

DIVIDED THEY VOTE

By ELLIS O. JONES

The whistle has blown and each man takes his place
To toil for the world at a death dealing pace.
Each movement is skillful, each brain is alert,
While they patiently work in the factory dirt.
Just look at that picture and then make a note,
That united they sweat, but divided they vote.

The machines and the belts and the shafting are still,
And not a wheel turns—there's a strike at the mill.
A strike! Every workman has solemnly vowed
To stand by his mates till their claims are allowed.
'Tis a brave thing to do, but don't fail to note
That united they strike, but divided they vote.

The sun brightly shines as there passes along,
In holiday raiment, the Labor Day throng.
Each man is decked out in his Labor Day best—
"Labor omnia vincit," the banners attest.
Yes, labor may conquer, but never, please note,
While united they march, but divided they vote.

IS THIS CIVILIZATION

Did you ever stop to think of this civilization of ours? This grand, glorious, twentieth century civilization, some of us are so proud of. Let us see what the meaning of civilization means. We find it means to reclaim from a savage, to instruct in the arts and refinement, to be cultured, etc. So then this is what we call civilization. Let us take a glimpse, to see if it is at all faulty. Our eyes have been closed long enough.

We find that we have evolved from various systems. From savagery, barbarism, serfdom, feudalism to wage-slavery. Here we find that we have come out of a state of liberty and freedom to various forms of slavery and wage-slavery, which suits the present form of capitalism best.

We are told often by some that slavery has been abolished quite a while now; but that is not true. They may sing "Britons never shall be slaves," but it cuts no ice. We are slaves, and we shall remain slaves just as long as private ownership in the means of production exists. Let us go back to the days of the primitive man and compare him with the wage slave of these days to ascertain if this really is civilization. We find these primitive men were free as the air. They enjoyed perfect liberty. The primitive man had to find his own food. Unlike we wage slaves, he did not ask another's permission for the right to produce his food. He was not as foolish as some imagine. He knew a great deal more than the average worker of these days and when he wanted food, he merely helped himself from natural resources, such as fruit, animals and fish. Suppose a tree was laden with fruit that suited his taste. He did not climb to the top of the tree to get his meal while fruit was in abundance at the bottom. He knew enough to get his living with the least possible and necessary effort, and exactly the same applies if his meal were to be of the same animal, he would not climb to the top of a mountain to trap his food, while he could trap the animal just as well at the bottom of the mountain. What these people produced in the way of food, covering and shelter, the same belonged to them. But what we civilized wage workers produce in the way of food, clothing and shelter, and all other commodities, are confiscated by an idle class of individuals who serve no useful purpose in society, but who own the means of production by which we must gain access in order to exist. Comparing this civilization with those days of what they pleased to call savagery, I say "give me back those days of yore, if this is all civilization has to offer."

But I know that we can have a better, grander civilization than this and it is fairly easy to get. We are now in the course of evolution, aspiring from wage slavery to freedom. A new system will evolve out of this capitalist society, namely a world wide co-operative commonwealth, the natural, legitimate child of the capitalist system. Should we not embrace this new order with joy and anticipation? Have we workers anything to lose? Have we anything to hang back for or hang on to? Is there any reason why we should not cut the last remaining strand and let this system slip into the past taking all its horrors with it? Have we anything to lose?

No, we have everything to gain. The results of the present system are enough to convince you that we can get nothing worse. Jails are filled with men, women and even children who are to be pitied not scorned. Society has made them what they are. We are to blame for maintaining this system by votes. Asylums are filled with the insane which this civilization of capitalist production; for profit gives us men and women, mostly of the work-class, driven crazy through worry owing to unfair, unjust, economic conditions. Hospitals are crowded to the utmost with the maimed, injured and dying. The shrieks of the dying and injured are calling to you, working men and women, for justice. Will you respond? You will, you must wipe out this foul stain on civilization which throws our sisters on the streets to sell their bodies for bread. How long shall we allow this thing to continue? We must either sanction this brutal system or seek to overthrow it. We cannot be neutral for this is cowardly. The road to evolution is narrow, but it is straight, while the road to reform is broad and paved with good intentions which come to naught.

You cannot reform this system which is based on robbery. Do not be fooled by those men who tell you drink is the cause of all social evils, because that is not so. While it may be a curse, and is the cause of quite a lot of poverty, there must be, and is a cause for drink. My advice to you is to buy more books and less beer. Then you will begin to think deeply and when a working man begins to think for himself and in the right direction, there's something doing. Yes, reformers are always busy patching up the present system. They have put so many patches on that they are at a loss to know where to fit the next. It is like Johnny's pants, all patches, requiring a new pair. A new social fabric is required.

