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The Need of Vigilance

As our movement develops, the question of control will become more and more important. The capitalist class will not gracefully retire from the economic field and wish the working class "God speed" in establishing the cooperative commonwealth.

Democracy is as necessary to the Socialist party as air is to the human body. Publicity is the breath of Socialism. Every act of the party, and especially every act of all party officials, must be known to the membership.

This brings us face to face with an important phase of Socialist progress. When capital begins to wage an aggressive campaign against Socialism, every trick known to the capitalist class will be used against us.

We are already in the midst of a crisis. In fact, the entire history of the Socialist movement has been a series of crises.

With these introductory remarks, I want to call attention to a condition that must be met. The National committee being the servants of the party membership, should work under the constant supervision of that membership, but it does not.

Now, every member of the National committee may be as true as steel, but no member of that committee should be permitted to conduct the work of the office without being required to not only make reports, but also to get instruction from the membership.

The question of party control is up for solution and will not down. It must be met, not once and settled for all time, but with every subsequent step of our progress. No rigid, artificial rules can be made that will permit the membership to rest secure while the work of the party is carried on by officials.

With such precautions, the irregularity of party officials can be corrected; officials or individuals who imagine themselves the brain of the Socialist movement can be held in check or speedily removed from office.

Our party has already become a power. It remains for the membership to keep it so. No single individual is indispensable to its progress.

This means work for every member of the party. And with every member at work, not like anarchists, with no regard to system, thus producing discord, but co-operating with the party organization wherever he or she may be.

W. E. CLARK, Omaha, Neb., Nov. 6, 1903.

The Iowa Socialist in clubs of four or more for twenty-five cents per year. Four postal subscription cards good for one year each for \$1.00. They are handy. Order a bunch.

Human Nature

The argument which the Socialist has most often to answer, is: "Oh, you cannot change human nature." Little does the one who has advanced this argument know that by so doing he has partly accepted the argument of the Socialist.

In the former stages cannibalism and slavery were each in their turn highly moral, both were now highly immoral. Why? Had human nature changed or mankind become more humane?

We now come to the last change, the one which affects the workers the most, to the change from serfdom to capitalism or wage slavery. During the latter part of the middle ages a new class began to germinate. That was the trading or commercial class—the fore-runners of our present capitalist class.

I have thus taken the reader through four stages of evolution of human society, and if he has followed my line of thought closely he will have discovered that the advancement of mankind was not on account of moral regenerations of mankind, that morals had nothing whatsoever to do with it.

plotting class in each case simply followed its self interest and thereby in each case ushered in a new organization of society.

Through all these evolutions of society has run an intense struggle between the classes composing each system or organization of society. Again each system contained within itself the germs of the system which would supersede or kill it as soon as the time were ripe.

The working class being now the most persecuted and exploited class in our present society, sooner or later will follow the same course of all its predecessors, and, following its self interest, will overthrow the present capitalist class and system, and again following its self interest will institute the co-operative commonwealth.

This struggle along the lines of self interest can be watched by any one who wishes

to do so. In the economic field stand the trades unions, not yet intelligent or conscious of their class interests, but nevertheless fighting along the line of self interest.

The self interest of the worker dictate to him that he must have the right to work whenever he sees fit to produce for himself, and that production should be for use, not profit, and that he be guaranteed the full social value of his product.

The Socialist works for the complete overthrow of capitalism. There is no middle ground. The religious teacher says this is intolerant and unchristian. He pleads for "fairness" and "moderation."

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F. W. KNOCHER.

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Socialism and Christian Ethics —The Class Struggle

BY PAUL H. CASTLE

"I came not to send peace but a sword,"—Jesus.

The revolutionary spirit of Jesus was never so fully embodied in any of His statements as in the above quotation. This statement has perplexed many of His followers in view of His mission to bring peace.

For those who may not be familiar with the "class struggle" it may be well to state very briefly what we mean by that term. There are today two distinct classes, the capitalist and proletariat (laborer).

