

### SOCIALISM, REVOLUTION AND THE LAW OF CHANCE.

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go further and say that economic conditions will often force revolutions; that, given conditions of starvation sufficiently acute, the chances of revolt are so great as to be almost certain. If unemployment in Great Britain were sufficiently widespread and unrelieved by maintenance grants, revolution would almost certainly come whether Mr. Lloyd George or Mr. Arthur Henderson were in power. But I would remind those who desire a physical force revolution that all human experience shows that, as soon as the government compromised and granted large enough doles (I refer strictly to English conditions), the chance that the back of the revolution would be broken would be great; that the traditional leaders (Trade Union leaders, local councillors, parsons, middle-class "sympathizers"), a reflex remember of the normal mass intelligence, would throw their whole weight for law and order after the compromise was made; and that the chance of a minority even gaining power by revolution among such a nation of compromisers would be so slight as not to be worth serious consideration. The chance of evolving a reorganized society by stabilizing conditions at every stage in its growth, and manipulating a solution to every grievance such that its application will lead clearly in the direction of a co-operative commonwealth, and at the same time satisfying the masses immediately so as to establish a bond of intellectual sympathy between them and the Socialist ideal—the chance of this is obviously much greater than that of a whole people, unprepared and undeveloped, accepting suddenly a brand new Soviet Socialist Republic at the distastefulship of a minority, even if that minority performed the nearly impossible task of seizing power.

Whatever policy any party adopts it is always based tacitly on the chance of its success, hence the laws of chance, the certainty or uncertainty of their operation, ought to be consciously analysed.

### DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY

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moeracy in rights, of brotherhood among men, of equality in rights and privileges, and universal education foreshadow the next higher plane of society to which experience and knowledge, given impulse by material development, are steadily tending. All the conditions in civilized society seem to indicate the imminence of a mighty, a fundamentally revolutionary change. The precursors of that change are already in existence. They appeared with the coming of the machine age. The age-long struggle of the classes, has not only reached a positive degree of intensity, but on the part of the workers has taken on at least a semblance of being intelligently directed.

And so we must come to the conclusion that materialism has been the dynamic or motivating factor in human history. "God" has never taken a positive part in shaping the destinies of man, and is therefore eliminated as a factor. A thousand telescopes have swept the heavens, looking billions of miles into space without finding any trace of him; "Creation" as far as we know had no beginning; there was no Eden at the morning of existence; life did not begin with sinning against God, and there was no serpent to tell man the truth. He learned the truth on the road of experience.

No social system ever disappears before the laws of historical materialism have decreed it so; it is true in this process the human mind plays a part of importance, but the material factors are in reality the start, which give the mind the impulse to investigate, to penetrate and to try and find a solution. There must be an harmonious co-operation between idealism and materialism; but the materialist factor is the more important directive factor of the two, and when might shall finally become sufficiently educated and organized and strong to enforce the right that by every sense of justice belongs to the workers of the world, these workers will, through

the new form of government, take over for society, and carry on the management of the means of wealth production to which everyone must have access in order to live. And finally centralization of capital will have proceeded to that point where, as Marx says: "Centralization of the means of production and socialization of labor at last reach that point where they become incompatible with their capitalist integument. This integument is burst asunder. The expropriators are expropriated,"—then will be the time when the working class shall have achieved its historic mission: the emancipation of the world from divisions and conflicts. In the enjoyment of the full social product of their labor all the people of the world will enter upon a more exalted plane of thought and conduct, and a higher civilization with its accompanying institutions will prevail.

JOHN LOHEIT.

## SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

### PROPAGANDA MEETINGS

EVERY SUNDAY

### THEATRE ROYAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 16.

Speaker: J. HARRINGTON.

Subject: "The Paris Commune"

All meetings at 8 p.m.

Questions. Discussion.

## 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 speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

### HERE ARE NOW.

WE'RE a little better than our last appearance, Here and Now, though not much. We observe one esteemed contemporary displaying mast-head signals for subs. and seductively offering one's choice of 15 strawberry plants, a "village blacksmith" butcher knife, 12 bulbs or an account book. These, says the journal, are the reader's reward. Now our reward offerings are contained in the quality of the reading matter in these columns. Everyone a prize-winner—who subscribes. That's all you have to do—to subscribe. Simple. Help distribute the prizes by getting more readers. And while you are at it see that your own sub. is not in delicate health. These robust ones are registered since last issue:

Following, \$1 each—G. P. Craig, "F. C.," C. F. Orchard, J. R. Larson, W. K. Bryce, A. W. Sowry, M. W. Smith, Hy. Dosch, F. Donohue, R. Watt, M. Goudie.

Following, \$2 each: W. Woolridge, S. V. Valisco, Geo. Aspden, W. J. Kennedy.

Frisco Labor College (per J. K.), \$9.60; R. Heilinger, \$3; F. W. Moore, 25 cents; T. A. Lessey, 50 cents; D. J. Sullivan, 25 cents.

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