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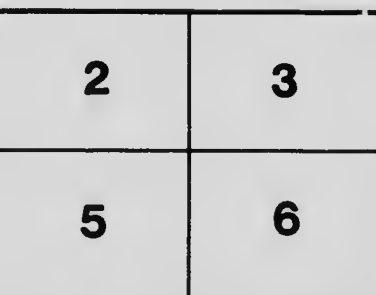
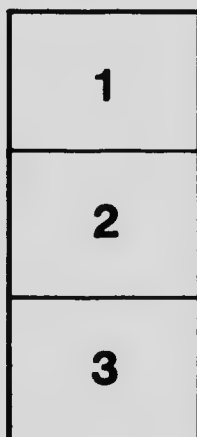
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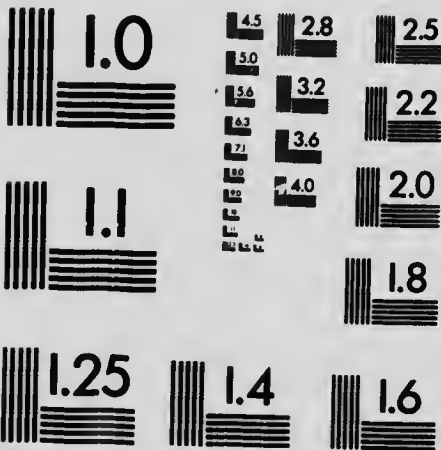
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Gems of Socialism



Edited and Introduced by L. J. Burrows
London, 1916

1916

PRICE 10C

Gems of Socialism

A proper understanding of Socialism lay in a knowledge of the law of surplus value and all that surplus value means, and in order to be a class conscious Socialist, one must understand that law.

Three great systems of slavery have appeared on the earth—chattel, serf and wage—the difference between them being in form only, the final results being the same. The slaves or workers, (brain and brawn) in each system, create not only their own living, but also the living of those who do no useful work.

Under the chattel system the slave, after working a certain number of hours, stopped and commenced to think, and the thought that came to him was that having up to that time created his own living and provided for those immediately depending on him, why should he labor any longer? started for home, but the master, standing by, and having possession of the land by which the slave must live if he lived at all, forced the slave to work until he had provided the master's wants, for which the slave received no value.

Feudalism, or serfdom, followed, where the serf was allowed to work on a plot of land for

himself one half the time, provided he worked the other half on the master's land, and under this system he produced all as surely as he did under chattel slavery.

The next to follow is Capitalism, or the present system of wage slavery, where the capitalist or master, or ruling class own the machine, and although the workers have created the machine, yet for the privilege of working on it to create their own living, they must provide that the master gets, for which they do not receive anything, and the point between where they have created their own living and where they are compelled to work for nothing, constitutes surplus wealth and includes every atom of value on the earth.

That man shall earn his bread by the sweat of his brow is a scientific truth. The only other way is to beg it or steal it.

Under all systems of slavery, the slaves or workers first produced their own living and for that privilege must afterwards produce the masters.

The discrepancy between what the workers earn and what they get is where the class struggle begins.

The earth, under capitalism, is the landlords and the fullness thereof.

The essentials of a revolutionary class is that it should have sprung from the conditions against which it rebels. That it should have economic interests, antagonistic to those of the ruling class. That its mode of thought and expression should be other than those typical of the conditions against which the revolution is to be directed. These characteristics are the essential marks of

a victorious revolutionary class. Without them a discontented body merely dissatisfied with things as they are, attain nothing because its demands have no real point of differentiation from the existing conditions and because in spite of the poverty of the members of the revolting class, its mental view point and its ethics are those of the dominant class. Hence we find that mere riots, tumults and trade union risings accomplish nothing of any permanent value. They are just hunger rebellions, lacking cohesive power and the great impulse of a common idea, lacking also the unbridgeable separation between the minds of the rebels and the minds of the masters. An antagonism irreconcilable and complete, owing to the psychological conditions produced by the existence of the actual economic fact.

We can't make you free. All that we can do is to make you want to be free. You must do the deed yourself.

That it is possible for a class to grow rich out of war is proof positive that civilization is a grim jest.

Approach Socialism through the road of prejudice and you land in the swamp of ignorance.

How the gods must make merry when they see our capitalistic masters telling the workers not to waste.

If wars had to be fought C. O. D. there would not be any.

Rent, interest and profit, the greatest shell game invented in the history of humanity.