The struggle of capital and labor has been going on in some form as far back as recorded history. And so far have the masters of capital forced their side of this issue that men have been reduced to serfdom, receiving only enough to maintain physical existence.

NO ROYAL ROAD

It is a toilsome journey to the co-operative commonwealth. There is no royal road.

After we toil so hard in a campaign we look anxiously for results. They are not apparent. The results of a hard-fought campaign for Socialism are shown in the voting strength at least six months afterward.

"The mills of the Gods grind slowly, but they grind exceeding fine." Industrial evolution is a sure process and economic determinism is an irrevocable law.

To be revolutionary, but patient—ah, there's the rub! To work in the heat of a great movement and keep your personal poise—here is a task to try men's souls, and many a life has gone

with the problem unsolved, the task unaccomplished.

Yet we have not attained our higher fighting quality till we have come to our repose in the midst of conflict. We must learn to campaign as if by an extra exertion we expected to win tomorrow; then rise to the so-called defeat as if no defeat were possible.

It is the constant rising from the ashes, serene and immovable, that makes truth invincible. It is this element of our movement that baffles our adversaries and makes the Socialist party more than a seventh wonder to the politicians of the old school.

The moral rights involved have been recognized by the masters only when labor has forced its claims to a successful issue or when the capitalists have concluded that their economic interests were in line with moral teaching.

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in themselves. Very well. So is capitalism wrong within itself, hence must be abolished in order that the workers of the world may come into possession of that which rightfully belongs to them.

When Jesus said He came to bring a "sword," He announced this very principle of revolution which we find involved in the class struggle. He meant that He would wage unceasing war on every form of tyranny with which He came in contact.

The world's greatest religious teachers have been preachers of righteousness. So was it with Jesus. Socialism is the preaching of economic righteousness and Christian ethics must uphold it or be found on the side of economic sin.

The transgression of economic truth of science has plunged the race into misery and vice; it has clothed the masses in rags and the masters in "purple and fine linen"; it has crushed the noblest sentiments and ambitions and encouraged the basest appetites born in the human breast.

We are taught by Christian ethics that all men are to be one. We are impressed by the teachings of Jesus that He meant to found a universal empire of brotherhood.

All men cannot be one under our base economic inequality. There may be a pretense made by the pulpit that the millionaire Christian and the poor wage earning Christian are "one in Christ," but common reasoning revolts at the thought, for we all know they do not and can not move in the same social circle.

There may have been a time when the proletariat could believe this, but they know better now and their absence from the churches may be accounted for in a great measure on the ground that they do not care to hear the ministers apologize for the church in its support of Christian captains of industry who are robbing the toiling millions of their hard earned wealth.

Now the class struggle as taught by Socialism will end the class war by really making all men equal. It will make an exploiter of every honest man and an exploiter of none. It will give every man an equal chance at the necessities and luxuries of life, an equal chance to develop the God-given qualities within him.

The class struggle in its last analysis means the end of all class war through the triumph and universal dominion of the proletarian idea. It is on this plane alone that men can find an economic basis for social and religious equality or a true brotherhood.

If, in contrast to the teachings of Socialism, the capitalist idea predominates, we shall have a continuous world tragedy of class war and murder. We shall have the same conflict that has reddened the earth with human blood.

Then if we would hasten the ushering in of God's kingdom and experience the reign of "peace and good will," if we would allow the "Prince of Peace" to dominate the world's affairs, we must conquer the forces of capitalism and destroy the altars of this false god that the meek may inherit the earth through the crucifix and the sword.

Financial Report

Omaha, Neb., Nov. 1, 1903.

RECEIVED.

Table with columns for State and Amount. Includes entries for Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Wisconsin.

Locals in Unorganized States and Territories—

Table with columns for State/Territory and Amount. Includes entries for Delaware, Georgia, Indian Territory, Louisiana, Maryland, Nevada, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming, Washington, D. C., Members at Large.

