

Marxian school say that these latter have no claim to any share at all.

Marxian or "Scientific" Socialism.

Now we cannot undertake to go into all the different kinds of Socialism and to explain their theories; yet, we may attempt to state the main principles of that theory of Socialism which commands the widest allegiance, and is the principal basis of the Socialistic movement in the United States and Canada, as well as in Germany. This is the so-called "scientific" Socialism—the Socialism of Karl Marx. In the Presidential election of 1912, over 900,000 votes were polled for Eugene V. Debs, the Socialist candidate for President of the United States; this indicated an enormous increase, as compared with 1908, in the strength of the Socialist movement. This American Socialist movement is based on the teaching of Karl Marx, and as this movement has also invaded Canada, and most Canadian Socialists are of this type, it is important for us to consider Marx's teaching, and where it seems to be most at fault.

The Economic Interpretation of History.

The ground-work of the whole doctrine of Marx is the doctrine known as the economic interpretation of history—the idea that the whole civilization of a people, their literature, language, laws, form of government, and even their religion itself, are a consequence of their method of earning their living and their success or lack of success in so doing.

Marx holds that the life of a society resembles the life of an individual in being a period of ceaseless change, and that the ideas and institutions of each period in that life are necessarily relative to the economic condition of society at that particular time, and that all other social institutions—the church, the courts, the literature—of a country arise in the first place out of its economic conditions and changes. The political constitution and the laws of a country are determined by the economic requirements