the attention on Socialism. In this way we catch the attention of the audience while the minds of the listeners are still fresh. We do not attack or denounce capitalism and they cannot say that we are mere knockers.

Try a little of this line of talk and see how quick it will win attention. When the listeners see what Socialism will do they will get mad themselves and denounce capitalism.

Lloyd George has put in a new clause in the budget this year. Seven million dollars have been voted to build and equip sanatoria for consumptives. This is dealing with the question from the wrong end. Why have consumption at all? If the parasite landlords and profit mongering capitalists and interest receivers were eliminated then good homes could be built, workers could earn enough to provide good food. Fresh air and exercise in the open could take the place of overwork and consumption would largely cease. Seven millions from the capitalist politicians to take care of the wrecks they are turning out by the thousands will win little gratitude from those who wish to see healthy and happy people.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

A Comrade writes taking me to task for giving so much space to industrial unionism and to the Industrial Workers of the World. This Comrade says I must have very good reasons for giving them space in the paper or else I must be very much mistaken. He warns me that the industrialists are anarchists and that the I. W. W.'s fight the political Socialists and do all they can to hurt our movement. Let us look at this question and see where we stand. What are we Socialists fighting for? We realize that the political state is what keeps the workers in slavery. Now what must we do? We must capture the political state, say the political actionists. So far so good. But what then? Shall the capitalist state endure? I do not think it will. I do not think the political state is fitted to serve the interests of the working class. I think you will find that the Socialists aim at capturing the political state to abolish it. When we abolish the political state, what will happen? We will have an industrial democracy based upon labor in mine, mill, factory or on the farm or railway! We political actionists aim at capturing the political state to abolish it. The industrial unionists aim at so organizing the industrial democracy within the shell of capitalism that the capitalist state will be burst by the new order and the working class thus come to its rightful inheritance. We political actionists say that Socialism will not come till the economic conditions are ripe. The industrial unionists say the same. We say that political action and the state are the result of the economic needs of the master class, that when a new master class arises the political forms suited to the old will change. Now I think there is much to be said in favor of the industrial unionist point of view. We political actionists are out to capture the political state which we admit to be the political instrument formed by the capitalist class and which will be unsuited to our needs when we have captured it. The industrial unionists in preparing the political form—the industrial union—which will be suited to the political needs of the working class when they come to power, are, if anything, more logical than we political actionists are. That is why I devote so much space to them.

The Manitoba provincial government will inaugurate a vigorous campaign for settlers. Ontario, Quebec and other provinces are out after settlers and the Dominion government maintains agents to entice people to come to Canada. The capitalist system has got so rotten that it cannot maintain itself in Canada save by a constant influx of new people. These new people require homes and cleared farms and machinery and railways and the capitalists set their slaves to work spanning the continent with steel rails and building more mills and homes. The Dominion government aids and abets the capitalists by voting them huge sums of money. The capitalists fondly hope that when the mills are built along with the railways and the homes that the capitalists will own these things and through paper titles keep the workers of Canada in slavery forever. But this will not be. The Canadian workers want freedom. The present owners will have their title deeds to the wealth of Canada ignored and the workers will run industry themselves.

The Lloyd George insurance scheme is being looked upon with contempt by the workers and with hatred by the doctors. The sickness insurance scheme provides for the care of the sick by state employed physicians. The physicians do not like this. They don't want to, let go their private practices and be turned into state servants on small pay. They would far rather be in the independent professional class where they can hunt their own victims and charge the victims high. I have considered that doctors are more or less humbugs just like preachers and lawyers. The doctors do a lot of good. But they mix it up with a lot of useless rot and sell the good and the buncombe to the people at a good round figure. The fight the English doctors are putting up against the Lloyd George scheme shows this. The workers themselves are not overly struck on the scheme. For they know that they are robbed and such little palliatives as Lloyd George hands out to them makes them disgusted.

Sixty per cent of the adult workers of Great Britain get less than seven dollars and a half a week. The Labor Party demands that a minimum wage of that amount be paid to every adult worker. This scares the capitalists. It could be paid quite easily and much more. But the workers will get nothing but a bare living as long as they allow the capitalists to get the greater share of the annual wealth produced by the workers.

HERE'S A SUB BLANK FOR YOU

In this copy of Cotton's. It is a Hearty Send-off for the New Press. The new machine started work with last issue, No. 142, which served notice on all and sundry that Cotton's is out for 50,000. The equipment is here to do it, what is needed is the subs. Therefore this "Hearty Send-off" Sub Blank is timely. Go out with it and land a list in honor of the occasion. Get on the honor list of patriots who are going to keep the press working to its limit for Socialism.

LEISURE HOURS

The Socialists are out to give the ownership of the machinery of production and distribution to the collective working class in order that the working class may run industry themselves, get all that is in it, and have comfort and leisure hours after their labor.

The capitalist class say this is impossible. The workers are lazy brutes who must be driven to work. They will not work unless driven to it, and if they ran industry themselves they would all loaf and nothing would be done.

The capitalists say that the workers are all the time wanting to loaf, wanting to have holidays on full pay and are trying to gouge more pay.

This reminds me of a story about an English worker talking to his chum. This fellow said it was queer how his wife was all the time asking for money, and would never let him be. The mate asked what she did with all the money he gave her. He replied, "I dunno. I haven't given her any yet."

That is the way with the capitalist class. They say the workers are lazy beggars who want holidays and rest and more pay. When asked what the workers do with their holidays and big pay the bosses must perforce reply that they have not given their slaves holidays nor big pay.

The workers from the viewpoint of the capitalists are working plugs to be worked as hard as they will stand on the least pay they will work for and to be shipped just as soon as the bosses can't make a profit out of them.

The wages paid are just enough to feed, clothe and shelter the wage plugs. When they are shipped the wage plugs cannot have a holiday or leisure. They must begin the hunt for another master at once.

The working class are starved for rest, are starved for leisure and holidays and freedom from worry over the providing of food, clothing and shelter.

The capitalist class deliberately serve them in order to keep them eager for a job, to keep them from having time to think and rebel.

The capitalist class of Canada slanders the working class when they say the workers are lazy beggars. The large mansions, wide streets, costly apparel, automobiles, costly theatres, large club houses, dainty food of the master class, all produced by the sweat and toil of the workers, prove that the workers are not lazy beggars.

It is the capitalist class who are the lazy beggars who want work.

Keep your efforts going and direct them where they will do the most good. Get it firmly fixed into your heads that you and your Comrades, be they few or many, are going to capture your own constituency for Socialism.



COTTON'S COMPENDIUM OF FACTS gives the correct answer every time to questions. It is a source of strength to the Socialist Speaker or Agitator up against people who want to know. There's Canadian information and figures in "Facts" that cannot be obtained anywhere else, information that only a man like Cotton would spend hours upon hours of time to dig up for freedom lovers.

And the best of it is that Money Won't Buy "Facts." A plume will have to work for Socialism to get it. It's a bumper of a little book, fits the pocket, looks and wears well, and its Red. Orders for subs, sub cards, bundles or agitation, totalling \$5.00 take "Facts" free, postpaid. Credit sent after smaller amounts.

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