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A WORKINGMAN'S PARTY

The Socialist Party is the Party of the workingmen. The Socialist Party is not a philanthropic party. It is not a party for the distribution of graft. It is a party solely and simply for the emancipation of those who work from their wage slavery.

There are many persons who do not understand what the Socialist Parties of the world stand for. There are ignorant persons with college degrees who consider that Socialism is necessarily Atheism. Socialism has no more to do with religion than has Liberalism or Toryism.

Throughout the world wherever capitalism holds sway, there are two classes, the possessing class with their parasites and the productive class. The owning class consumes and does not produce. The producing labor class consumes but a small fraction of what it produces. Socialism is a political battery and philosophy for the uniting of these two classes in society into one class.

Socialism aims at making the consumers the producers and the producers the consumers. It aims at putting into practice the very old maxim that a man must work to eat.

But a battery is useless unless sounded in the ears of those whom it will arouse to action. And a political philosophy is dead unless carried into practice. So Socialism must be cried in the ears of those who will profit by it, and its philosophy must be taught to those who will heed the teaching. The class that will heed is the working class.

History and practical sense teaches that the great mass of men are moved by appeals whose aim is to benefit themselves. Now Socialism will eventually benefit all mankind. But it will immediately benefit the workers alone. The vast majority of the parasites, those who consume without producing, are against Socialism because it will cut off their incomes. On the other hand the workers are for Socialism because it will immediately benefit them by giving them all they produce to do as they see fit with, instead of as now, making them produce vast quantities of goods and letting them consume but a small fraction of what they produce.

Therefore the Socialist Parties of the world are the Parties of the working class. Workingmen are the members thereof. The officials of the Parties are workingmen. The Members of Parliament are workingmen. The Socialist Parties of the world are the political expression of the desire of the workers to be freed from their present bondage to the parasite consumers. The Socialist Parties are the result of the conscious aim of the workers to conquer for themselves the power to freely dispose of what they themselves have produced in the way of the necessities and luxuries of life. Every workingman, therefore, should belong to the Socialist Party, because the Socialist Party is his party.

Men will work much more eagerly and cheerfully under the inspiration of hope than the lash of fear. Place within every man's reach the possibility of a comfortable maintenance, and you can dispense with that fear of the poorhouse which is the incentive the present system relies upon to keep everybody digging. The old theologies relied upon the fear of hell to keep men from sinning; but a better way has been found in placing before them the peaceable fruits of righteousness, the delights of harmony and the inspiration of a higher life. Men can be led much more easily than they can driven; love is a stronger sentiment than hate; hope stimulates while fear enervates. Remove from the hearts of men the black pall of uncertainty, and insure them an opportunity to create all the wealth they need and security in its possession, and this old earth will bloom as never before.—H. W. Young.

Did you ever stop to think that the average insurance policy is far beyond the reach of the workers of Canada? Did you ever stop to think that the insurance premiums paid the big companies come out of the workers? Did you ever stop to think that the presidents and directors of the big companies draw their revenues from the parasites on the back of the workers? Did you ever stop to think that you produce the wealth that they consume? Wake up. Get wise to the game that is skinning you.

Socialists do not want the earth. They want the workers to have the earth.

By what inherent right should a C. P. R.—stockholder receive dividends. Every cent paid in dividends means a cent stolen from labor.

A rented home is an abomination. How would you like to nevermore have to pay rent? Socialism will abolish rent as it will interest and profit.

"God's in his heaven. All's right with the world," sings Browning. No wonder that Browning is a favorite poet of the plundering plutes.

In ancient times usury was forbidden in many states. Modern rulers call usury interest and proceed to get all the interest they can out of the workers.

Pinchot and Ballinger are trying to take a fall out of each other. In the mean time the working plugs of the U. S. are being skinned at the point of production right straight along every hour of every day they work.

The railway men are conferring with the railway officials. The railway men want a standardization of pay over the whole railway system of Canada. They are realizing that unionism must be extended if unionism is to help the workers.

Socialism will not destroy incentive. Capitalism destroys incentive. Socialism, by giving each man all he earns, will give an incentive for each man to do his best. Capitalism, by making the workers divide up with the drones, deprives the workers of incentive.

Did you ever see a lawyer strut around? Did you ever think that his labor, under a sane system, would be ninety-nine per cent waste? Did you ever think that the workers have produced the wealth that the lawyers consume? Get wise to the game that is skinning you.

It seems that there will have to be another election in Great Britain. This is good. Had the Liberals got in by a big majority they would have straightway forgotten all their promises and hung on to power for five or six years. Now the agitation will have to continue and agitation is good.