Total \$1,871.41

EXPENDED.

Table with columns for Expense Item and Amount. Includes Exchange, Office expense, Expressage, Freight, Office equipment, Office help, Postage, Printing, Stationery, Telegrams, Salaries (Wm. Mally, W. E. Clark, Acct. Springfield, N. E. C., C. H. Vail, Acct. Chicago N. E. B., Acct. E. Edwards), Expense National Committee, Agitation and Organization (Geo. H. Goebel, John M. Ray, Geo. E. Bigelow, John W. Bennett, P. J. Hyland, Chas. G. Townner, John W. Brown, William A. Toole, New York State Com., Iowa State Com., Ohio State Com., Indiana State Com., Illinois State Com., Connecticut State Com., Donation to Haverhill Campaign Fund, Whitehead and Hoag buttons, Agnes Wakefield, Office rent, Miscellaneous expenses).

Total expended \$1,728.49

RECAPITULATION.

Table with columns for Receipts and Amount. Includes Receipts for month \$1,871.41, Oct. 1, balance 1,239.50, Total receipts \$3,420.41, Total expended \$1,728.49.

Nov. 1, balance \$ 677.42

WILLIAM MALLY,

National Secretary.

Resolutions by Local Muscatine

Muscatine, Ia., Nov. 2, 1903.

Whereas, The Socialist party of Nebraska is the recognized expression of the Socialist movement of said state being affiliated with the Socialist party of America and resting upon the fundamental principles of international revolutionary Socialism and

Whereas, The local Socialist party of Omaha is the officially recognized party organization in that city. And, Whereas, It is engaged in a controversy with the Omaha Propaganda club, an organization which all evidence goes to show is controlled by old party politicians for the purpose of disrupting the Socialist party, not only in Omaha, but throughout the state as well, with a view of dominating the state and through this domination defeating the aims of the working class movement. And,

Whereas, A number of representatives of the Socialist party have had dealings with the aforesaid Propaganda club in preference to Local Omaha. Therefore, be it

Resolved, By the local Socialist party of Muscatine, Iowa, in regular meeting assembled, that we disapprove of the action of the aforesaid representative members of the Socialist party in relation to their connections with the Omaha Propaganda club. And be it further

Resolved, That we call upon the National committee of the Socialist party to make it a punishable offense for any member of the party to have connections with any organization hostile to our officially organized party local. And, further, be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the National secretary, Nebraska State committee, and the Socialist press.

LEE LANG,

J. W. WELLS,

O. C. ELLER.

The Iowa Socialist

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THE VICTORY OF FAILURE.

At first thought it may seem discouraging to some Socialists that the recent election did not bring us the usual increase in votes.

It is not so with comrades who are able to read the "signs of the times" Heretofore the opposition has not considered us of sufficient strength to warrant any special attention being paid to us.

For instance, it was known several weeks ago that there was a great effort being made to prevent the reelection of Comrade Carey to the Massachusetts legislature.

In other places the whole power of the church was used against us.

The comrades, confident of the continued increase of the vote, apparently overlooked the fact that we are now big enough and old enough to "receive attentions" from the Tammany tiger and the g. o. p. elephant.

"Never turned his back, but marched breast forward, Never doubted clouds would break, Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better."

And why is this? Because we know that Socialism is the inevitable next step in our industrial evolution; we know the necessity of educational propaganda work; we know the undesirability of the floating, uneducated vote; we know we must build on a firm foundation.

This election has but shaken away from us the drifters and shows us truly where we stand, and what our future work must be—a continuation of our own past study and our past work in teaching both from the press and platform—not forgetting the soap box—the fundamental principles of scientific Socialism.

We are a political party in the field for the capture of the powers of government; but, unlike other political parties, we slumber not, nor do we sleep. The morning after every election finds us at our post.