So it is readily seen that there is nothing for it but revolution (meaning a complete change); and not until the revolution comes will we enjoy the new order of society, namely, the co-operative commonwealth. I venture to say its coming will obliterate almost entirely all the now existing social evils. It will afford us co-operation in the place of competition. It will give us a brother and sisterhood. Race hatred will be a thing of the past. Is not socialism then, worth your consideration free from prejudice? Why sure. Get in line. Read social philosophy and literature. Unite with the socialist party. Help us to remove this hideous, vicious capitalist system. Let us have a working class civilization of which we can be justly proud. Karl Marx gave his message to you when he said "workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains and there's a world of plenty to gain."

WILL R. HIBBERD

WHEN TRADE UNIONS TOOK FORM

The application of machinery to productive industry was followed by tremendous and far-reaching changes in the whole structure of society. First among these was the change in the status of the worker, who, from an independent mechanic or small producer, was reduced to the level of a dependent wage worker. The machine had leaped, as it were, into the area of industrial activity, and had left little or no room for the application of the worker's skill or the use of his individual tools.

The economic dependence of the working class became more and more rigidly fixed—and at the same time a new era dawned for the human race.

The more or less isolated individual artisans were converted into groups of associated workers and marshalled for the impending social revolution.

It was at this time that the trades union movement began to take definite form—Eugene V. Debs.

Capitalism wants the poor to remain contented while it picks their pennies from their pockets.

Bigger and better than ever—

STAG BRIGHT PLUG CHEWING TOBACCO

Note the increased size of the plugs.

Is It Human Nature

By W. H. G.

A common objection to socialism often put up by the defenders of the present disorderly system is, "Socialism won't work; it is against human nature."

Socialism will work because it gives human nature a chance to develop.

Is it against human nature that a man should expect the full benefit of what his labor creates? Socialism will give him this.

Is it human nature for a man to go into business which, if it means profits to him, means poverty, degradation, ruined homes and untold misery for thousands?

Is it human nature that causes a man to enter the saloon business? Does he rejoice in the ruin caused by drink? If he could gain a good living as easily at something which would benefit society would he not choose that rather? If you doubt it, ask him?

Is it human nature for the owner of a factory, workshop or mine, to grind profits out of the blood and bones of little children and careworn mothers? Is it not rather inhuman nature?

Is it human nature that three-fourths of the population of the eastern states are females, while three-fourths of the population of the west are males? That is the result of the present competitive system.

Is it human nature for a woman to sell her virtue for bread if she could have a husband and a good home?

It is human nature to be happy and to promote happiness. Only when human nature is outraged is it otherwise. There can be no universal happiness until the bread and butter question is settled.

Have you ever tried to live the sermon on the Mount? If you claim to be a Christian, you are expected to. If you can't, what is it then that needs remedying?

Just imagine an undertaker thanking God for prosperity in his business. Yet this is what some so-called Christians would have him do.

Should a doctor rejoice when an epidemic strikes a community or when a railway smash or mine explosion occurs? If, during a time of good health just previous his income has been very meagre, how can he help it?

Is there no way of remedying these things in this age of progress?

Socialism says "Yes."

Many of those who pray the Lord's Prayer would be scared out of their wits at the first sign of their petition being fulfilled.

If there isn't socialism in Heaven there will be a very dull chance of some of us ever getting a foothold there considering how many good people have gone before us believing in the Divine right of private property. Wonder if the rents are high there?

Is there any sin in pushing your brother into the ditch six days out of the week if you derive pleasure in pulling him out on Sunday?

Many people seem to thank God for the poor, so they may have a chance to exercise their philanthropy.

Must Stand Up For Their Rights:

I cannot forget that the laboring class must, like any other, stand up for its own rights, or be content to see them trampled under foot; and that the strength given it by organization, superinduced upon numbers, is its only effectual defense against the unchecked tyranny of capital, eager for profit and reckless of other's rights. The power developed by combination may be abused, like any other power, but labor is helpless and a prey without it.—Horace Greeley.

What War Really Is.

Ours is a damnable profession.—Wellington.

War is the trade of barbarism.—Napoleon.

War is hell.—Sherman.

There never has been, nor ever will be a good war or a bad peace.—Franklin.

War is an instrument entirely inefficient toward reducing wrong, and multiplies instead of indemnifying losses.—Jefferson.