The people of Great Britain are getting more radical. The handicaps in Great Britain to the expression of the popular will is something enormous. Indirect corruption is rampant. Elections are expensive, and the parasites can make it immediately advantageous for voters who will support a system of robbery.

Edison has invented an electric storage battery that will do away with overhead wires. More unemployed wage plugs are to be thrown on the market and become scabs in other lines of work. You workers who want your masters to control the machines at which you must work are foolish jays and easily robbed.

How much faith can you put in the word of a politician? The Socialist is wiser than the worker who votes for politicians. When a politician promises the Socialists something they wink the other eye and don't vote for him. The politicians don't like the Socialists a little bit because they cannot be bamboozled. The politicians just love the simple worker who will come at the first call to be fed out of an empty hand.

The United States started off with a constitution fixed and unalterable. The result has been that all the big corporations are criminals in the eyes of the constitution. But the big corporations had to come and though criminals are jailed, they still keep growing. In Canada the constitution was not drawn up till 1867. Consequently modern conditions were recognized and the giant corporation grows peacefully and legally. In Canada we do not have to fight the big corporation that is made criminal by law and which must work in the dark by bribery and corruption to live. The fight is in the open and the fight is fairer.

THE GOOD, KIND AINEY

Joseph Ainey has been put forward by the Citizens' Association of Montreal as Candidate for Board of Control. Joseph Ainey is very grateful. Joseph Ainey feels that labor should be grateful to the "upper classes" for giving labor a chance to be represented on the Board of Control.

There are four members on the Board of Control. There is also a Mayor. Labor, therefore, will have one representative out of five. If labor, through their representative, should become bold and ask for things, why, the labor candidate can be snowed under. So labor is not likely to get much out of the Board of Control as planned by the Citizens' Association.

But the Citizens' Association has taken care that the labor representative shall not be impolite and ask for things. They have picked Joseph Ainey. Joseph Ainey is so grateful that he is going round Montreal asking for votes for the whole capitalist slate because the capitalist party has been so kind and gentle and good that it has put Joseph Ainey on the slate.

Joseph Ainey has shown himself so grateful that the workers of Montreal may make up their minds that he is dead timber. A vote for Ainey is a vote lost.

You men who have been on strike, are the capitalists kind to you? When times are good do they come round and double your pay? Or do they pay you the same old price and build big houses for themselves up on the mountain? Supposing you strike? Are the capitalists sorry and sympathize with you? Or do they order out the troops with bayonets to run into your inwards and make things painful for you? Which do they do?

But Joseph Ainey, the sweet, gentle Joseph Ainey, wants you to vote for your masters because your masters are going to vote for him. He is so grateful to them that he promises you that he will see to it that your masters' interests are not hurt by any one vote of his. Kind Ainey, gentle Ainey.

When you have struck and your masters raise your pay and delude you into going back to work, do you get the benefit of that increased pay, or does your landlord come around and raise the rent on you? Are you not in bondage to your masters? Do you not build the houses on Sherbrooke Street and in Westmount, and do not your masters inhabit them? Do you not build the tenements in the back streets and make a present to your masters of them? And then do not your masters charge you ten to fifteen dollars a month to live in them? Do you call that kind of them?

Yet Ainey, the gentle Ainey, the loving Ainey, loves your masters. The Board of Control as proposed by the Citizens' Association, is a business board. You who have come into contact with business methods in the workshop know what that means. It means speeding up and cutting the pay. And Ainey, the gentle Ainey, the kind Ainey, is so surprised and pleased with your masters for allowing him to become a candidate on their ticket that he is going to back a business Board of Control for all he is worth. The good Ainey, the kind Ainey, the gentle Ainey.

When slaves are trying to free themselves and the masters promise freedom to one slave if he will support them, what would you think of that slave if he came and told the slaves that he was going to support the masters because they were going to give him an income of five thousand dollars a year? Yet that is what the gentle, kind Ainey is doing.

Workers of Montreal. You do not want a gentle, loving Ainey on the Board of Control. A workingman who slobbers over your masters is not the kind of a man you want. You want fighters. You want a representative who will tell your masters to their faces that they are a pack of parasites sucking the blood of useful labor. You want a man who will fight those parasites, not one who will fawn on them. You do not want Joseph Ainey. He is useless to you.

Without doubt the productive forces of labor are far vaster now than they have ever been before. Without doubt, also, the world was never so full of poverty, hunger and wretchedness as it is now. There are the facts. Can we say, then, that capitalism is a system adequate for human needs?

