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CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM

Man has come out of darkness and is facing towards the light. The evolution from the primitive star mist to the complex form of man has been slow. Evolution has not ceased. We are still proceeding to something vaster and more complex.

Man originated from the pithecanthropus or man ape. This creature was the form of life from which sprang the gorillas, the orang-outangs, the baboons, and man.

From man will originate, not one future type of creature, but many types of creatures. Some of these types will be as superior to others as the eagle is superior to the dove.

It is not possible for the lower to comprehend the higher. The cat cannot comprehend man. So man, with his limited body and simple brain cells cannot comprehend what powers will be attained by the superman with his far more complex brain fibres and neural centres.

Science reads the past. It declares whence we came. It traces the development of life upon this earth. It analyses contemporaneous phenomena. It endeavors to peer into the future.

There are many unexplained phenomena. These have been attributed to the interference of a conscious creature whom men have worshipped. When Kepler discovered his three laws which controlled the comets he did not know of the law of gravitation. He therefore could give no other explanation than that each had an angel that guided its course. The law of gravitation swept away the need of these angels.

As man investigates natural phenomena he finds that law reigns universally in the operations of the physical realm.

The more the human body is investigated, the more it is found to react to physical causes. We find matter following laws unchangeable and life in bondage to the laws governing matter.

Hence we have materialism. Now materialism is to many people a horrible word. It conveys all sorts of unpleasant ideas to them. They do not wish to hear it discussed. Yet when materialism is pushed to its farthest bounds we arrive at something which is very near spiritualism.

Says the Standard dictionary, in speaking of materialism: "The theories vary all the way from the crude form of Cabanis and Moleschott, that the brain secretes thought as the liver secretes bile, up to what is scarcely distinguishable from spiritualism."

Science regards the world as a monism. It is all one. If there are spirits, then these spirits are a part of natural phenomena and all such come within the range of scientific investigation.

"Science, philosophy and religion are one," say the mystics. "The world is a monism, a component whole," say the materialists. The newest word in science is that all matter is composed of one primal substance which may be perhaps but a form of force.

If we are evolving into something higher, intimations of that higher evolution should be present in society. Such men as Sir William Crookes, Oliver Lodge, Henry James of Harvard, Hyslop, late of Columbia, Wallace, condisciple of Darwin of the principle of evolution, and the Rev. I. K. Funk, editor of the Literary Digest, hold that there are disembodied intelligences with whom certain mediums can hold communication.

In speaking of this new world of contact, Funk says, "What if it be true that we are breaking through into the next stage of evolution? It is not likely that we shall find that world to be a simple world, but rather one vastly more complex than this. It should in no way surprise us if at first we see weakness and contradiction and all things in confusion. When men broke through into the intellectual world it is easy to believe that they did not find at first a world of sound reason. The fault was not with the world, but with man's blundering control of it."

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an article written from the viewpoint of Christian Socialism. The Christian Socialists are real Socialists. They aim for the same revolution in the method of production as do the revolutionary Socialists. Only they say that the movement

comes from a divinely inspired source. Whether the thoughts of revolution which guide our actions come from the explosion in the nerve cells of the brain overcharged with albuminous energy, or whether the ideas come from contact with uninvestigated invisible intelligence which is, everlasting, "without body, parts or passions," is merely a question of origin. The important thing is that the revolutionary ideas exist in the minds of men and that they are striving to carry those ideas into practice through the capture of the political power so that wage-slavery may be abolished.

A deputation, five thousand strong, is being arranged by the Dominion Executive of the Retail Merchants Association to wait on the Dominion government and protest against the bill to allow the incorporation of co-operative societies. The delegation will consist of commercial travellers, wholesale importers and wholesale retail merchants. This delegation will point out how co-operation will hurt their interests. If co-operation will hurt the interests of these people it shows that these people are being paid for useless work, that they are economically inefficient. Being inefficient they are doomed to extinction. Either capitalist concentration and organization will put them out of business or social co-operation will put them out of business. Why should they not be put out of business by social co-operation seeing that they are bound to die?

The U. S. Steel Corporation is going to distribute \$2,700,000 to its employees as a bonus. The U. S. Steel Corporation takes out of its employees in profit between fifty and sixty million dollars a year. It pays its workers wages which do not give a decent living, and to those who do not object, to the workers who are "good" it gives back one-twentieth of its swag. This is that new reform scheme known as profit sharing, the scheme hailed by the masters as one that will settle all difficulties between the laborers and their exploiters. Profit sharing is a scheme by which the robbers hope to bribe the robbed to submit to robbery by giving back to the robbed five per cent of what they were robbed of. And the queer thing about it is that this cheap trick takes in quite a few fat witted workers.