Socialism has been tried in about the same way that the golden rule has been tried. This is the reply to the oft repeated statement that "Socialism has been tried and failed."

Remove criminal industrial conditions and so-called criminals will cease to exist.

The people who think they can revolutionize society by instituting petty reforms are trying to drive a wedge with a tack hammer.

If the government can build warships to protect the property of the rich, it can build homes for the poor.

If a thing is bad why try to reform it? Why not abolish it?

The capitalists elect men to represent their interest. Why should not the workers do likewise?

Poverty is good for nobody. If civilization can only advance by leaving the great mass in poverty the sooner it is destroyed the better.

Capitalism prepares for war because capitalism makes war as naturally as whiskey makes drunkenness.

Socialism means plenty for all.

The capitalists win in every war.

When every capitalist and monarch will be at work then peace and prosperity will reign.

When a workingman has a wooden leg he finds it hard to get along, but he seems to get along all right with a wooden head.

A conservative is a capitalist who is satisfied because he has a million dollars, and wonders why anyone can possibly be discontented.

It is not the aim of Socialism to make men be good, but to give them a chance to be good.

When the capitalists need anything they appeal to the government and get what they want. When the farmers need anything they have to go to the capitalists and pay eight per cent. for it.

When everybody works there will be less

work for everybody to do.

Capitalism protects property. Socialism will protect humanity.

Men are good. It is the system that is bad.

The rich will never abolish poverty. The job must be done by the victims of poverty or left undone.

They tell you that Socialism will kill incentive. It will—it will kill the incentive in men to be hogs.

Socialism would have the workers produce things for their own use—they now produce them for those who do nothing.

Socialists do not recognize any race problem. It is the class interest that determines the action of any class, not any race division within the class.

Because the majority are ignorant, the minority rule.

If one should save he might benefit by making the rest pay him interest, but if all should save who would there be to pay interest? Or if one passenger on a shipwreck should get on a plank he would have a chance to save his life, but if a hundred got on the plank all would go down.

The Socialist kicker says: "We are not going to kick up any trouble. The trouble is here. We are going to kick it out."

Property has no rights where such "rights" interfere with human rights. Property is not sacred. Only life is sacred.

Socialism isn't going to make you a present of anything—it will simply make it possible for you to help yourself to the things you need.

Socialism will not only give every man the full social value of the product of his labor, but

it will protect him in its use and enjoyment.

No man will be robbed under Socialism, because no man will rob himself under a proper condition.

There can be no bribery under Socialism—there will be no one to bribe. The workers certainly will not bribe themselves to cheat themselves.

Foreign markets is the cause of war. Under Socialism we will have no need of foreign markets. The markets will be right here at home. We will use what we produce.

The masters own all the jobs. What are you going to do about it?

When prosperity comes, a job is the workers share—if he is lucky enough to get a share at all.

Socialism will not change human nature. It will simply give human nature a chance to be natural.

The rich man who thinks that his personal interests are not and cannot be affected by the poverty and misery of others is deluding himself. Poverty spreads disease, which invades the homes of the rich as well as the homes of the poor. Neither rich or poor can be immune from disease until poverty is abolished. And only Socialism can do this.

Mr. Worker, under Capitalism you sell your labor power for what you can get. You cannot sell it unless you sell it for less than it will produce in value. Under no circumstances do you get the full social value of the product of your labor.

Socialism is simply an extension of the ownership of the means of life. They are now owned by a few. Socialism would have them owned by

all the people collectively.

Socialism will abolish jails and prisons by abolishing the cause that makes them necessary.

Until the interests of one are the interests of all, the interests of none can be safe.

When the workers learn how to vote as they strike, they won't need to strike.

All modern wars are wars of defense—defense of Capitalism.

The individual who may make two blades grow where one grew before and puts both blades in his own mouth is not a benefactor, but a hog.

You get your living either by working for it, begging it or stealing it.

Co-operation is always and everywhere the law of life; competition is always and everywhere the law of death.

Capitalism is economic cannibalism.

He serves himself best who serves humanity first.

Every dollar made in profits adds to the world's poverty and misery.

Socialism will lift the mortgage ignorance has placed upon humanity.

The art of making some men rich also includes the art of making other men poor.

Socialism will enable a man to live up to his income without fear of future want.

Socialism will preserve the family instead of destroying it as is the way with capitalism.

Under Socialism men will have their first chance to live as civilized men should live.

Socialism alone points out the cause of poverty and Socialism alone can remove the cause.

Socialism is what a real Christian would like

to practice but cannot under present conditions.

