

WEALTH AND WANT

Exploiters Enjoy the Luxuries While the Exploited Starve

Society people are often accused of not knowing what to do with their time. It might also be said that many of them do not know what to do with their money, when one sees the thousand spent on fads and fancies, says London Tit-Bits.

Ten thousand dollars for a dog's necklace, \$4.50 for a pound of strawberries, \$1,000 for four fish, \$5,000 for a dress, beds that cost \$5,000, \$2,500 for a brand-new complete on, \$500 on facial massage and "tearing" thus do the "upper ten" get rid of their spare thousands.

SPECIAL FLATS FOR DOGS.

One well-known society woman sets apart the whole of the top floor of her London house for her pets. They have luxurious carpets, sofas, cushions, eat the best meat, and have many changes of raiment. There are elaborate "toilet establishments" especially for dogs, where the "little dears" are groomed, and at a hospital for animals beds for dogs are endowed for \$500 each, while a mother in the East end is feeding her newborn babe on hot water and biscuit. Milk she cannot afford.

This is but one of the contrasts shown by Mr. W. B. Northrop in his book, "Wealth and Want," which draws such a powerful picture of what society people spend and how the poor live.

A short time ago there was exhibited in a shop window in Oxford Street a costly brass bedstead, with down quilt, embroidered counterpane, and brocade canopy. At first sight it was thought to be for a Royal baby. As a matter of fact, the costly cot was for a dog. These pampered pets of the rich are often treated on a par with their own children.

\$50,000 FOR A DRESS.

Some remarkable illustrations are given to the extravagance of society ladies in the matter of dress. One woman who moves in the best society recently spent no less than \$50,000 for a dress embroidered with pearls, which she wore once only. Little comment is now aroused when ladies spend \$2,500 to \$5,000 for a dress. For a mantle of silver fox they will cheerfully pay \$3,000, while the material for a \$25,000 Court dress for one evening's wear will cost \$125 per yard. Yet, as Mr. Northrop points out, not two miles away thousands of young girls are wearing out their lives making men's trousers at 10 cents each and ladies nightdresses at 50 cents per dozen.

At a recent flower show in the Temple there was exhibited \$500,000 worth of orchids alone. Some of these orchids were valued at \$2,500 each. One man bought six for \$17,900. Just outside the iron railings which separate the Temple Gardens from the Thames Embankment every night a different "show" takes place—a pitiful exhibition of outcast humanity. The price of the record-breaking orchids—\$6,352.50—expended in 8-cent meals would provide 76,230 starving people with a dinner.

SPENT ON BANQUETS.

Sumptuous repasts in the Metropolis have been known to cost from \$250 to \$500 per plate. At a Christmas dinner given in London to fifty guests, \$500 was spent in decoration of the rooms; flowers, \$2,000; electric bouquets, \$394; dinner including wines, \$1,837; hand-painted menus, \$260; entertainment, \$6,250; and extras brought the total cost of the dinner up to \$12,500. But unemployed workmen will wait outside a shelter all night in order to get a crust of bread and a mug of cocoa, or beg a ticket for a bowl of soup.

The "curled darlings" of society have splendid houses in the West end, with palatial apartments lavishly furnished, while there are 507,763 families with children occupying single rooms; and homeless men think themselves "in luck" if they get 4 cents to sleep in a "cotton" covered by a piece of American cloth.

The rich pay enormous rents for town residences. A well-known landlord has opened some flats in Park Lane. The rents of the first, second, and third floors are \$15,000 each; for the fourth floor, \$12,000; and for the fifth floor, \$7,500. The sixth floor can at a price be secured by many of our readers who want to go in for "high" thinking, it only costs \$6,250 per annum.

EAST AND WEST.

The wealthy do not hesitate to pay \$50 per night for comfortable apartments at the great London hotels, while destitute women and children are supposed to "enjoy" floor bunks in London shelters, which are unfit

for human beings. Boxes of cigars are sold which cost \$250 for fifty, or \$5 each, while hundreds of tailors in Soho slave every day of the year for \$125.

Where does all this wealth come from? The robbery of the workers.

Socialist Marching Song

By JOHN SPARGO

Onward ye hosts! Sound loud the battle cry.

March bravely on with banners gleaming red!

See, the foe weakens. Victory is nigh!

The world is trembling "neath your mighty tread!"