In Great Britain members of parliament are not paid. The members of parliament moreover, bear the costs of their own election. This runs up the costs enormously. Some candidates spend as much as a dollar a head on election expenses for every vote they get. This makes elections so expensive in Great Britain as to allow only the rich to become members. A few others struggle in by great exertions, but not many. Great Britain hardly knows what democracy means. She is land crazy, capitalist crazy, king crazy. The common people are exploited till the woe of the people, their corruption and degradation become unmentionable. This is the country to which our imperialists want Canada to submit herself. There is no greater traitor to the liberties of Canadians than those who shout for British imperialism.

Were the burdens imposed by war removed, capitalism could not last three years. Germany alone maintains a standing army of 617,000 men. These men are fed, clothed, sheltered and armed expensively by the labor of their fellow workers. Were this army disbanded there would be an army of six hundred thousand of unemployed men thrown on the labor market. Those now busy making war implements would be thrown out of work. The city of Essen contains seventy thousand workers in the Krupp gun works. These would be thrown out of work. The army costs \$300,000,000 per year. This revenue would cease. With all these idle people, capitalism could not endure. The capitalist could not give work to the expropriated workers. The only relief would be for the workers themselves to take over the machinery of production, apportion the work, cut the work day to five hours, and then make Germany a garden city from one end, of the empire to the other, through the superabundant labor power now wasted on useless labor.

THE WINNIPEG STRIKE

The Winnipeg Street Railway conductors and motormen struck because the railway company discharged the officials of the union on the pretext that these men had been seen drinking in a saloon while wearing their official uniforms. Four hundred men signed a statement that they did the same thing. Yet they were not discharged. It was the union officials who got the sack.

The men struck. Immediately the company imported scabs to run the cars. There are always a large number of idle workers anxious to get a job. The capitalists see that there are the unemployed army to keep the workers at their tasks. If the workers leave their jobs, why then, let the unemployed become the employed and the employed can then take the places of the unemployed. Is it not simple?

The Winnipeg Electric Street Railway Company then gave an order for two hundred uniforms for the scabs to be made by the Manitoba Clothing Company. The Garment Workers Union objected and the union men were shut out of the shops. The street railway controls the street cars. They own the fare boxes and they own the handles and mechanism which control the cars. Therefore the workers cannot touch these things except on such conditions as the employers dictate. The masters own the clothing establishments and the workers cannot enter except on such terms as the owners dictate.

The conciliation board decided that the street railway company had the right to sack the union officials. What other decision could be expected? Are not the masters the owners? Sure thing. Are not the workers but slaves to be hired for a bare living when wanted and to be sacked when not wanted? Sure thing. Did not the workers vote for this state of affairs when they voted Roblin and Laurier into power? Sure thing. Then where have the workers the right to kick?

The strike has been broken. The company has taken back such men whom it saw fit. The others go jobless. Let them suffer awhile. When their bellies begin to pinch they will be glad enough to get a job of some disgruntled wage slave who strikes against his master. Union badges are barred, and the company has sacked a union man for calling one of the scabs an opprobrious epithet.

The garment workers have gone back to work. Their union has been broken. They also, such as are taken back, must work with scabs.

Pugsley, Minister of Public Works, enthused the people of St. John, N. B., by declaring that within five years St. John would be a city of a hundred thousand people. He declared that the government was going to see that immigrants were attracted to the East. Do you not see what this means? The west is filled with people demanding public ownership and objecting to high freight rates and Socialists who are demanding the right of labor. The east is full of backwardness, particularly New Brunswick. There are few Socialists there. Therefore the government is going to direct immigrants to that region where they will go among a meek and patient community of wage slaves. Laurier and his government are cute when it comes to protecting the interests of those who live by the labor of others.

A peace movement is on among the nations. International capitalism wants to abolish international war. The various groups of labor skinned find war to be expensive. Therefore they do not want to waste money. But this does not mean that the international governments stand for peace and liberty. England and Russia have divided Persia. Japan has seized upon Korea. No. The peace of the capitalists mean the slavery of the workers. The peace of the capitalist rulers mean a truce among themselves in order that they may turn their united powers of oppression against revolting wage slaves in their own dominions and in order that they may seize weak nations and exploit their subjects. Peace will come, not through Hague tribunals, but through the international solidarity of the workers.

