

SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA

Specially Edited for Those Young in the Study of the Principles and Doctrines

OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST MOVEMENT

THE SOCIAL PROBLEM

In the light of this social philosophy it is quite evident that the progress of society in the future must be in accordance with these fundamental principles. The problem of how the forces at the disposal of human society can be utilized to yield the greatest good to the greatest number can be solved through an intelligent understanding of these principles and their application to modern conditions, by the majority of the people. What are the forces at the disposal of society, or rather, at the disposal of the "rulers" of society (just now)?

First of all, there are the marvelous productive forces, viz., the natural resources and improved machinery which have increased the productive capacity to such an extent that today we are able to satisfy the material wants of every human being in the world. So the problem now is that of distribution.

Next to the productive forces are the educational forces. Education is the social product of the ages and therefore the rightful inheritance of society as a whole. Then there are sciences and arts which are accessible to the favored few. This great storehouse of knowledge should be as free as the air we breathe and accessible to every human being.

In order to insure the greatest good to the greatest number, which is the very essence of democracy, the vast majority of the people, that is to say the working class (that works with hand or brain for wages or salary) must collectively own and democratically operate the means of wealth production and distribution. As the present ownership of the means of life is vested in legal property rights and protected by all the powers of the state, it follows as a logical consequence that the working class and all those in sympathy with it must capture the powers of government by political action and use those "powers" in transforming the competitive system to a self governing industrial democracy. This political action must be backed up by the industrial organization. This is the plan of action decreed by laws of social evolution; any other solution must necessarily be more or less utopian and therefore impractical.

This solution would insure equality of opportunity to all and the full social value of their labor. All the people would have free access to the learning of the ages, the arts and sciences. The realization of the co-operative commonwealth will fulfil the dreams of the poets and philosophers of the ages, in that it will make possible, the universal brotherhood of man—"peace on earth and good will toward men."

How it Works

Pure economic theory is basic, fundamental, indispensable to the Socialist; yet once in a while there seems to be something refreshing in a vigorous and concrete bit of specific illustration. Such a bit I came across the other day.

I was visiting a candy factory—a place where girls toil with feverish activity all day long to pack the product which sweating, pallid men produce by the hundredweight over superheated pans. "Some of this work about kills 'em in three months," the boss confided to me, "though I've got one Dago working with an old-fashioned handpan, and darned if he ain't gettin' fat at it!" But this is beside the point. The thing I want to bring out is surplus values in active operation. And here is how I caught the thing "on the fly."

For the boss, leading me along from one process to another, and explaining just how so-and-so was done, brought me at last to a certain candy making machine which seemed to excite his special admiration.

"Just look at that, will you?" cried he, with enthusiasm. "If that ain't a money maker, I don't know nothin' that is!"

"How so?" I inquired. "Why, just this way. Before I got that machine I had a man workin' on these here chocolates by hand. Along comes the machine agent and gets me to put one in. What's the result?"

"Well, what?" "Listen, I pay the same man one dollar a week more to run the machine. The machine itself costs me four dollars

a month to rent. That's eight dollars a month extra expense, ain't it?"

"It certainly is," I admitted. "Do you get it back all right?"

"Do I—eh? What's that? Do I get it back? Jumping jewshaps, man! That machine turns me out an additional product of thirty dollars a day. In other words—"

"In other words," I remarked, "you pay out eight dollars to get back an additional value of one hundred and eighty dollars?"

"Sure thing!" Then at my smile he hedged a bit. "You must remember there's the interest to figure on the money I have to pay for the extra amount of sugar used."

I had to laugh outright at that.

"Poor, abused man," I murmured. "Maybe you don't clear up more than \$179 extra value per week on that machine. You capitalists are surely up against it hard!"

He looked at me with suspicion.

"Huh, you ain't one o' these here Socialists, are you?" he inquired with disgust. I owned the soft impeachment.

"Gee whiz!" he groaned. "An' to think I've been showin' you through the works an' puttin' you wise!" The interview terminated with a falling barometer.

An extreme case of surplus values, you say? I hardly think so. Everywhere the machine has produced similar, even though not precisely identical, results. And not every workman has had the gratuity of that extra dollar a week, either. Labor's production in the past sixty years has increased no less than six hundred per cent, because of machine methods. Who will affirm that the average wage of the workers has in that time even doubled?