The world can never be at peace under a system of production for profit. Industry under capitalism is itself war.

Socialists do not hate the rich, but they hate the system that made them rich at the expense of those who live in poverty.

Socialism will not compel any man to work against his will, but neither will it compel him to remain idle against his will.

Socialism is not patriotism. Under patriotism the people have nothing to say. Under Socialism the people have all to say.

Socialism will do away with the idlers—the tramp and the millionaire—at both ends of the social scale.

Capitalist Society could not operate under the Golden Rule.

Right cannot rule where the means of life is the private property of a few.

The development of capitalism does not retard Socialism. The only thing that retards Socialism is ignorance.

The profit system has made improved machinery with its increased production a curse. Socialism, and Socialism alone, can make it a blessing.

It is those who are slaves and know not that they are slaves upon whom capitalism depends for its continued existence.

The world has learned how to produce more than enough for all, but it has not yet learned how to distribute it in a way that will give all enough.

Socialism plans for mankind instead of for a few individuals.

All service that contributes to the general welfare is valuable service.

No one is well paid for his work who does not get the full social value of what his labor produces. When the workers get ready to demand this there will be no surplus value for the capitalist, and he will go out of business, just as did the robber barons of the middle ages.

The mule gets his pay in keep. The worker gets his keep in pay. Both amount to the same thing—hay and oats, or a bare existence for the working class.

Do others or they will do you, is the rule of gold.

"Suffer little children to come unto Me," said the great-hearted Founder of Christianity, yet throughout so-called Christianity millions of child slaves are annually crushed to death under the wheels of capitalism.

It isn't how much an insect eats that makes him a bedbug, it's how he gets it. It isn't how much a man has that makes him a capitalist, it's how he gets it.

Making people work is not one of the tenets of Socialism. Socialism merely purposes that every man shall have a chance to work—they can work or not just as they please. But he that will not work, neither shall he eat.

A man needs but three meals a day. Why should he be allowed to own and control a million?

Capitalism makes criminals and then punishes them.

The workers build all the houses and then pay rent to live in the worst of them. The workers dig all the coal and then pay a profit to some-

one to sell it to them.

No man can have a million dollars without forcing thousands to live in poverty.

Look around and you will see the fertile earth that can yield all things needful for all. Look again and see your fellow creatures struggling and sweating, suffering and debauching, fighting and plundering and oppressing each other the wide world over.

What would be said of a man who sold his children's bread and clothing and spent the money on plate and jewels. But is not that just what the ruling class do and the result is poverty.

Under Capitalism the rich are rich because the poor are poor.

Poverty is no more necessary for the well-being of humanity than fleas are necessary for the wellbeing of a dog.

Socialists demand that wheat shall be raised to make bread instead of to make profits. Is there anything unreasonable in this demand?

Have you noticed how a thing that favors or defends Capitalism, or the master class, is always sacred, but if it favors or defends the workers it is anarchy. Great logic, is it not?

The workers want something besides the right to work. They want the right to put in a part of their lives without work.

The Capitalists have robbed the people so long that they look upon it as a vested right, much as did the robber barons of old.

Socialism will not bring you riches, but it will bring you an unlimited and unrestricted opportunity to secure all the riches you can possibly have any use for.

You can enjoy a good reputation if you steal privately and give publicly.

Human slavery will never be abolished as long as it is possible for one man to make a profit from the labor of some other man.

A man may believe in the principles of Christianity, but he can't apply them and at the same time collect rent, interest and profit.

Our millionaires are costing us too much. Let's economize.

Socialism is not a dream, and it is not based on any sentiment. It is but an economic expression of the ages.

All roads lead to Socialism. You are on the way whether you like it or not.

Men who will neither dig bait, fish nor cook should have no seat at the table.

There is always room at the top, but it is on the backs of the workers.

Organized charity is capitalist safety valve.

It's easy to be patriotic on the income of a million or more.

To make a capitalist bouquet take an untaught, famished child of the slums, a drunken wife-beater, a lost woman of the streets, a gaol-made criminal, a sweater's slave, an unemployed workman, an overworked laborer, a broken down pauper, a bowelless money lender, a time-serving politician, a fraudulent bankrupt, a jerry contractor, a dissolute aristocrat. All of those flowers are productions of the present system.

Men steal for profit. Socialism will cut out the profit.

Life insurance under Socialism will be the kind that you won't have to die to get.

If all the bad men in the world should die to-day, the world wouldn't be any better off. The system that makes men bad would still be in operation.

