

THE EGOTIST.

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hopes and fuller designs of society. It will meet with conflict and resistance in every rank of society. But it will draw the breath of life from every conflict. It will receive adherents and enthusiasts to its ideals from all society. And it is the only vehicle for the new form of expression of the social forces of progress, hemmed in by political usage, struggling for new freedom and wider activity; budding like the verdant spring with a new mantle of beauty and a deeper power of inspiration. The common viewpoint of that issue will, at one and the same time, determine and govern the momentum of central authority. And in that authority the human expression of its force will be the understanding individuality of social kinship and social genius.

R.

BY THE WAY.

(Continued from page 1)

have been recognized. The political state can not create, but it can be used to clear away obstructions to social well-being and to organize opportunities. To a greater degree I am sure than many people think, the future of "production for use" must be the creation of the peoples themselves; will very largely depend on their own initiative and enterprise; the state can assist, that is all. This value, however, political democracy has had among others, if we can see this era as the preparation for the next (even a savage African chief could say to a traveller, "One event is always the son of another, and we must never forget the parentage"). Political democracy is introducing to us the civilized and civilizing arts and habits of discussion, persuasion, criticism and the necessity of creating opinion as well as the habit of accepting majority verdicts. Interest is turned on social questions and public affairs, opinion meets opinion in discussion and so opinion becomes an active principle in the life of the whole community. Under political democracy, though we are not all equally educable or interested in social questions, yet the

general standard of interest, knowledge, and intelligence is raised. In the raising of that standard there lies before us the possibility of more rational, peaceful and continuous social adjustments in the future. We become fitted for political democracy, and for clearing up social evils not alone by reading books or listening to lectures, but also, and mainly by practice—practice makes perfect, they say. Well, here, in this matter, we may be satisfied to say approximately perfect. "Perfectionism" is a commendable goal for angels; man is a critter.

As it was with political democracy, so the ideal of industrial democracy will be gradually realized. The struggle for every advance and the advances gained will be steps up to our City on the Hill. The new habits formed by one advance will be levers for still further advances. We shall learn by mistakes the wiser ways. Did not Italy furnish a lesson? On the seizure of the factories by the workers in September, 1920, the accountants, the technicians and managers withdrew. The workers found themselves cut off from supplies of raw materials which they did not know how to get. They were also cut off at the distributive end. The technical staffs and the accountants and managers were discovered to be indispensable to the conduct of the industry. So up went the white flag. The whole affair was a fiasco and completed the disillusionment of the workers of Italy which had been started by the failure of a general strike throughout the country the same year. The general strike, it was supposed, would effect the revolution.

The lesson stands out in this shape, that modern industry will not work without its complement of trained specialists in both the distributive and the productive ends. The more scientific production becomes, the more indispensable these key men become. So that the co-operation of the managers, the engineers, accountants and economists of the productive and distributive functions are essential to the progress of the movement to industrial democracy. And both in Great Britain and Italy some progress has already been made towards building the approach between all technical vocations, from managerial staffs to the general body of workers in the spheres of production and distribution. Much discussion has taken place and a proposal has been advanced by Ramsay Macdonald for a national industrial council of all vocations to be established as a consultative and surveying body. As an initial move, sponsored by Labor, towards considering the whole vast mechanism of production and exchange as a community enterprise, even if a capitalistically-owned one, the survey may be considered as indicating a trend in the direction of community control. And in the order of things in the transition period, consideration shows that control comes first. The question of ownership is of secondary importance, I think, and will be dealt with on the merits of technical efficiency and use very largely.

Posterity came to me in a dream and said: "Cut out your one-idea programmes because we will kick em' to smithereens when the mundane world picks us up. We shall have in our time, just as much of Collectivism, of Guild Socialism, of Syndicalism and of Capitalism as we think fit to have. You'd better look at the future as an experimental one!" All right, I replied, "these are early days!"

"C"

REVOLUTIONS, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL.

(Continued from page 2)

iron. From 1866 to 1914 the development of these industries was almost Aladdin. Potassium, almost negligible in 1866, had in 1871 375,000 tons, and in ten more years almost a million tons production. What Bourgeois multitude could long continue to hate a government from whose gracious and generous hand such lavish gifts were bestowed. The Bourgeoisie passed bodily over to the government, and so there never was a Liberal Party in that country. The Liberals were absorbed in the Social Democracy. But we anticipate, and will return to the political development of Germany next time.

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PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada affirm our allegiance to, and support of the principles and programme 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 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 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 upon 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 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 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.