On, Comrades, on! Let this the slogan be,

"We will not rest until the world is free!"

March, Comrades, march! There gleams against the sky

The promise true; Our chains shall broken be!

Sound loud the anthem! Raise the standard high!

Hark! Hark! Our comrades cheer across the sea!

On, Comrades, on! The cause of freedom gains,

The nations rise at last to break their chains!

Onward with song! Rejoice, the night is past!

The day is here! Its glory fills the sky!

Labor is waking from its sleep at last

Our scarlet standard proudly floats on high!

On, Comrades, on! The living and the dead

Join in the triumph of our banner red!

Onward with faith! Hark! From their restless graves

The heroes call to cheer you in the fight!

In their dark hovels, want's uncouth slaves

Wait for their freedom on your sacred might!

On, Comrades, on! Nor rest nor halt must be

Till the last slave of all the earth is free!

The Reward of Virtue

In the Labour Leader for August 6, under the title "Encouraging Honesty," we dealt with the case of a working-class lad who, finding a £5 note, was rewarded by the owner with the magnificent gift of 1d.

Yet another case of unwonted generosity has since come to light. It seems that a brewer's drayman found near Harlow a bag containing bank-notes and cheques to the value of several hundred pounds. He telegraphed to the owner, whose name and address he discovered, and, after his day's work, hired a bicycle and rode a distance of twenty miles to restore the valuable find. The finder was surprised to receive the handsome sum of 7s. as his reward, out of which he had to pay the cost of the telegram and the hire of the bicycle.

The name of the great-hearted gentleman whose generosity was thus signally manifested has not transpired. Probably he prefers to blush unseen in modest retirement. At all events, it is to be hoped that he will blush somewhere or other.

LABOUR LEADER

Paid in Advance

Every copy of Cotton's Weekly is paid for before it leaves this office. If you get Cotton's through the mail with a little red address label on it, your subscription has been paid by some friend who wishes you to look into the socialist doctrines. You need not hesitate to take Cotton's from the post office as no bill will be rendered, and the paper will be promptly discontinued when the subscription expires.

"Merrie England"

We are having quite a demand for this excellent little book by Robt. Blatchford. Probably the best book to hand to anyone who knows nothing of socialism. Has had a sale of over a million copies. Up-to-date edition from Chas. H. Kerr Co. Ten cents per copy.

JOIN THE ARMY.

It costs tremendously to advertise a newspaper, and we aren't doing it. We have preferred to make Cotton's a handsome eight page weekly at a low price in order to please our subscribers and induce them to have other names inscribed on our lists. If you like our sentiments and our style, show your appreciation by joining our little army of sub hustlers.

Socialism's Attempt to Claim Christianity

From the Literary Digest.

That primitive Christianity was a movement largely confined to the proletariat is a widely accepted view of Christian origins. But something more is made of this view in these days. It is now being adapted to give weight and currency to the claim that Christianity was originally a class movement of the poor against the rich. Not long ago Professor Deismann, of the University of Berlin, exploited this theory in a book on "Primitive Christianity and the Lower Classes of Society." This position of Deismann and others is now being used by the learned protagonists of Social Democracy to show that in its beginnings Christianity was really a Social Democratic agitation; that it was a bread-and-butter question of the masses, and really not a religious movement at all. The ablest and most scholarly exponent of this rather startling explanation of the beginnings of the Christian religion is the literary leader of the theory of Social Democracy, Karl Kautsky, who has lately published a book, entitled "The Origins of Christianity." In it we find the following radical views:

"The proper method for the judgment of great movements in history is the 'materialistic,' which should be substituted for the 'idealistic' current among theologians and historians. Not the ideas and the deeds of individual men are the active factors in the development of historical movements, but solely the movements of the masses that operate in accordance with certain laws. Christianity in its beginnings and early development too must be judged from this viewpoint. Not the personalities that are reported as prominently active in primitive Christianity, such as Jesus and Paul, were really the powers that produced and developed this new religion agitation. This grew rather out of the social conditions and problems of the times that produced it. The social conditions that prevailed among the Jews at that time would readily produce a movement such as Christianity originally was."