The prayer of Capitalism: Give us this day our daily dividends.

Reform: A change in the methods of exploiting the workers.

The workers should save by cutting out the millionaires and hobos.

Socialism is common sense, it is the best of everything for everybody, here, now and forever.

The workers make all the prosperity that is made. Why should they not enjoy it? Socialism will give them this opportunity.

Increase in wages and reduction in the hours of labor will not free the workers from industrial slavery. Socialism and Socialism alone can do it.

Capitalism operates for the benefit of a few. Socialism will operate for the benefit of all.

Good men in office under a bad system cannot do much for the people any more than a good workman can do good work with bad tools and poor material.

Labor is the only true measure of value.

Many seek the truth in order to suppress it.

Man is the ONLY animal that deliberately robs himself.

Wars will not end as long as there are surplus values to fight over.

Living will be the main thing under Socialism; work will be incidental.

Under Capitalism the worker hunts for a master and mourns if he finds him not.

Socialists believe that a healthy baby is worth a lot more than a fat hog.

Capitalism dies hard. But there is one satisfaction—it will be a long time dead.

The man who thinks there is such a thing as civilized warfare should go back to sleep.

No matter how much the workers produce, they, as a class, never get more than a bare living, and if they produce too much they are out of a job and starve. This is the crazy system under which we live.

Slaves think as slaves.

Labor power is the only creator of wealth.

You live in poverty, Mr. Worker, because you vote to live that way.

The profit system has made improved machinery, with its increased production, a curse.

Property has no rights where such "rights" interfere with human rights. Property is not sacred. Only life is sacred.

Capitalism—privileges of the few. Socialism—rights of the many.

As long as governments are founded on property rights, so long will property rights be more sacred than human rights.

Stocks and bonds do not run a railroad, the workers run it. Why should the private owners of the stocks and bonds receive any benefit.

What matters it how many countless billions of wealth there are in the world if the workers who do the work are in want.

It is more difficult to unlearn our errors than to learn the truth.

The tramp and the millionaire are brothers under the skin—they both live without labor, or rather, live on the labor of others.

It is intended that man should work, not to be worked.

True virtue consists in the care of the commonweal. It can only flourish where the commonwealth at the same time advances the interests of the individual, where he cannot damage the commonwealth without damaging himself.

Government should be service, not mastery.

In the age of small hand tools the workers were the owners of same and the master in order to exploit the worker must own the body. In the machine age where the master owns the machine by which the workers must get their living, it is not necessary for the master to own the body.

Man's inhumanity to man makes millionaires.

Anyone who gets a profit gets something for nothing.

The only difference between you, Mr. Worker, and a Socialist, is the Socialist votes for what he wants, while you vote for what you don't want.

They tell you that every man is equal before the law. He is if his bank account is equal to the other fellow's bank account.

Financial success under Capitalism always rests on a foundation built of failures.

Industrial justice is the price of industrial peace. Capitalism wants peace, but is unwilling to pay the price.

To be good is the most natural thing in the world—men are bad only because they are living under an unnatural system.

Under Socialism a man may be allowed to own privately the house in which he lives, but he certainly will not be allowed to own the house

in which his fellow must live.

And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them.

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat. Isaiah 21-22, 65.

The world can get along without Capitalists, but it cannot get along without workers.

Education is not knowledge.

Capitalists and their henchmen have a good deal to say about equal opportunity for all, but they cannot deliver the goods. There can be no equal opportunity under Capitalism.

Labor trying to better its condition by electing men of either political party to office is like petitioning the devil for a pass to heaven.

Labor is honorable, if done under honorable conditions, but if done under dishonorable conditions it is degrading. If a millionaire should dig his own garden he is applauded and honored because he gets the full product of his labor. But if John Smith sells his labor power to the millionaire to dig the same garden, John Smith is condemned to a degraded position in Society because the wealth he produces belongs to the millionaire and John Smith's share is a job only.

Every charity organization is an indictment of capitalism, the system that makes it necessary.

Capitalism, being the cause of poverty, it cannot abolish poverty without first abolishing itself.

Rent, interest and profit represent the difference between what the workers earn and what they get.

A good capitalist is as dangerous as a bad

one. Both fleece the toilers. The first one does it with a sense of duty, the other does it with a scent of profits. But both do it.

It's good betting that you could never convince the ape that Darwin was right when he placed the ape and the human in the same family.

The only thing Socialism will "divide up" is work.

