

family line existing at the present time goes back to the same ancestry. We may note that even in these cases, so far as they have been investigated, the family lines are not by any means identical in type, but that considerable differences among them are found. Even long inbreeding does not product an identity of family lines. Purity of type would entail a great similarity between different family lines and at the same time a great similarity between the brothers and sisters belonging to each family. As a matter of fact, great uniformity in either respect does not exist among any known group. Similarity of family strains is characteristic of inbred populations of mixed origin such as are found in our modern cities or in countries with immigration drawn from a large area. Great similarity among brothers and sisters in each family is dependent upon the uniformity of the ancestry, but it is not necessarily connected with long-continued inbreeding. To give an example, the mulatto population of South Africa, descendants of Negroes and Dutch settlers, has developed largely by inbreeding. Therefore the family lines are alike, while the children of each family vary very much among themselves and exhibit a mixture of Negro and white traits.

A more detailed study of the constitution of a single race shows that its family lines vary considerably in anatomical and functional characteristics. The pigmentation of one family line may be quite distinct from that of another. Pathological traits appear in some strains of the population. Mental traits characteristic of certain family lines will not be shared by others.

When comparing different races it is found that the variability of the genotypes comprising each race is so great that a family line might find its proper place in several races. In other words, many hereditary characteristics are not racial in character, but must be assigned to geno-typical lines, to family strains.

If this is true, it is clear that any generalized characterization of a race must be misleading. It may be possible to characterize family lines, but the assumption of general racial characteristics, anatomical, physiological, or mental, excepting those that belong to the race as a whole, is arbitrarily made.

The actual problem, therefore, from an objective standpoint, resolves itself into the question whether any characteristics, aside from purely anatomical ones, can be found that differentiate races so that they are common characteristics by which the racial position of all individuals and all family lines may be determined.

There is no doubt that social groups show essential differences in their appearance and their behavior, but this does not imply that these characteristics are hereditarily determined. Individuals of quite distinctive anatomical build adopt the same functional habits with great ease. We find among people speaking the same language the most diverse forms of articulating organs; but the mode of pronunciation depends upon anatomical conditions only in extreme cases. It is determined by the social environment in which the individual grows up. The characteristic motor tendencies of large divisions of mankind are also not determined by the special form of the skeleton and of the muscular system, but by historically determined motor habits. An example of this is the distribution of different methods of the use of bow and arrow which is characteristic of enormously wide areas. Proof of the socially determined character of mental reactions is also found in the difference in the behavior of a people in different periods. The descent of the Elizabethan English and the modern English is practically the same. Nevertheless the early free and easygoing life contrasts strongly with the social restrictions and prudery of the middle of the past century. So far as I can see, no convincing proof has ever been

given of the hereditary character of complex functions that are found prevailing among a given people at the present time. We rather see that all racial strains, when subjected to the same social environment, develop the same functional tendencies. The plasticity of function is so great that it may overcome to a great extent the difference in organic form.

Nevertheless individual differences in function and family characteristics of function may very well exist and be recognized, but the variability of the family lines constituting each race will be found so great that in this case also we have no right to speak of racial hereditary traits.

The occurrence of hereditary mental traits that belong to a particular race has never been proved. The available evidence makes it much more likely that the same mental traits appear in varying distribution among the principal racial groups. The behavior of an individual is therefore not determined by his racial affiliation, but by the character of his ancestry and his cultural environment. We may judge of the mental characteristics of families and individuals, but not of races.

COTTON CULTIVATION OF THE GASH LANDS OF KASSALA PROVINCE, SOUDAN.

(Continued from page 1)

regards cotton growing will obviously be dictated by the Soudan Plantations Syndicate, who have only one object in the Soudan, namely, to grow cotton, and, if necessary to do so, enslave the natives to serve their purpose. The native cultivator of the Gash lands will be faced with either submitting to the demands made upon him for labour—and in the Soudan the Government carry out a policy of enforced labour whenever necessary—or being driven from the lands with no hope of support.

The Gash lands have from time immemorial been the watering-ground of herds of sheep and goats owned by the natives, and will become increasingly less available as the water is directed for irrigation purposes under the gigantic scheme of cotton cultivation of the Kassal Cotton Company. There are no watering-places to replace these that will ultimately become lost to the native. The total area of the Gash delta is well over 500,000 acres, and it is estimated

that within ten years of the completion of the Thann-Kassala railway the Kassala Cotton Company will have 100,000 acres under cotton.

There are two economic difficulties met with in the Soudan. The first is lack of transportation facilities, and the other lack of native labour. The Kassala Company have by a happy move to themselves overcome the first of these difficulties, and with the aid and very willing co-operation of the Soudan Government they may hope to overcome the other, and by what means need never be questioned. What can be said with safety is that the project has served its main purpose, namely, that of cotton cultivation in the Gash delta.

The method by which the Soudan is governed today by the Governor-General and his Council of four or five officials is the one surviving link of the worst possible type of autocratic government, and its censorial policy permits of the gravest abuse.

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-swelling 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 upon 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 quickly as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

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