So long as one set of men own the machinery with which another set of men have to work, this same exploitation is going to continue. It can't help continuing—the nature of things insures its continuing. And this continuance is wrong, unjust, criminal. Our problem today is how to stop the robbery.

There lies our question! "There's an answer!" The answer is—Socialism!

—G. A. E.

SOCIALISTS SAY

That the means of production, distribution and exchange should be owned by all the people for the benefit of all who labor and not for the idle few.

That modern machinery can produce a hundred times as much as hand labor, and since we can produce more than we can use, it is all unnecessary and wrong for people to starve.

That the man who owns the machinery owns the jobs.

That the man who owns the jobs owns the man.

That the man is finding that out, and when he "gets wise," then look out.

That it should be impossible to starve, if willing to work.

That it is wrong to produce eight-eighths, keep one-eighth and give seven-eighths to the idle owners for the privilege of using the machinery.

That if one gets only one-eighth he can buy back only one-eighth.

That this seven-eighths remains on the capitalist's shelves and gluts the markets.

That this seven-eighths remaining on his shelves is what the capitalists call "over-production."

That this surplus in reality is due to "under-consumption."

That this glut closes factories, causes panics, poverty, crime, tramps and paupers.

The Kautsky Pamphlets

Karl Kautsky is without exception the ablest living exponent of scientific socialism. Anything that he writes is worth reading six or seven times. Three of his principal pamphlets, translated from the German, may now be obtained in the English language. They are "The Class Struggle," "The Capitalist Class" and "The Proletariat." No one claiming to be a socialist should fail to read them. The entire three can be obtained from Will R. Shier, 314 Wellesley St., Toronto, for eight two-cent stamps.

Nine men and women out of ten, hard pressed by their economic environment talk too much and work too little to better their conditions. A membership in the Socialist party will help wonderfully in this betterment.

Try a copy of "Men and Mules" on your neighbor. It is the best brain food for the unenlightened. Shows it as plain as abc. Only ten cents from COTTON'S.

COTTON'S is the biggest value on the continent. Two for a dollar. Constantly improving too. Watch it and push it on.

As long as humanity is in an evolutionary state nothing will be perfect. Socialism will not be the final goal. It is only a higher stage than capitalism in the evolution of man.

Socialism will make the bread and butter problem so easy of solution that there will be a chance to develop the spiritual and intellectual side of our natures when it comes.

Have you noticed our new trial offer. Ten cents for three months. \$1.00 will take ten copies for three months into ten different homes.

Women make better socialists when they understand what it means to them. COTTON'S WEEKLY will tell them. Get them to read it.

Not much cream settles on the milk of human kindness.

Socialism is an aspiration that will some day be a concrete fact.

SOCIALISTS BELIEVE

That the earth belongs equally to all men.

That no one can show a warranty deed for a foot of land signed by God.

That opportunities should be equal to all.

That rent, interest and profit should be abolished.

That whosoever makes a thing should have it or its equivalent.

That Socialism deals with earthly things—man's present life.

That Christianity deals with heavenly things—man's future life.

That Socialism does not interfere with any man's religion.

That there are two distinct classes in the world—the working class and the capitalist class.

That all should be useful workers and not idlers.

That the Initiative, Referendum and Recall—direct legislation—is right.

That this would restore the power of governing to the people.

CONVERT YOUR FRIEND

Individual propaganda is the most effective. If you would convert just one friend in a year, and get him to really understand the Socialist hopes and aspirations, you would be doing a good year's work, and the Cause would be gaining much faster than it is. You may not be a good talker, but if you will sit down with your friend and get him interested enough to read what you give him, the movement will double every year. That is much more than we are doing now. The trouble is, that you put off doing your duty and it is never done. Get busy and don't mind whether others do their duty or not. You do yours. And the world is ours. Use COTTON'S on your friends. Let it reason it out with them.

If your work is so strenuous and pay so small under individual ownership that you have no time or money to better your condition, and you vote to continue the individual ownership system, you will that much sooner be dumped on the individual scrap pile that knows no individuality.

Will the secretaries of all Canadian Locals, and comrades in towns that have no local, see that a list of all Socialists, radicals and right-thinking people in their different localities are sent in to COTTON'S WEEKLY. And do not forget the barber shops and reading rooms. Anywhere that a paper can find a place and be read. We can only reach these lists with occasional copies, but every little tells. Help along the propaganda work comrades. Socialism will never come till a majority of the voters are reading Socialist papers.