The workers build all the jails and then occupy the most of them.

Capitalism plays no favorites; it robs its friends as well as its enemies.

Capitalism is king and he sits on a throne built on the twin rocks of prejudice and ignorance.

We convert the "heathen," then we rob him. Great game.

A desire for profit fertilizes the root of every economic wrong.

You live in poverty, Mr. Worker, because you vote to have it that way.

Plain, old-fashioned stomach has a great deal to do with a man's soul.

The rich would have you save your pennies while they spend your dollars.

In every war the workers do their bit, while the capitalists make their bit.

Capitalism fears one thinker more than it does a thousand unthinking voters.

It is the system that is wrong, not the man.

They tell us that the poor will always be with us. They will be as long as capitalism is with us—and no longer.

Socialism will kill incentive—incentive for one man to rob another man of the product of his labor. It will do so by eliminating rent, interest and profit.

It is not wages the worker wants. He wants the full product of his labor, not as wages, but as his rightful share as a joint owner of the earth.

Socialism deprives none of the power to appropriate his social product; it only deprives him of the power to subjugate the labor of others by this appropriation.

Capitalism brings in the trail of increasing wealth, a relatively increasing amount of poverty.

If the workers are too industrious, over-production is the result, and the soup kitchen follows. Great system, is it not?

Many people want just what Socialists want, but they want it for themselves alone. What Socialists want they want for everybody because they know they cannot get what they want without getting it for all.

The mule gets his pay in keep, the worker gets his keep in pay. Both amount to the same thing—a meal ticket.

A workingman is the only animal who will hunt for a job, hitch himself up and go to work and hand over four-fifths of what he creates to a class who do not create at all.

Man may not live by bread alone, but he must have bread in order to live. And that applies to all, whether he is a millionaire or pauper.

If you steal a meal you are a criminal, but if you steal a railroad or a million acres of land you are an ornament to society.

They tell us that we must have rich and poor in order that there shall be an incentive for the poor to work. A flea on a dog is an incentive for the dog to scratch, but the flea is of no benefit to the dog.

The capitalist buys the labor power of the

worker at the market price, and in doing so gives as little as possible for it and gets all that he can out of it.

The worker sells his labor power to the capitalist at the market price, and in doing so gets all that he can for it and does as little as possible. Hence the inevitable and continual class struggle.

"THE FACTORY CHILD'S PRAYER."

I am too tired to pray at night!

Oh, Lord, do You think things are right?

The world does not owe any man a living, but it owes him the opportunity to work for a living.

The workers do not ask for charity. If they get all that they produce they will not need charity.

Socialism means that all things upon which the people in common depend shall, by the people in common, be owned and administered. It means that the tools shall belong to their creators and users, that all production shall be for the direct use of the producer, that the making of goods for profit shall come to an end, that we shall all be workers together and that all opportunities shall be open and equal to all men.

Capitalism does not seem to be able to conceive a higher use for its greatest scientific and mechanical achievements than to destroy human beings with them.

When the means of production become the possession of the community, then the capitalist and proletariat are no longer classes, then classes will cease, there will remain only society, a society of equals, mankind and humanity.

Poverty is the share of labor, riches the portion of the idle.

There is no capital but through labor.

Capital is not only the child of labor, but it cannot grow or continue without it.

When the social character of labor is extended to its product, the product of labor will then be the property of labor and labor will no longer be the companion of misery, but of enjoyment.

Capital has in relation to labor no rights, while labor in relation to capital has the right of ownership.

All that stands between the workers and the wealth they produce is CAPITALISM.

Labor must free itself and by freeing itself it will free all mankind.

The useful workers get small pay. The idlers get fat incomes.

Private ownership of God's gifts to all men is a crime against men and a sin against God.

No good citizen can continue doing his neighbor a wrong, either for gain or for revenge. The first is barbarous, the last is savage.

You need nothing to keep you from drifting away from God. Your greatest danger lies in drifting away from the people God gave you for neighbors.

How can gambling be stopped under a system where the leaders of men fatten on boodle and graft.

Mammonism is the worship of wealth, whether crystalized into dollars or into a million dollar church.

No man was ever governed by another from purely philanthropic motives; no man ever

governed another unless there was a profit in it "for him." Government is not founded on love of humanity.

A law which would presume to be absolutely right would have to be right for every one and at all times.

Socialism says that man, machinery and land must be brought together; that the toll gates of capitalism must be torn down, and that every human being's opportunity to produce the means with which to sustain life shall be considered as sacred as his right to live.