"The real milieu out of which the Christian agitation grew was the party of zealots, the most radical protagonists of the Messianic idea and expectations. According to the testimony of Josephus, the historian, this party produced in the age before and after Jesus of Nazareth a large number of Messianic leaders, with larger or smaller bands of followers, all of whom 'died violent deaths.' Jesus, too, can be historically understood only if looked upon in this light. Not much that we know of him is historically reliable; but from Luke xii. 36, sqq., we can learn with considerable certainty that on the occasion of a great religious festival in Jerusalem, Jesus of Nazareth started an agitation which ended in a fiasco, because he was betrayed, and Jesus then died the death as an ordinary rebel."

"The movement which he intended to inaugurate has really very little in common with what was later or is now known as Christianity. The Christian movement of history is almost entirely independent of the person of Jesus. The real root of this movement is to be found in the communistic organizations at that time being established among the oppressed masses. It was a social and not religious movement, and was not in its kind and character absolutely new. The Essenes and the Therapeutae had already tried to realize such ideals of the emancipation and elevation of the proletariat masses, but primitive Christianity was the first to do this with any success. It was through the agitation of Jesus and his immediate followers that the oppressed proletariat tried to rid itself of its hard lot. All its ideals Christianity afterward transferred to its martyr hero Jesus, until finally it was changed into the unhistorical Jesus of the New Testament. The fact that Christianity was originally such a communistic and social democratic agitation is proved by the opening chapters of Acts and a number of passages in Luke."

"But the radical communism of the first century of primitive Christianity did not attain to victory. Through the fact that the classes and the higher ranks of society forced their way into the Church, and especially through the establishment of an official bureaucracy in the shape of an episcopacy, a reactionary element found its way into Christianity, and in the third and fourth centuries this led to an extensive revisionism. In this way the originally democratic primitive Christianity became in the course of time an Episcopal bureaucracy. It was not until Christianity had assumed this form that it became satisfactorily for the uses of imperial despotism and in a shape to be made the religion of the State. An effort to re-introduce the communistic and proletarian spirit of Christianity found its expression in the monastic system, but only with partial success. It was readily subdued by the greed of the clergy, and Christianity became more than ever divorced from its original purposes."

Why I Believe in the Socialist Party

By Rev. Roland D. Sawyer.

1. It is the only intelligently, scientifically organized party.

Civilization means the transformation of the human race from the brute struggle of the jungle to an organization of human society on a sane and rational basis. It is obvious that the next step in the evolution is the organization of the industry of the world. The Socialist party faces this. Every other party is either stupid and indifferent and does not see this, or else is reactionary and would stop the evolution at the present stage.

2. It is the only party actuated by high ideals.

By common consent of thoughtful men, the highest idealism the world has ever seen is that Jesus of Nazareth. Every other political party says that the golden rule of Jesus is impracticable. The Socialist party alone proposes a social order in which the golden rule can replace the rule of gold.

3. It is the only aggressive champion of the weak and poor.

The world is full of men and women who have been crowded down and who need help. Every other political party in the world is of and for the stronger class, that does not need help. The Socialist party alone collects the facts and figures and publishes to the world the awful conditions of the weak and poor, and wages an aggressive campaign for their relief.

4. It is the only party that promises success.

Every other political organization is devoid of any settled principle of policy. All other parties have degenerated into a mere squabble for the plunder.

The Socialist party faces the grave problems that confront human society, and offers an adequate remedy. It is the only party that promises that reign of justice on earth that the soul of man has ever longed for. It is the only party which shows a fixed, definite growth as a political force in the world.

5. Its membership inspires confidence and support.

In other political parties I find a manifest lack of conviction, a lack of purpose, a living death. Respiration is artificial; they are kept alive by paid politicians, a paid press and other means of education and leading public sentiment. The Socialist party, on the other hand, has a membership fired by enthusiasm, conviction and unity of purpose, not seen in any movement in the history of the world since the movement of primitive Christianity. Their faith in their cause is moving them to build up a press and establish other means of political propaganda; at a cost in labor, sacrifice and heroism, which impels one to the same faith and effort. Every man willing to face the way society is going rather than be contented to face the way it has come will find in the Socialist party the fellowship of kindred spirits and a place for work where his efforts can best tell for the advance of the race. Every man willing to throw himself into the cause of humanity will find in the Socialist party a high idealism on the part of its leaders, a sacrificing loyalty on the part of the rank-and-file that will inspire and elevate his whole life.

Progress come from below, not from above. It is hastened by members of the slave class actually engaging in propaganda work especially in America, by circulating Socialist literature.