It is well at times to have the wheat parted from the chaff—it gives us a clearer movement. And so, whether we gain or whether we lose—numerically, for that is the only way we can lose, even temporarily—to us at all times belongs the victory in the battle of the ballots.

DECREASED SOCIALIST VOTE.

The returns indicate a falling off of 232 in the Socialist vote in Dubuque county, as compared with last year. The explanation for this is found in the opposition offered the doctrine.

The impossibility of Socialism as a panacea for industrial ills, at least for this and many unborn generations, is made apparent by exposition and explanation. It is because effort has been made to impress the arguments against Socialism that the vote has fallen off.

The large Socialist vote in Massachusetts last year was rightly attributed to the state of public mind consequent upon the coal strike.

These are the arbitrary of the So-

cialist party as read by capitalism. The great International Socialist party—a party commanding some 7,000,000 votes has been buried because it has lost two hundred votes in Dubuque county and a few thousand in Massachusetts. And all because of the "opposition" offered the "scientific theories of Marx."

The Socialists are not here to hasten that destruction. They are here to prepare and educate the workers to build the new social order when the old shall have crumbled into ruins.

It is perhaps true that since they had "nothing to lose but their chains" the workers were loath to part with them.

Literary Note

No subject in American social life is attracting more attention at the present time than the Negro problem. The only body that dares to take a clear-cut, decisive position and offers any possibility of solution in regard to this question is the Socialist party.

The one great event in the Socialist world of recent date is the Dresden congress of the German Social democracy, and this is treated at much greater length than has been attempted by any other publication.

The Vanguard for November, which is a "Woman's Edition," is one of the best things ever published for Socialist propaganda. All the articles are of an unusually high order.

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Resolutions

Omaha, Neb., Oct. 30, 1903. Editor, Iowa Socialist, Dubuque, Iowa. Dear Comrade: The following resolutions were endorsed by a unanimous vote of Local Omaha in mass meeting assembled, Oct. 28, 1903.

"Whereas, Geo. E. Baird, who was expelled from the Omaha Local of the Socialist party of Nebraska, on being proved a corrupt and a bootler in the pay of the republican party in 1900, and,

Local Omaha, in mass meeting assembled, do hereby disapprove of and condemn the action of the Jackson County Socialist club in admitting said Geo. E. Baird to membership. And be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Socialist press."

The newspapers are filled with accounts of the closing down of various steel and iron mills, leaving thousands of slaves without any masters. You will note, however, that the gun works are working night and day.

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It is unnecessary to explain that the Socialists carried on a campaign of education. Their reduced vote in the city of Dubuque is proof that they made no serious effort to out-beer the enemy.—Dubuque Times.

Correspondence

Dear Comrades: Permit me to congratulate you on the addition of such magnificent talent as Comrades Strickland and Johnson to the already superb force of the Iowa Socialist.

Comrades Holtz and Triller, and the Dubuque heroes who stood by them have fought a grand fight in bringing the paper to its present status. I take it that no one but Comrades Holtz and Triller themselves can begin to realize the trying toll, the dismal disappointments, the plodding patience, and the severe self-sacrifice that was necessary in order to put the paper on its feet.

The Iowa Socialist is one of the very best propaganda sheets in America. The type is of the right size; it is typographically neat and attractive. It is editorially wholesome, scientific, intellectual and instructive.

Sloups City, Nov. 5, 1903. Editor Iowa Socialist, Dubuque, Iowa: Dear Comrade:—We have just passed through our campaign here in Sloups City.

Dear Comrade:—We have just passed through our campaign here in Sloups City. If there is any one thing that expresses the class struggle and economic class interest this campaign certainly does it. A year ago we polled in this county 234 Socialist votes.

There are a few noble souls who would die for an ideal and will vote against their own immediate interest. Well, why did our vote fall back? For the reason that our vote a year ago was made up mostly of people who have property interests—who have an interest in lower taxation.

The Democratic party inaugurated a fierce campaign for lower taxes. They showed that the G. O. P. was robbing the tax payers and throwing the county in debt and raising the taxes to pay it.

