

divorce-court scandals, it might appear that in this part of their propaganda the Socialists have something worth serious thought, at any rate.

### *III. The Socialist and Religion.*

When, however, we come to the Socialist attitude toward religion, we are met at the very outset by a statement which shows that if there has been misunderstanding, it has not been all on one side. After asserting that the ethical teachings of Christianity are in no way opposed to Socialism, and saying that the Golden Rule of Christianity might well be the Socialist motto, the *Socialist Catechism*, an official publication, answers the question : "Is Socialism opposed to religion?" by the astonishing statement and contrast : "Religion concerns man's future life ; Socialism his present life." If we are to infer from this that Socialists hold that religion does not concern man's present life, then we are bound to take exception to that phase of the system at any rate.

But when we come to consider the position of the Socialist toward organized Christianity, and their way of appreciating and understanding the teachings of Christ, the position they occupy is at once seen to be a very strong one, supported not by isolated texts of Scripture, not by warping and twisting, but by a general view of the New Testament. In the Anglican Communion there are many ardent Socialists among the clergy, and the