EASY LESSONS

In the Socialist Teachings NO 2

The Class Struggle and Class Consciousness

GERALD DESMOND

Last week we found that there were two classes in society—the capitalist class and the working class, and that the tendency of modern industrial development was to solidify the capitalist class into a small number of industrialists of great wealth, called plutocrats and to bring the great mass of the working class down to the level of "wage workers," whose only means of obtaining an existence was to sell their labor power to capitalists for wages.

The great aim of the capitalist class is to make as much profit as possible. To do this, they are, of necessity, compelled to reduce wages to the lowest possible level.

The interest of the working class is to raise wages to the highest possible level—to sell their labor power as dearly as they can. The interest of the capitalist class is in their profit—that of the workers in the price of their labor power, or wages. There is therefore, no "Community of interest," between the capitalist class and the working class, but rather, an inevitable "antagonism of interest."

The antagonism of interest leads to the class struggle. The class struggle came into existence way back in history and is fated to continue and increase in fierceness and bitterness as long as classes exist.

Any and all attempts to reconcile the two irreconcilable elements of the classes must fail, and the struggle can end only with total elimination of one or other of the classes. The working class, to fight the class struggle, has organized itself into various bodies such as trades unions, etc., which use as their weapons of offence and defence, strikes and boycotts and endeavors by such means to force up the price of its labor power.

They have won some victories by these means but have, on the whole failed because they have not recognized the necessity of political action, and partly also, because on even the industrial field, they have displayed no unity of purpose or action, and have not understood the value of the task before them nor of the struggle in which they were engaged.

The weakness of the bodies representing organized labor lies in the fact, that although they are class organizations they are not class-conscious organizations.

The great need of the worker's class is class consciousness, which means a knowledge of the class struggle in society and their position, as workers, in that class struggle. A large proportion of the workers are now developing class consciousness and are going into the class struggle intelligently. Class consciousness amongst the working class inevitably leads to a strong socialist movement and treads down the barriers between skilled and unskilled labor. The socialist movement is the weapon through and with which the working class—or rather, the intelligent class-conscious portion of the working class are now striking at the capitalist class.

The capitalist class in its struggle against the working class has used on the industrial field such weapons as lock-outs, black lists, etc., and has succeeded, through its capture of the political power, in fortifying itself behind law and legal procedure. The capitalists oppose the worker's unions with associations, manufacturer's alliances, etc.

In the past the different divisions of the capitalist class have been somewhat divided upon the political field. The middle class favoring a certain amount of competition amongst capitalists, while the plutocracy aimed at trustification and monopoly.

In most countries this sectional war amongst them has already been decided by the victory of the plutocrats. Speaking generally, the capitalist class may be said to have acquired and

developed class consciousness much more rapidly than their opponents. At any rate, they must, judging by the utterances of their representatives; be admitted to be thoroughly alive to the class struggle at the present time.

The capitalist class realizes that their sole hope lies in the lack of unity and economic ignorance of the working class and their great aim is to still further antagonize the various bodies representing organized labor, while at the same time misleading the great mass of the workers and covering up, as far as possible, the irreconcilable nature of the class struggle—by creating in the minds of the workers the idea of a community of interest between capital and labor. This, however, they are no longer able to do, and the indications are that with the growth of the international socialist movement, and the spread of economic truth amongst the working class, the working class will soon be in a position, through united and intelligent action to capture the political power, and by annihilating the capitalist class, end the struggle forever. Next week "Wage Slavery." Questions:—What makes the class struggle? How have the working class organized and what have been their weapons in the past? Why have they failed? What must they do to win? Define class consciousness? Are you a worker? Are you class-conscious? If so, are you a member of the political organizations of your class? Books to read:—"War of the Classes," by Jack London; "Class Struggle," by Kautsky; "Price, value and profit," by Marx; "Communist Manifesto," by Marx and Engels.

Order from Cotton's Book Department.

Definitions of Socialism

Some people have queer ideas about Socialism. They think it is anarchy, disorder, dividing up property, etc. A few definitions are here given:

Socialism is simply applied Christianity. The golden rule applied to every day life.—PROF. ELY.

Socialism being the product of Social evolution, the only danger lies in obstructing it.—REV. F. M. SPRAGUE, the great divine.

The answer of Socialism to the Capitalist is that society can do without him just as society now does without the slave owners and the feudal lords; both were formerly regarded as necessary to the well-being and even existence of society.—PROF. W. CLARK.