THREE CANDIDATES

There are three Candidates running in Montreal who are of interest to Socialists. These three candidates are Edmund Western, Albert Saint Martin and Joseph Ainey.

Edmund Western, business agent of the Society of Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners, is the official candidate of the Socialist Locals of Montreal. He is a straight out and out Socialist. He is aware of the fact that as long as one set of men own the jobs and the homes and the necessities of life and do no useful work, and another set of men do all the useful work and own nothing, the useful workers are being robbed. So Comrade Western stands for the abolition of the capitalist system of production. He stands for the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution by the men who produce and distribute. He is a practical trades unionist. He is common sense and hard headed. Comrade Western is the only candidate put forth forward by the organized Socialists.

Comrade Albert Saint Martin is running as an independent Socialist. The Socialist Party is not backing him. The reason is simple. Saint Martin broke one of the rules of the Socialist Party organization by speaking from a Conservative platform and advising electors to vote for the Conservative candidate for Board of Control.

No one doubts that Comrade Saint Martin has done many things for Socialism in Montreal. He has kept the red flag flying for years. He has suffered for his Socialist principles. Yet the Socialist Party must maintain discipline within its organization. If Socialist Candidates were allowed to go abroad advocating the election of Liberals or Conservatives there would soon be nothing left of the Socialist Party. So while Saint Martin is running as an independent, the Socialists as a Party are not backing him.

However whatever votes Saint Martin may get will not take away from the votes given to the official candidate. Every voter in Montreal votes for four candidates. Consequently if anyone votes for Saint Martin the same person can vote for Comrade Western and still have two votes to tear up.

Joseph Ainey is treated more fully elsewhere. Ainey is a trades unionist and a firm believer in internationalism. He has not, however, the first inkling of the principle of working class ownership of the machines of production. He has an idea that he can be fair to the capitalist and at the same time be fair to the workingman. At a meeting in Montreal he sat with the other three candidates for Board of Control. He addressed the audience as one of the capitalist candidates and asked the voters to vote for the whole slate. He was particularly anxious at that meeting to impress upon the capitalists that while he would be fair to labor, he would do nothing that would hurt the capitalist. Later, however, he has slightly modified his position. He is now saying that he will fight for organized labor when they are right, even if it should hurt capital a little.

These are the three candidates in the field in Montreal who are of interest to a workingman's standpoint. Every workingman who has the interest of his class at heart will vote for Edmund Western.

The bosses declare that the workers could not possibly manage business, that if the workers took over the machinery of production then there would be failures innumerable and there would be stagnation. If the workers could not carry on the distribution of what the workers produce better than the capitalists then the brain of a man is at a pretty low stage of development. The capitalist system of competitive business is anarchy.

When Karl Marx wrote his Capital he gave the increase of spindles in producing cotton yarn as rising from 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 between 1860 and 1865. This was for Lancashire. The number of spindles has since increased enormously. In the Lancashire district in 1903 there were 44,000,000 spindles. In 1908 these had risen to 53,000,000. In India at the present time there are 7,000,000 spindles at work. The pace of capitalist production is getting hotter and hotter all the time.

The riches of the rich are nothing but the unpaid labor of the workers.

When will the workingmen wake up to the fact that they must look to themselves to free themselves?

Capitalism produces economy in the individual business while at the same time it produces tremendous waste of labor in the field of production at large.

Socialism will harmonize capital and labor by making the laborer a collective capitalist and by making the capitalist an individual laborer.

Both the Liberal and Tory believe in fleecing the productive workers through rent, interest and profit. If the workers like to be fleeced let them vote for the old parties.

There is a great deal of talk these days about harmonizing capital and labor. This means in the mouths of plute thinkers that laborers should live in harmony with the capitalists who rob them.

As soon as Cotton's becomes powerful and influential, then the fight will begin for a free press. If you want to see the fireworks begin then boost the circulation. The quicker the circulation grows the sooner the fireworks will start.

The results of their toil for those who toil. Is that a bad maxim? Yet that is the maxim of Socialism. No wonder the idle rich and the rich who are working to rob the workers have no use for Socialism.

Craft unionism suffers from the fact that with the advance of the machine the unskilled worker takes away the job of the skilled worker. Industrial unionism organizes all workers, skilled and unskilled, to fight the common enemy together on the economic field.

"Act first, this earth a stage so gloomed with woe, you all but sicken at the shifting scenes. And yet be patient; our Playwright may show, in some fifth act what this wild drama means," sings Tennyson. You see, Tennyson was an ignorant chap who had never read Karl Marx.

