

## Socialism and the Youth

The following article was written by a member of the Young People's Socialist League. It was one of a number of participants in the New York State Y.P.S.L. essay contests.—(Ed.).

The present day, with its great impetus toward what is called a world-wide Democracy, forms a most opportune and appropriate setting for the topic—Socialism and the Youth.

Now, as never before, there is everywhere growing and spreading a strong feeling for Democracy, in an earnest desire to achieve freedom and the fullest measure of happiness compatible with life, for the greatest number.

You will admit that this is a truly wonderful age—an age of marvels as it were, and YOU—the Youth of today will witness the greatest Social transformation in history. Indeed, you young people will yourselves be chief actors in this transformation. You will determine by your capacity to meet its demands and take advantage of its opportunities, the extent to which it shall emancipate and elevate the race.

Youths of today will tomorrow replace the elders, and nothing is more essential than that Youth should be imbued with ideals in advance of the sordid ones which have so long prevailed—new ideas and new ideals, that will develop and inspire them to nobler endeavors and loftier attainments than were ever known to past generations of workers.

The Socialist Movement is the most important historic instrument in the great Social transformation. It is the movement of the future in which the Youths of today who are alert enough to grasp its spirit, will write their name in the history of the race.

To you, who are young, the world today presents the greatest opportunity ever offered a rising generation. This is your day. You should heed this knock upon your door and earnestly proceed upon the great work before you, so that you and future generations may enjoy the full products of their labor.

Socialism will abolish private property in the great material instruments of production and distribution, and establish therefore a System of Society based upon the collective control and administration of the forces of production and distribution. Everything will be produced for use, and NOT for PROFIT; the workers, the people controlling the means of production, will also control the resultant wealth, and thus individually enjoy what they collectively produce.

Socialism is not a mere plan that Socialists have invented. On the contrary, you should understand that it will be the natural outcome of human and industrial evolution.

The first epoch of civilization was the long period of Ancient Chattel Slavery. The master-class owned everything; it exploited the Slaves. By reason of economic changes, this first epoch of civilization gradually merged into the second—the Feudal System. The Feudal Lord Class owned the means of production; it exploited the Serfs. In course of time, through the introduction of modern machinery, etc., the trading class arose, overthrew the Feudal Lord Class, and itself became the dominating capitalist class. In this, the serfs were emancipated from Serfdom, but only changed the form of their servitude. They re-appeared as the modern working-class.

Thus the third, the present epoch of civilization was ushered in. The modern capitalist class owns the means of production and distribution. It exploits the working class, and guided by its own interest, constantly strives to maintain its economic position. The working-class, also guided by its own interest, constantly struggles to rid itself of the domination of the capitalist-class. Thus we have what is termed—The Class Struggle.

But Capitalism is only an era in the evolution of the human race, from the simple, unorganized communes of savagery, toward the highly organized commune of civilization, wherein the forces of Nature are to be harnessed to the wheels of Man. Ages of Chattel Slavery were necessary to break the ground for Feudalism; centuries of Feudalism to prepare the way for Capitalism. It remains for us to usher in the New Order. Speed the day!

## Literature Price List

(Watch this List for Changes.)

Communist Manifesto. Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$2.00.

Wage-Labor and Capital. Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$2.00.

The Present Economic System. (Prof. W. A. Bonger). Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$1.50.

Capitalist Production. (First Nine and 32nd Chapters, "Capital," Vol. I. Marx). Paper, single copies, 50c; cloth, single copies, \$1.00; cloth, 10 copies, 75c each.

Socialism, Utopian and Scientific. Single copies, 15c; 25 copies, \$3.25.

Slave of the Farm. Single copies, 10c; 25 copies, \$1.50.

Red Europe. (F. Anstey, M.P.). Single copies, 50c. Wholesale rates on application.

The Story of the Evolution of Life. (T. F. Palmer). Single copies, 10c.

Evolution of Man. (Prof. Bolsche). Single copies, 20c; 25 copies, \$3.75.

Red Heart of Russia. (Bessie Beattie). Per copy, \$2.00.

Ten Days that Shook the World. (John Reed). Per copy, \$2.00.

Six Red Months in Russia. (Louise Bryant). Per copy, \$2.00.

(All above post free.)

Ancient Society. (Morgan). Per copy (postage 14c extra), \$1.50.

Industrial History of England. (H. de B. Gibbins). Per copy (postage 10c extra), \$1.50.

Bullitt Report. Per copy (postage 10c extra), 50c.

### Supplies to Locals.

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### CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

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## Society Papers Do Revolutionary Spade Work

The writer in extreme youth (when she had literary aspirations), wrote an 18,000 word story for "Horner's." The editor returned it saying, "We will pay four guineas for this if you give it a more religious tone." So she put the verse of a hymn at the head of each chapter and interpolated some texts among the dialogues, and it passed.

Apparently the editors of the "Saturday Evening Post" have given somewhat similar orders to their contributors, only substituting "anti-Bolshevik," "anti-Socialist," or "anti-Labor" for "Religious," for, it is noticeable that nearly every story or article in that paper manages to drag in by hook or crook, a slam at Bolshevism.

The "S. E. P." is perhaps the most widely-read of American papers in Canada. Its policy is rampantly anti-Labor and anti-Socialist, and fawnishly pro-Capitalist, but the average person doesn't buy it for its weekly anti-Labor or anti-Socialist articles, but simply as he buys cigarettes or candy—as a weekly dose of light fiction for odd moments.

Now the "S. E. P." is working better than it knows in the interests of the Revolution through this fiction, the majority of which is an excellent mirror of New York society life. Week by week the wage-earner, male and female, drinks in these stories of gorgeous girls who spend as much on a fur stole as said wage-earner receives in a year; of quickly made millionaires; of households with retinues of liveried servants and miniature automobile fleets; of thousands of lazy parasitical women whose toy dogs are better cared for than many children and to whom a thousand dollars spent on a mesh-purse is a mere trifle—and so on.

The "silly" worker drinks it in week by week, gloats (if a woman) over the jewels and dresses, and in the fulness of time realizes that all this is not fiction, but fact. It is the story in general of those who toil not. Then comes the question, "why?" That is the beginning, and is the point where the Socialist steps in and bows his thanks to the "S. E. P." (and such), for their useful spade work towards awakening the otherwise inattentive working men and women to a realisation of the fact that all is not theirs that they produce.

E. D.

### CA' CANNY!

Extreme busyness, whether at school or college, kirk or market, is a symptom of deficient vitality; and a faculty for idleness implies a catholic appetite and a strong sense of personal identity.

R. L. S.

## PLATFORM Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, affirm our allegiance to, and support of, the principles and program 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 give 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 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 program 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.