

Communism and Christianism

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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.

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ROCKEFELLER IN THE HOLY LAND.

In these days of depression and disaster it is good to find some cheerful news, and quite the most delightful morsel I have found in the press lately is the Reuter cable from Washington announcing that Great Britain has consented to give the Standard Oil Company exploring rights in Palestine. The association of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, the old man who has been called the "richest Baptist on earth," with the Holy Land is surely a part of the eternal fitness of things. Mr. Rockefeller is too explore the Mount of Olives or the Valley of the Jordan personally, but he has earnest young evangelists who without rest will seek the hidden riches of the Land. Other travellers have gone there to look at the scenery and to adore the imaginary relics of the Founder of Christianity. It is the Standard Oil Company which has chosen the better part, and we cannot doubt that the prayers of Mr. Rockefeller have been answered. If, like Cowper's lacemaker, he "can read his title clear to mansions in the skies," he can read it still clearer to "gushers" and oil wells. The Bible contains many texts which that pious man may well meditate on with rapture. Take Deut. xxxii, 13, where we are told that the Lord made Jacob to "suck oil out of the flinty rock." Could there be a more perfect anticipation of John's derricks at work in a petroliferous area, for "petroleum" means "rock oil"! Again, in Micah vi, 7, we find the inquiry, "Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil?" The prophet seems doubtful; but there is no doubt about John D. Rockefeller. He leaves the rams to his friend Mr. Armour of the Meat Trust; but if there are any rivers of oil to be found anywhere John D. is after them, either personally or by deputy. Mr. Rockefeller, it may be added, is a pietist of a brand not quite new to Palestine; but he is well summed up by Miss Ida M. Tarbell, the historian of the Standard Oil Company, when she says: "Mr. Rockefeller is the victim of money-passion which blinds him to every other consideration in life; which is stronger than his sense of justice, his humanity, his affections, his joy in life; which is the one tyrannous, insatiable force of his being."

—The Literary Guide.

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