THE SPRINGHILL STRIKE

For seventeen or eighteen months a strike has been on at Springhill, N. S. Some fifteen hundred men have been involved. The miners struck for better working conditions. The owners declared they could not grant the conditions. The market for coal was failing them. Profits had disappeared. But still the men kept on striking. Now the mines have been sold to a big concern operating other mines. The men are still on strike. The men working for the same company in other mines are working, scabbing on their fellow strikers.

Here again the means of production belong to the masters. The miners cannot go into the mines to get coal except on such terms as the bosses permit. The mine owners may refuse to give the miners permission to go into the mines on any terms. The political state protects the mine owners against the mine workers and the mine workers submit to this condition of affairs and every election time march up and vote for the ownership of the mines by the bosses.

Are not the street railway men and the coal miners foolish? Would it not be better for the miners to own the mines instead of having them owned by men who only want the ownership in order to dock the pay of the miners and call it rent, interest and profit?

But this would be Socialism, and there are many wise heads among the wage slaves who evidently do not want Socialism. They are honest working folk who want to give the boss what belongs to him, do not want to steal anything from the boss, even though the boss is sitting astride their backs and lashing them on to slavery, even though that slavery means hunger and poverty for their wives and little ones.

The workers are such simple folk, that had the capitalists any shame of heart, they would refuse to plunder them. It is like stealing milk from a baby. But the capitalists grow wealthy on just such kind of thieving.

Oh, you wise working men.

THE REFERENDUM

While Parliament was sitting before Christmas F. D. Monk, Conservative M. P. from Jacques Cartier, introduced a resolution declaring that a referendum be submitted to the people so that the voice of the people might be heard with regard to the navy question. This resolution came to a vote and every Liberal Member of Parliament voted against it.

The navy will cost twenty million dollars a year. The people are protesting against it. Yet every Liberal M. P., by his vote duly recorded, turned down the proposition to refer the whole question to the masters of the Members of Parliament, to the people of Canada.

This results from the working of the Party System. Parliament is more or less, one huge sham. The Members of Parliament are supposed to represent their counties. But in practise they follow the party matter where the party leads.

Monk is a Conservative. He introduced a referendum resolution. Therefore every Liberal voted against it.

The referendum is good. The people should have a say in the management of their own affairs. But the Liberals say no. Laurier has set the nation on the road to militarism and what the party says through Laurier, the Members of Parliament will re-echo.

Will the people object? What if they do? The voting cattle have short memories. And the workers can be expected to whoop it up for the political puppets of the master class. They have done it now these many years and the Members at Ottawa hold high jinks, and play tag with the revenues of the nation, deny the people a voice in their own affairs and rest assured that by 1912 the people will have forgotten the hard dollars and cents wasted and will again be hypnotized by the raucous voices of the political spell binders.

Montreal wants home rule. Milwaukee wants home rule. The cities, the industrial centres, want freedom from the control of the provincial and federal governments. As the industrial centres grow this demand will become more insistent. Socialists can do much good by laying plans to capture municipal governments.

It is now discovered that the U. S. government has been done out of over a million dollars in import sugar duties by false weighing and false grading at New Orleans. Crooked are the ways of rent, interest and profit.

The Toronto Globe declares that the city of Toronto will soon owe forty million dollars. This means an interest burden of \$1,600,000,000 per year to the interest lords. The people of Toronto must like to pay something for nothing when they prefer capitalist extortion to Socialist co-operation.

W. L. King introduced a bill to prohibit the manufacture of matches with white phosphorus. It now appears that the Canadian match trust controls the patent process of manufacturing matches without white phosphorus and the bill will hurt the little match manufacturers. Our government, even in its reforms, finds ways of benefiting the trusts.

The United Empire bank has been absorbed by the Union bank. Thus the credit institutions of Canada are falling into fewer and fewer hands. The concentration of capitalist robbery is becoming so apparent that only the blindest fail to see where it will end. Concentration renders Socialism inevitable.

Mrs. Clark, sister of Mrs. Emiline Pankhurst, is dead. She died shortly after being released from the coarse fare and rough treatment of jail life. She went to jail for the cause of women suffrage and the suffragists are claiming her as a martyr. It is an injustice for women not to have the vote. But this injustice is only one phase of capitalist misrule. It is overshadowed by the injustice of rent, interest and profit.

U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson in his annual report, shows how the farmers get but fifty per cent of the retail price of their commodities. The rest is absorbed by wasteful distribution. This waste has got to go. Capitalism will not stand for it. Those who distribute will find their jobs gone. This will mean more unemployed who will want Socialism to come. Socialism is the only logical outcome of the reduced costs of production.