Some of the locals are taking advantage of our three-month trial offer to put good socialist reading matter in the barber shops. Brantford is leading the van in this work. Others should follow.

The wage slave woman is the prey of the white slave traffic.

A good many comrades have found out that Cotton's is a prejudice-breaker. People like to read it, no matter in what walk of life. It appeals to all in the home. Has a message for everybody. And the price is so low that everybody can afford it. Come now; let's have that sub.

Child labor on the farm is not bad. The healthy little animal gets next to mother earth and grows strong. Child labor in the factory, however, where the puny little animal is tied down to a great throbbing machine, works for the deterioration of the human race.

Cotton's talks to the toilers, mechanics, farmers, storekeepers, professional men, politicians, ministers, and men in the varied occupations under the present worn-out system. Has a thought-compelling sentence for everyone of them in each issue, put in plain simple English. And you get 52 copies for only fifty cents.

Socialism deals with conditions not men. But when the capitalists get busy in the support of antiquated conditions, socialism will have to crush them unless they experience a change of heart.

We want the sub of every old Socialist in Canada, or if he is surfeited with reading, we want the same amount invested so that others may be shown the light. Every Canadian socialist should feel it his duty to see that his own papers are kept in good spirits.

In the early centuries of the Christian era the moral German tribes would move down into the warm places of Italy and become corrupt. A changed environment produced a different creature.

The free trader is a man who believes that countries can become rich by having two national parasitic classes exchange goods with each other which neither of them can use.

Socialism is the only hope of the people. The people must own, control and manage the trusts or be owned, controlled and managed by them.

Volumes I. or II. of Capital by Karl Marx for twenty-five yearly subs for Cotton's. Good way to add to your library comrades.

There is no true freedom in a nation when one man is rendered free to do as he likes by the economic bondage of his brother.

Don't forget the barbers and reading rooms in your propaganda outlay. One dollar will carry ten copies of Cotton's to ten different addresses for three months.

The rich who do nothing are not to be blamed altogether. They are the result of conditions. The workers must see to it that such persons shall work or starve.

Socialism will triumph through economic education. It is capitalism that needs police and navies and soldiery to maintain itself to the detriment of mankind.

That little book, "The Socialist" is a good one to hand to a friend who wants to know what socialism really is. We will supply you for ten cents per copy.

The capitalists might just as well give up the fight now as later. The socialists are out to win and won't rest satisfied till they do.

The capitalist system produces the rich arrogant woman and the prostitute. Both types will disappear when socialism shall have triumphed.

British consols are still dropping. The Socialists must be making great progress over there with their idea of repudiating the national debt.

The poor murderer is hung. The rich murderers who kill men, women and children through their greed are pillars of the church.

Laws are made against petty gambling while the stock exchange gamble is carefully cherished and protected by servile legislators.

One socialist member at Ottawa would make the cold shivers run up the spines of two hundred and thirteen capitalist members.

When socialism triumphs even the plutes themselves will be glad of the change.

LABOR POINTERS

Machinery is to civilize the world in spite of itself.

Political progress is to be a terrific pace from now on.

The new order will give the superior man greater opportunities than he has today.

There never was a movement for reform that did not have its beginning among the lower classes, among the oppressed.

All great movements have in their inception been marked by abuse of those taking part in them, because they have their start among the undesirables.

Socialism is not a dream but a certainty of the immediate future. It is not half so dreamy as talking across the seas without wires, or even talking across the sea with wires.

In the past fifty years man has invented machinery which wrests from nature a great deal more than can be consumed, even if all who work live so that they want for no material thing.

There will be no trouble about the necessities of life when the working class takes over the machinery. They will have all the best food they need, the best homes that can be built, the best schools—no child labor, no grinding toil—and all the beautiful things will be for every one.—Eugene Debs.

That constituency will be famed in the future history of Canada which first sends a socialist to the Dominion house at Ottawa.

The capitalists do not like the socialists because the socialists want to make the capitalists do something useful for society.

Misery, degradation and death come to human atoms when a system of industrial production has become decadent.

"The physician attending me prescribed, on my rallying from an attack of rheumatism, your Scott's Emulsion, which I have been taking every winter since. I find it most valuable in strengthening and building up one after a severe illness. I have not had rheumatism since the time mentioned above and I owe it to your most valuable Emulsion. It is my life now, and makes me strong and healthy."—R. PICARD, Grand Ligne, Quebec.

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ALL DRUGGISTS

Let us send you a copy of Mr. Picard's letter and other literature on the subject. A Post Card, mentioning this paper, is sufficient.

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