The actions of man are determined by his wants. Thirst teaches him to drink; wants rule time and space, nations and individuals. Whatever satisfies man's need is good; the opposite is bad.

An absolutely right law, dogma or action, if there were such a thing, would have to serve the welfare of all mankind, under all conditions and at all times. Every law is inadequate because it always considers only some special welfare, some special interest.

That is good which corresponds to man's needs; that is bad which is contrary to them. Everything and nothing is absolutely good. Neither the straight nor the crooked timber, neither is good or either is good, according to whether man needs it or not, and since he needs all things he can see some good in all of them.

Under chattel slavery they put the man on the block and sold him to the highest bidder. Under wage slavery, or capitalism, they put the job on the block and sell it to the lowest bidder, and the slave that bids the lowest gets the job.

Socialism will not change human nature,

but it will change conditions, and give human nature the first chance it ever had to act human.

Every dollar drawing interest is robbing somebody of the product of his labor.

A contented slave is a menace to the human race.

The capitalist flag has but three stars: rent, interest and profit.

Only ignorance relies on physical force. Intelligence appeals to reason.

Experience may be a good teacher, but a good teacher can't impart an idea to one who won't think.

The so-called intellectuals, ancient and modern, have always been subject to the ruling class and must do and teach as the ruling class requires of them or lose their job.

What men believe, is responsible for every wrong, of whatever kind, committed on the earth.

The morality of the ruling class is that whatever is, is right, consequently progress is revolution and anarchy to them, and undesirable from their standpoint.

The interests of the Capitalist class the world over are the same.

A tramp lives off the earnings of other people, likewise the millionaire.

The Capitalist idea of prosperity on earth is about the same as the devil's idea of prosperity in hell.

As between the working class and the capitalist class there is no more to arbitrate than there is between a highwayman and his victim.

Socialists are just as selfish as everybody else. The only reason they demand industrial freedom for all is because it is the only way they

can be sure of it for themselves.

The world is for the living and should not be ruled by rules, laws and customs, formulated by dead men.

And also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor, it is the gift of God. Ecclesiastes 4, 13.

The class who own the machine own the jobs, and the class who own the job own the workers.

Workers of the world, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to gain.

They tell us that the wages of sin is death. We know that the wages of capitalism is a bare living.

It is better to be right with the minority than wrong with the majority.

The needs of man is all that men need consider.

Socialism is administration of things in the interests of people. Capitalism is administration of people in the interests of property laws and in the interest of property owners.

The class struggle is colorless. It is not a struggle between white men and black men, between brown men and yellow men, or between males and females. It is a struggle between those who do all the work and have nothing and those who do no work and have everything.

Under Socialism most of the world's work will be done by machinery, not as a means of encouraging idleness, but in order that all may have more leisure, more time for study, more time to develop themselves along other lines.

A few millionaires, multi-millionaires or bil-

lionaires do not make a rich nation. Rather it makes a nation filled with poverty. The only nation that can be called rich is where all are rich.

Man is the only animal who has to struggle in the midst of plenty in order to keep from starving to death.

The millionaire has as much too much as the tramp has too little.

Excessive wealth is as demoralizing as extreme poverty.

Under feudalism the worker was bound to the land. Under capitalism he is bound to a job. Under Socialism he will be free.

Selfishness is moral suicide.

Socialism will not give you something for nothing, but it will put a stop to capitalism taking something from you for nothing.

Whenever the working people of this country understand why the many are poor and a few rich—well, then we will have Socialism.

"It will be a sad day when poverty is no longer with us," said a capitalist. Yes, indeed, it will be a sad day for the man who wants to live without work.

The workers produce too much, then starve. Crazy system, is it not?

The heaven of the rich is founded upon the hell of the poor.

The superfluities of the rich are the necessities of the poor.

He who possesses superfluities possess what belongs to others.

Riches are relative; they depend on others being poor.

Of what interest is it to the workers that the waste places of the earth have been turned into highways of commerce, that knowledge grows, that wealth accumulates, that public and private magnificence has reached a point never before attained, if the many still work and want and only the few have leisure and grow rich.

The face of capitalism is turned backward. For it to face the future means death to itself.

It is impossible for the ruling class to hold power under peace and plenty. The surplus value must be used, wasted or destroyed.

A millionaire in any community is proof positive that there are children in that same community in want.

They first robbed the people and then put up the placard, "Thou shalt not steal."

Sin against the human is the only sin that can be committed.