Private corporations, according to a Winnipeg paper, are working out a plan to acquire all water power on the Winnipeg River below Lac du Bonnet. Dummy companies will be formed to get these power sites, and then they will be merged into one trust. It is said that Mackenzie and Mann are behind this project. "Thus do private fortunes pile up, not by producing wealth, but by cornering the means whereby wealth can be produced. The funny thing about the whole deal is that the idle parasites know the people will stand patiently for this treatment."

Richard Lane, Secretary of the Charity Organization of Montreal, who recently died declared with regard to the poverty of Montreal: "We are only scratching the surface and touching the fringes. Oh! if the people only knew!" Lane saw the poverty and misery. But he relied upon charity to remove this poverty. Under capitalism poverty is always greater than charity. For the poverty is produced by capitalist riches and the capitalist riches is given only in small doles to relieve the mass of poverty created. The remedy is not through charity doles from the labor skinned. The remedy lies in removing the robbery that produces the poverty.

Earl Grey, governor-general of Canada, at Toronto declared that many Ontario children were without manners and that the Boy Scout movement was needed to educate them. Grey is the political representative of the labor skinned. The Boy Scouts are trained in the ways of murder. Their minds are accustomed to the thought of murdering their fellow men. They are also taught obedience and submissiveness to their capitalist masters. Earl Grey, the puppet mouthpiece of the labor thieves of Canada, gets up and yawns about the necessity of educating the ill bred children of the workers to be obedient to those who rob their fathers. That is the kind of a gentleman we have for governor general.

LAZY BEGGARS

One Comrade writes that he cannot understand how Socialism will be able to carry on society without rent, interest or profit. There are so many lazy beggars who will not work save when they have to. They will work only on one meal to another. Therefore rent, interest and profit is necessary to drive them to work. In the first place, laziness is not a moral wrong. Laziness is a physical disability. At one time people thought crazy folk were at fault for being crazy and used to punish them for it. Now people realize that insanity is a disease and seek to cure the insane by medical treatment and sometimes by an operation on the brain.

Lazy people are in the same class with crazy people. They are diseased in some way. Recently the hook worm was discovered down South. The lazy white folk were found afflicted with this parasite. Now people do not blame those with this affliction for being lazy. They try to cure them. So laziness is not something for which people are to be blamed.

But the lazy people are not very numerous. That is the really lazy people. There are many men and women who lose their grip. They break down. Just as overladen horses will quickly play out and become no good, so many men and women play out from overexertion, poor food, poor homes. These, when they become broken in spirit, cannot be driven to work. So capitalism does not drive them to work. They prey on the capitalist parasites. They make the capitalist parasites build homes of refuge for them and night shelters and charity organizations.

But the capitalist system does not rob the lazy folk. For the lazy people do not produce surplus values. It is only the energetic who can be robbed. In medieval England he robbed the lazy did not rob gutter-snipes. They robbed those who had something to be robbed of. The capitalists do not rob the down and outs. They rob the strong of their strength.

So capitalism does not drive the lazy to work. It makes the energetic work for a mere fraction of what they produce. It robs the productive workers of all but a bare living.

If the workers were not robbed then the capitalists could not get rent, interest and profit. Under Socialism the workers will be given what they earn instead of what they can live on.

This will not be given to them altogether in daily wages. It may be given to them in old age pensions, in well paved streets, in pure water supplies. If this is done, then the workers will get water without paying for it out of their daily wage.

Capitalism robs the workers and produces parasites who can take luxurious holidays. One of the Goulds gets \$720,000 every year. And he does nothing but send his money on actresses and so on. Socialism will prevent parasites taking luxurious holidays all the time, and will allow the energetic workers to take holidays part of the time.

Since Carnegie has quit business he has received \$300,000,000 in income in interest and profits. He has given away \$180,000,000. He has only had \$120,000,000 left as an income to live on. Rockefeller has given away \$130,000,000. During the past dozen years his income has been four or five hundred million dollars. Neither Carnegie nor Rockefeller will die poor through their generosity. They may die on an old age pension, though, through the triumph of the working class revolution.

Rodolphe Forget, M. P., the Montreal financier who grows rich by dealing in interest bearing and profit squeezing securities based on stolen labor power, has recently returned from Paris with the report that the French investors will invest millions in Canada. They realize that Canada is the last great bargain counter in the way of cheap buying of the means of production. Therefore they hasten to get in where they can appropriate to themselves much surplus values robbed from labor. And the Canadian workers who read and believe in the plute papers rejoice that the French investors are hurrying to the Canadian slave markets where the price of labor power is cheap and can be highly exploited.

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