

SOCIALISM AS IT IS DEFINED

By the Editor of the Winnipeg Daily Tribune.

For the Benefit of a Contemporary That Goes Into Paroxysms Every Time It Hears the Word.

For the benefit of the editor of the Free Press, who files into a paroxysm of alarm at the mere mention of the word socialism, we reproduce, says the Winnipeg Tribune, from the columns of a socialist newspaper a definition of the word. We trust the able editor will retain his equilibrium after learning from an authoritative source what socialism actually means.

Some dictionary definitions of the word are given as follows: Encyclopaedia Britannica: The ethics of socialism are identical with the ethics of Christianity.

Imperial Dictionary: The abolition of that individual action on which modern society depends, and the substitution of a regulated system of co-operative action.

Webster's Dictionary: A theory of society which advocates a more precise, orderly and harmonious arrangement of the social relations of mankind than that which has hitherto prevailed.

Worcester's Dictionary: The science of reconstructing society on an entirely new basis, by substituting the principles of association for that of competition in every branch of human industry.

Standard Dictionary: A theory of civil policy that aims to secure the reconstruction of society, increase of wealth, and a more equal distribution of the products of labor through the public collective ownership of land and capital (as distinguished from property) and the public collective management of all industries. Its motto is, "Every one according to his needs."

Century Dictionary: Any theory or system of social organization which would abolish entirely, or in great part, the individual effort and competition on which modern society rests, and substitute co-operation, would introduce a more perfect and equal distribution of the products of labor, and would make land and capital, as the instruments of production, the joint possession of the members of the community.

In addition to this the journal quoted the following definitions: Socialism, briefly defined means the production of commodities for use instead of for profit.

Socialists proposed to bring this about by placing all materials used in the production, distribution, and exchange of commodities under the control of the whole people, to be used by the people for the people.

Socialists do not advocate confiscation. On the contrary they are anti-confiscators, and desire to so organize industry and the conditions under which industry is carried on as to prevent a few from confiscating the wealth produced by the many.

Socialism does not necessarily advocate revolution; it is quite consistent with a belief in peaceful and gradual evolution. It believes, indeed, that this evolution has been going on for centuries, and that today socialist institutions exist in almost every town, village and parish in the country.

Socialism has nothing to do with a man's religion. He may be an Anglican, a Methodist, a Baptist, a Presbyterian, a Roman Catholic, or a believer in any other religion that teaches the brotherhood of man and still be a Socialist. Socialism does not attack the principles of religion. As a matter of fact, the ethics of Socialism are identical with the ethics of Christianity.

Socialism does not declare that the faculties of men are equal, but demands equality of opportunity for all. Socialism does not advocate dividing up, but asks that work should be provided for all, and that the wealth produced collectively should be used for the benefit of all. Socialism demands that all the people should be well fed, well housed, well educated.

Socialistic institutions include water-works, gas works, street railways, electric lighting, markets, baths, cemeteries, public schools, libraries, highways, bridges, fire halls, sewers, etc., all managed by the people for the people. Socialists are consciously working for an extension and expansion of these public services; that is, Socialists are seeking to replace competition by co-operation.

Socialists fully recognize how indispensable to life is the use or possession of land, and how inevitably improvements are crystallized by land holders into rent. They proposed to tax this increasing value, and to use the proceeds in remitting other objectionable forms of taxation. Large quantities of land are already publicly owned or controlled, and there is nothing difficult or unobtainable in a general extension of such ownership.

Socialists would gradually abolish the private landlord and capitalist, leaving to the community the organization and the carrying on of industry for the benefit of the whole people. This is merely an extension of principles already in operation. The Canadian government now operates the postoffice, and Postal Savings bank, the canals, one railroad, and one telegraph system, the volunteer and civil service system, government printing bureau, etc., and it could just as easily control all the railroads, telegraphs, telephones, banks, loan offices, fire and life insurance companies, oil wells, mines and other monopolies and work them for the benefit of all.

THEY OWN THE TOWN

Man and His Divorced Wife Awarded Palouse, Wash.

Palouse, Wash., Aug. 4.—Jacob Slaght and his divorced wife, Margaret Slaght, have served notice on the farmers of Palouse and vicinity that they must not store any hay or grain in any of the warehouses on the Northern Pacific railroad in Palouse, without first getting the consent of Mr. and Mrs. Slaght, and arranging with them for the storage charges. These notices have been served on farmers and posted in conspicuous places in Palouse and vicinity and have caused consternation to the warehousemen and farmers.

The United States supreme court has just decided the case of Jacob and Margaret Slaght vs. the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, in favor of the plaintiffs, after one of the longest and most hotly contested fights in the history of lien land litigation. Slaght and his wife homesteaded 160 acres of land, which the railroad company claimed as lieu land. The case was fought through every department of the United States land office, from the register to the secretary of the interior, the Slaghts winning in every instance.