Did you ever see a banker spreading himself at banquets and in big houses and with all the nice things of life? Did you ever stop to consider that the banker is a parasite upon the productive workers and that his labor would be ninety-nine per cent useless under a sane system of production and distribution? Did you ever stop to think that the bankers consume? Get wise to the capitalist game that is skinning you.

If it can once be beaten into the heads of the useful workers that they are being robbed, skinned, plundered, then all the fine speeches of the politicians, all the charity gifts of the hypocritical charity organizations, all the brotherhood of man sermons put forth by plundering capitalists will not avail to prevent the workers rising and putting a stop to the robbery from which they now suffer.

Government ownership may not be for the benefit of the workers. The state of ancient Athens owned and worked the silver mines at Laurium. The mines were worked by slave labor and men and women were driven naked to work under the slave driver's whips. When the slaves died under the lash other slaves were brought in. Slaves were cheap then as they are now. So when you hear some wise-looking guy telling you that government ownership is the cureall you can be safe in giving him the "merry ha ha."

If I can impress upon you workingmen that your bosses are labor thieves, whose one end and aim is to take as much of your labor as possible without paying for it, then the revolution will be won. When you workingmen get it into your heads that you are being robbed by the cunningest system that ever appeared on this earth, then your reverence and fear for your bosses will vanish and you will quickly introduce a system of production that will make your bosses go to work.

WORKINGMEN IN PARLIAMENT

To the average worker it appears strange that workingmen who are Socialists will not support workingmen who are not Socialists and who are trying to become Members of Parliament. The answer to this question is simple. A workingman in Parliament who refuses to bind himself to work always and ever for the one aim of allowing the workers to have the power of freely disposing of what they themselves produce is practically useless to workingmen.

Under business and industry as at present established the workingman goes into a mill that is owned by the consuming capitalist, produces shoes, or steel, or cloth, or something else. All that he produces belongs to the capitalist in whose mill the worker works. The worker gets for his ten or twelve hours work a day a certain sum of money with which he can go and buy the goods he has produced. But the money the worker gets will buy one-fifth of the value he has produced. The capitalist with his useless parasites takes the other four-fifths.

The Socialist says that this state of industry is unjust for the worker. The Socialist holds that the mills should not belong to the men who do no useful work. The Socialist holds that the proper condition of industry is where the workers go in to their mills, work for themselves and receive in return for their labor, not one-fifth, but five-fifths of what they produce.

The Socialist is always and ever aiming for the emancipation of the working class. Is the fight on for the eight hour day? The Socialist will support the measure. Is the fight on to recognize the union in the shop? The Socialist wants the workers to get all they produce. Therefore the Socialists are for the eight hour day. The Socialists are for the recognition of the union by the masters, because the recognized union gives the worker a little authority in the shop.

But the eight hour day and the recognition of the union are such small steps on the road, the laborers must take to emancipate themselves that the Socialists will not waste their time to fight for a workingman who promises to vote for these two things alone. Get the eight hour day and the triumph will be good. But the bosses will immediately introduce new machinery that will make the worker work as hard in eight hours as before he did in ten. And the new machinery will displace labor, and the unemployed question and the cheap labor question will be as acute after the eight hour day as before. The printing trade is an example. And even now the eight hour day for printers is being attacked.

The Socialist wants to abolish the bosses who take unto themselves four-fifths of what the workers produce. The Socialists want the workers to become the collective owners of the machinery of production. Until the workers become proprietors, they will be at the mercy of the masters. The eight hour day and the recognition of the union may be attained, but as great a fight will have to be fought to keep these things as to get them.

The Socialist sees clearly that the workers must be their own bosses. As long as they have bosses over them they will be at the mercy of those bosses. So the Socialist does not waste his time in supporting workingmen who will not work to free the workers from slavery, but who will try to delude the workers into supporting them on some delusive scheme of lightening the burden of labor while the masters are still left in control to add to the burden whenever they see fit.

There is hardly a banker, a lawyer, an insurance man, a stock broker, a commission merchant, a money lender, a rent collector, a policeman, a soldier, a personal servant, but a dead weight upon the productive workers of Canada. If the workers are content to stand for producing the wealth of the world, to have it taken away from them by useless parasites, then they deserve to be robbed.

The Dominion government is waking up to the fact that our nickel deposits are in the hands of the American trust. What it will do about it is a mystery. As long as capitalism lasts the natural resources of the world will be used for the benefit of the labor thieves and not for the workers.