Only a small number of people can be reached through hall lectures and street meetings. If locals confine themselves to this kind of propaganda, they will not make much headway.

SCOTT'S EMULSION

stops loss of flesh in babies and children and in adults in summer as well as winter. Some people have gained a pound a day while taking it.

Take it in a little cold water or milk. Get a small bottle now. All Druggists. THE STANDARD OF THE WORLD.

PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to, and support of the principles and programme of the revolutionary working class.

Labor produces all wealth, and to the producers it should belong. 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 their property rights in the means of wealth production and their 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 the direction of setting itself free from capitalist exploitation by the abolition of the wage system, under which is cloaked the robbery of the working-class at the point of production. To accomplish this necessitates the transformation of capitalist property in the means of wealth production into collective or working-class property.

The irrepressible conflict of interests between the capitalist and the worker is rapidly culminating in a struggle for possession of the power of government—the capitalist to hold, the worker to secure it by political action. 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 public 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 the collective property of the working class.

2. The democratic organization and management of industry by the workers.

3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

The Socialist Party, when in office, shall always and everywhere until the present system is abolished, make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct: Will this legislation advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will the Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

In accordance with this principle the Socialist Party pledges itself to conduct all the public affairs placed in its hands in such a manner as to promote the interests of the working class alone.

How to Organize

FROM OFFICIAL CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

In order to affiliate with the Socialist Party of Canada, the first requisite is to become thoroughly informed as to the necessity of the political organization of the workers on strictly class lines. This calls for some study of Socialist literature in order to be able to grasp at least the fundamental principles of capitalist economics, and the reasons for increasing poverty among the workers alongside of increasing wealth and power in the hands of the capitalists. It is of the utmost importance to become familiar with the program and principles of the Socialist Party of Canada, by a careful reading of its platform, constitution and other literature, which may be obtained from Locals, Provincial or Dominion Executive Committees.

Having become convinced of the soundness of the party's position and the correctness of its program, write the Provincial Executive Committee or the Dominion Executive Committee where no provincial organization exists, for a copy of the regular charter application form used by the party.

Five or more persons may make application for a charter, by signing and forwarding such application to the Provincial Executive Committee, or where no provincial organization exists, to the Dominion Executive Committee, accompanied by 10 cents for each signer to cover the current month's dues, and \$5 to cover the expense of supplies, including charter, financial books, warrants, membership cards, etc.

Upon receipt of charter proceed to elect officers as laid down in Article II. of the party constitution. At each business meeting follow out the order of business as laid down in Article VI.

It would be well to devote the first business meetings of the Local to becoming thoroughly familiar with all of the provisions of the party constitution, platform, etc. When this well-in-hand, the work of spreading the propaganda by holding public meetings, circulating literature and other means should be taken up.

A Local from its inception should train itself to attend as closely as possible to such work as legitimately belongs to it. It should learn to be accurate and methodical in keeping its records, both financial and otherwise, in making reports to the party committees and in attending to correspondence. It should be strict in requiring its officers to give close attention to their duties; it should give close attention to all reports made by the Dominion or Provincial Executive Committees, thus keeping closely in touch with, and well informed in regard to all party work.

Locals should realize that a continually increasing volume of work is falling upon the Executive Committees of the party, a burden which they will make easier to carry if they refrain from fault finding, suspicion and distrust. A measure of confidence must of necessity be placed in officials, and it is but fair to presume that they will attend to their duties and carry out their instructions as closely and completely as possible under the circumstances surrounding them.

It cannot be too strongly impressed upon Locals and party members that energy expended in spreading party propaganda and building up the party in their respective localities will prove more productive of good than picking flaws with party officers, committees and representatives, or bothering them with unreasonable or ridiculous requests. The pernicious activity of a few who are qualified to find fault and pick flaws, can easily nullify the work of the many who are actuated solely by a desire to build up the organization by furthering its work.

The Socialist Party of Canada has to deal with a population scattered over a vast territory. It has a stupendous task to perform. If its members be guided in their actions by reason and good judgment, the task may be speedily accomplished, and the Canadian workingmen come into control of Canadian industry and resources, a position that properly belongs to them by virtue of both usefulness and numbers.

For Charter Application, etc., write to D. G. McKENZIE, Secretary of the Socialist Party of Canada, Box 886, Vancouver, B. C.