Then the case was taken into the superior court of Whitman county five years ago, the Slaghts winning again, but an appeal to the state supreme court was taken and the judgment of the lower court sustained. The case was taken to the United States supreme court, and again Mr. and Mrs. Slaght were declared the rightful owners of the land.

The property is mostly within the city limits of Palouse, and the Northern Pacific has over half a mile of main line track, nearly a mile of side track, and its depot and other buildings on the land declared to be Slaght's. All the grain warehouses in Palouse are on the land, and now that Slaght and his ex-wife have been declared the owners they have served notice on the railroad company and the warehousemen that they must vacate the land, pay rent, or buy the property, and pay rent for all the time they have occupied the land.

As the warehousemen have the land under lease from the railroad company, they feel that the latter should protect them. The notice that Slaght and wife will claim storage on all grain and hay stored in the warehouses in Palouse has caused consternation among them, and is causing farmers to take their grain to other points to store it. E. W. McCroskey, attorney for Mr. and Mrs. Slaght, says he will collect storage from all farmers storing grain in these warehouses, no matter how much storage they must pay to the warehousemen, and he is notifying farmers of this intention, in order to fortify his right to collect the rent.

The property involved is very valuable and the railroad company cannot vacate, as the land lies along the river and it would be impossible to avoid passing through it.

Lost All in Klondike. In J. R. Montgomery, who has during the past month been almost constantly an inmate of the city jail, charged with drunkenness and vagrancy. Detective Sheets and First Sergeant Jennings, of the Salt Lake police department, who are in Seattle on official business, yesterday recognized a former Salt Lake business man who three years ago stood high in that city, socially and financially.

Montgomery now is a veritable tramp in appearance and was several weeks ago arrested on the streets, suffering from delirium tremens and a broken arm. Although several times released from jail since that time he has always wandered back and asked to be taken in again. He is penniless and is in a pitiable plight.

The Salt Lake officers state that at the time the great rush for the Klondike began in 1898 Montgomery, who is an expert machinist, and who was the head of the Montgomery Scale Works, sold out his business for \$15,000 in cash, resigned his position as city sealer of weights and measures, and joined the stampede. From that time until the officers identified him in Seattle yesterday nothing had been heard from him by his friends in Salt Lake.

Montgomery informed Sergeant Jennings that he had only recently returned from the North, broken in health and out of money.—P. L., Aug. 5.

STRIKING TRACKMEN

On Canadian Pacific Railway Are Remain Steadfast.

Seattle, Aug. 5.—Reports from Vancouver, B. C., and other places along the line of the Canadian Pacific are to the effect that the trackmen's strike on the line is still in a serious condition. The men have held out on the Canadian transcontinental line far longer than it was expected they would, and after two months have gone by very few of them have returned to work on the main line at least, and the strikers are more still standing out or have sought other employment.

There were 5000 men originally in the strike. So far they have not been joined by other brotherhoods of the railway service, although it is common report that such action is in contemplation. As a matter of fact, however, neither the engineers nor conductors have taken any official interest in the dispute. "You cannot tell what will happen yet," is about the stereotyped answer that a conductor or engineer will give on the Canadian line today.

It is the general opinion, however, that as soon as the bad weather of the fall season comes the engineers may object to running over tracks which are alleged by the strikers to be in bad condition. On the other hand, they are said by railway officials to be in excellent shape. The strikers particularly refer to the snowsheds and the track in the mountains, which they claim will require a lot of repairs before the season is out.

Meanwhile the railway officials say that they could not possibly be getting along better, and that the fact of the Imperial Limited express being half a day to a day late in arriving every day from the East at Vancouver is simply due to cautious running. They claim in addition there are plenty of non-union men offering themselves for work, and there is no trouble in filling the strikers' places. Independent travelers over the line, however, say that while many men are at work, very little is being accomplished on account of general unfamiliarity with railway business.

In Kootenay all the men of the Rossland and Columbia & Western divisions are at work again, but none of the main line men in British Columbia have returned.

In the East there has been a certain effect of the strike. On the line between Ottawa and Montreal as many as four trains a day are usually run in the summer. Now, however, only one train is running daily between these two important points, and that is having a hard time to keep on the schedule.

On behalf of the railway it is said that an advance was recently made in the rates paid to trackmen, and that the present rate of wages is larger than is paid by any railway company in America.

In the East they are having a bad time in the general strikers' committee. One member of the committee is seeing others for damages for criminal libel, and grievances are being aired in court. But the rank and file of the men throughout the country are staying very strongly with the strike.

D. M. Nicol, general manager of the company and one of the vice presidents, is now in Vancouver, having arrived Saturday evening, on a tour of inspection through the West.

Gold Export. The certificates of gold exported show the output of July to have been \$9,725,000, and that of June nearly \$6,000,000. Not all of this amount has paid royalty, however, as it included many shipments by the banks on which the depositor is merely supposed to have paid royalty. Of this amount of Commerce shipped out during those two months \$4,700,000.

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