Des Moines, Ia., Nov. 1, 1903. Iowa Socialist, Dubuque, Iowa. Editor:—Dear Comrade: You probably are aware of the attack upon the Socialists by the executive board of the State Federation of Labor.

reduced to the proletariat, for I see by the papers, that the trusts are going to reduce all unnecessary high salaries officials. Yours for more light, J. W. WILSON. Local Organizer S. P.

Davenport, Iowa, Nov. 9, 1903. Dear Comrades:—Will say a few words in regard to the election.

Dear Comrades:—Will say a few words in regard to the election. We polled 669 votes in Scott county for the head of the state ticket, which is a loss of 130 votes since the last general election of November 4th, 1902.

But we have gained over 200 straight Socialist votes since the election of 1901, in Scott county, so after all we are not progressing like the crawfish "backwards." But we are not going ahead as fast as we should and I think the main reason is "simply because we are not getting our literature in the hands of the people."

Elkpoint, S. D., Nov. 3, 1903. Dear Comrades: Don't get discouraged because the vote in localities has fallen off.

Dear Comrades: Don't get discouraged because the vote in localities has fallen off. While our revolutionary tactics do not make converts fast, those that we do get are more steadfast.

Comrades, in glancing over the results of the election I notice that some of our Comrades have received more votes than others. This may have been caused by non-Socialist voters. But should any of you have scratched on our ticket for some personal reasons, let me greatly reuke you.

Newton, Kas., Oct. 25. I hope you can find space for a few lines from Kansas in your paper.

We are steadily gaining ground in the great cause; also gaining respect; an get people to listen to Socialist speakers and buy Socialist books to study the question from the bottom, up. Step by step we are pushing forward without a backward step.

And here let me tell you something of the work of one of your Iowa Socialists in this part, your candidate for lieutenant-governor, Mr. Gifford. He n company with Prof. Ross, of the American Socialist college, of Wichita, held meetings here on the streets of Newton recently, afternoon and evening, and held the most orderly and interested crowds that have assembled here for many a day.

Mr. Gifford delivered a most forcible and logical address. He is aggressive, earnest, honest, convincing and talks like a man whose heart is in his work and has a full grasp of his subject.

Now a word for Prof. Ross, who divided time on the soap box with Mr. Gifford. He is possessed of a powerful voice and a magnetic presence that soon draws people near him.

Des Moines, Ia., Nov. 1, 1903. Iowa Socialist, Dubuque, Iowa. Editor:—Dear Comrade: You probably are aware of the attack upon the Socialists by the executive board of the State Federation of Labor.

trust which had been placed in them by the I. S. F. of L. In defending himself Mr. Erick stated that it would be necessary for them to fight Socialism in two or three places in the state and that we were aware of the places referred to and that it was necessary for him to proceed to Sioux City very soon to straighten out matters there, and that if a certain element did not stop interfering with pure, simple trades unionism and trying to break up the movement it would be the duty of the officers of the I. S. F. of L. to take a firm stand against Socialism or the (Deleontes) as he put it several times using the two names synonymously.

The international organizer for the cigar makers' union was here and he attacks Socialism in a very offensive and insulting manner, and stands pat for pure, simple trades unionism, also and he is making a trip through the state, going from here to Boone. His name is Frinck.

I am making this statement to you because Mr. Frinck is going out over the state immediately after election, and thinking you might be able to put our boys next to their position through the Socialist, I have written this explanation of the affair.

Davenport, Iowa, Nov. 7, 1903.—Dear Comrades: Enclosed find P. O. money order for seven dollars and fifty cents, to apply on postal subscription cards.

I am glad to note that you will increase the size of the Iowa Socialist. I hope to be able to help you some this winter. I am now working at Rock Island arsenal and will probably remain there this winter.

With best wishes to the "I. S." force and Dubuque comrades, I remain, Fraternally yours, W. A. JACOBS.

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