Government and co-operation are in all things and eternally the law of life; anarchy and competition, eternally and in all things the laws of death.—JOHN RUSKIN.

Dividing up is Capitalism

Capitalism stands for dividing up. I feel a good deal like apologizing for referring to the abused dividing up objection. But, if you consider it an insult to your intelligence, remember that there are still many people who actually believe that Socialism stands for dividing up.

Capitalism does stand for dividing up.

Capitalism compels the industries to divide up with the idle.

Suppose you are an average wage worker.

You work about nine hours a day.

In the first three or four hours of your day's work you reproduce by your labor the amount you receive for the entire day.

In an another hour or two you reproduce your proportion of the wear and tear, and running expenses, the raw material, and the wages of the superintendence.

Well, then, having done this, it is time for you to take up your coat and hat and dinner pail and go home to your wife and babies.

Do you do it?

No you don't.

What do you do?

You go ahead and work the rest of the day and add still more to the world's wealth by your labor.

Who earned that surplus?

You earned it.

Who gets it?

The capitalist gets it.

You divide up with him.

The Socialist party says that you, who earned it, shall get it.

The reason you do not get it now is because a few private individuals and corporations are permitted to own the means of production and distribution and to compel you to hand over to them the bulk of the product of your toil in exchange for an opportunity to earn a bare living.

By voting a capitalist ticket, the Liberal or Conservative ticket, you have extended to the capitalists the privilege

of exploiting you out of the lion's share of your earnings.

The Socialist party says that that portion of the means of production and distribution which, when privately owned, can be used by the private owners to gouge other people, shall be publicly owned and popularly managed; that exploitation shall thereby be banished from the earth and that the workers shall thereby secure the full value of their labor.—J. M. W.

SOCIALISTS CONTENT

That the working men will never get what they want by voting for what they do not want;

That when a man steals a loaf of bread he is sent to the penitentiary;

That when he steals a railroad he is sent to Parliament;

That what the people use in common they should own in common;

That what the people use privately they should own privately;

That this is associated labor—is co-operation, is Christianity, is brotherhood, is Socialism;

That so long as the capitalist system remains compelling the many to do the work and permitting the few to rake in the profits, there will be idlers, panics and distress;

That the capitalist system, not the men are to blame;

That so long as it is a case of "ride or be ridden," that he is a fool who is ridden;

Socialists say that all those who believe in the foregoing facts and principles are Socialists—are Men.

Good intentions are such a burden for some men and women to carry that they never have any—just jog along in the same old rut, industrially, politically, religiously—every way.

One strong feature about COTTON'S is that all in the home can read and enjoy it to the utmost.

Some people don't scrub out the bathtub after taking a bath; neither do they enter their mental garden and do weeding occasionally—some minds are all gone to weeds.

Collective owned sources of production and distribution is society's right hand; equal opportunity her left; initiative and referendum system of government her head, right of recall her feet.

An ostrich, when it thinks it will be attacked, hides its head in the sand—when you attack the ideas of the average man he hides his head behind some kind of political, religious or moral bigotry.

Doubt is the vestibule which all must pass before they can enter the portal of collective ownership.

No one practices and votes for foolish economics always, but almost every one sometimes.

A desire may be large, yet the desirer may be doing very little to accomplish it.

A fool demands much, but works and votes for little.

Autos rode by the non-producers cause the producers to have to walk.

No man who is trying to serve mankind doubts that there are ingrates.

The Socialists success will always keep pace with their ambition.

MADE-AT-HOME

RHEUMATIC TREATMENT

Some Simple Precautions Which Will Prevent a Recurrence of Attacks.

A prominent citizen, who had for years suffered from rheumatism and rheumatic gout, has been given the benefit of his experience, and incidentally a copy of the prescription which was of material assistance in effecting a cure.

In the first place, he found that every time he partook freely of acid fruits his old trouble returned; and, secondly, he learned that it was absolutely essential to keep the kidneys active. To do this it was necessary to drink plenty of water. Occasionally he would dissolve a lithia tablet in the water to assist its action on the kidneys.

The treatment is as follows: Procure from your druggist:— Fluid Extract Cascara ¼ oz. Syrup Rhubarb 1 oz. Carriana Compound 1 oz. Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla 5 oz. Take one teaspoonful after each meal and at bedtime.

This is valuable information. This can be mixed at home. Save the prescription.

Lasts Longer—
STAG
BRIGHT FLUG
CHEWING TOBACCO

The new increased size is the same excellent quality.