

WILL somebody send me the correct answer to this question: "If the man who creates an article of value is not entitled to it, who is?"

WHILE I was in Toledo a few days ago "Men and Mules" Ries took me about town. We came to a beautiful building recently erected. "That's our million dollar government building," said "Men and Mules."

THE grand jury at Calumet returned an indictment against Chas. H. Moyer charging him with shooting himself in the back. The members of the Citizens' All-lie-ance composing the mob that invaded the hotel where Moyer was stopping were exonerated, and each voted a medal of appropriate design for patriotic services rendered on that occasion.

Modern Business Is Robbery. HERE is a letter from a rather bellicose reader of the APPEAL, who writes as follows:

I note in your issue of January 10th an article on business and theft in which you say if a merchant bought a suit of clothes for \$12 and sold it for \$10 that he was a thief. Now I suppose that you know that you are in the printing business and I don't suppose that you can keep the printing establishment going on wind and if you do you will soon have to close shop and go out of business or close yourself as one of the thieves which you must be if you are making any profit.

In the first place I did not say that a merchant who bought a suit of clothes for \$12.00 and sold it for \$10.00 was a thief. I intimated as much, however, in my comments on a statement made by a Kansas contemporary who remarked that the gambler who got something for nothing was in the same class as the man who steals a horse.

melody of "seven-come-eleven." As a demonstration of how this particular game worked, the General Manager of the institution suggested that I deposit a dollar on a certain number. I did this and the bones were rolled gaily along the green table with an artistic flourish of the right hand acquired only after years of practice.

This business of transferring your dollar to the other fellow's pocket, is played differently in Kansas. Just how differently is illustrated by the following letter written by a banker to a friend of mine who is sorely in need of \$200.00.

I have your card of the 6th regarding the \$200 you want. I cannot make and send papers up there as you request—must have you down here and talk matters over with me. I think I shall have to have security for the amount you want—customary to take security and we find in our business that it is mighty risky to do otherwise.

The above is a bona fide letter, although Jones isn't the name of the man who signed it. You pick up \$200.00 and you put down \$228.00. Simple, isn't it? A little more complicated than the game I went up against in Oklahoma, but it serves the same purpose.

But to get back to the merchant: He sells clothes. The banker sells money. The gambler sells chances. If the merchant is successful (and very many times he is not) your money gets over to the other side of the counter as it does in the banking and gambling business.

"Purpose of Confidential Circulars." MR. HENRY DUBB, one of my many esteemed readers, sends me the following circular letter, printed on Department of Commerce stationery, dated Washington, D. C., Jan. 6, 1914, and signed A. H. Baldwin, Chief of Bureau.

In order to bring to the attention of interested individuals and firms the confidential information in regard to commercial conditions and opportunities for the sale of American goods which consular officers and the bureau's crops of commercial agents are constantly transmitting to the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, your organization has been placed on the confidential circular mailing list.

Henry thinks this letter is prima facie evidence that the present administration is actively engaged in helping the workingman by finding a profitable market for the goods which the working-

man makes for his employer. Henry takes occasion to remark sarcastically that if the APPEAL would do something towards boosting the honest administration of President Wilson it would be rendering a great service to humanity in general and Henry Dubb in particular.

There is only one fair basis of commerce between different countries and that is that each country shall receive an exact equivalent in value for goods shipped abroad.

The significance of the circular referred to above is merely this: It proves that the machinery of government is today used solely in the interest of the capitalist class. You deny this, because you say that in helping the capitalist sell his goods abroad the government is providing jobs for American working men.

In order to facilitate the work of the nation, you are notified that the agricultural department is in need of fifty thousand additional volunteers for the reclamation work in Arizona. Transportation will be furnished to all who desire to take up this work.

The point I wish to make is this: If government is used for getting rid of the goods and merchandise produced by the working class, but owned by the capitalists, then why should government not be used to aid the workers in making and keeping for their own use these identical articles?

A Brutally Frank Statement. Labor troubles are still prominent in several sections, the most spectacular being the miners' strikes in Michigan and Colorado.

THIS brutally frank paragraph is taken from Moody's Monthly Digest of Corporation News. That publication deals with inside facts for capitalists. The men who prepare this Monthly Digest are in close touch with the men who control industry.

employed. Wage reductions and increased hours of employment (without extra pay) are scheduled for every important industry in the land.

I Am Not Opposing State Capitalism. Editor Appeal, Girard, Kan.—In your issue of January 3d you say that the public ownership of the railroads would be state capitalism; assumed not very desirable.

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Individuals are not in any way responsible for the "system." The "system" is responsible for the individuals. We do what we do because there is nothing else for us to do, and we keep on doing that until we reach a place where that thing can be done no longer, and then the change comes.

The railroads, however, have reached a point in their mad career of wild financing when they can no longer pay the enormous dividends which they have been handing out to their stockholders, and so they are now ready to turn the roads over to the nation.

The ideal towards which the Socialist is looking and for which he is working.

I Would Vote for State Owned Mines. H. Hansen, Socialist of Colorado City, Colo., writes me the following letter about state ownership:

I am disgusted with the whole Socialist movement, as well as the Socialist press. I have worked for Socialism for over sixty years. Socialism has always meant to get public ownership of the means of production and distribution, such as railroads, coal mines, wheat, etc., and all the rest of the things that the public needs, and now that we are about to realize some of these things, the Socialist press is doing all it can to prevent us from getting them.

If I were in Colorado, I would vote and work for the state ownership of coal mines, though I believe the coal barons have long since forfeited any right they have in them.

In Missouri, the Socialists have initiated a referendum providing for a law under which the state shall give employment to the unemployed. Every Socialist in Missouri should work for the success of this referendum.

When private enterprise fails, the people instinctively turn to government. The capitalist has always done this. If his railroad fails, he asks for a federal court receiver, and after the federal court receiver, acting under the instructions of a federal judge, has put the railroad on its feet, the railroad is turned back to the stockholders.

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ing political and industrial control by the working class, the Socialist does not believe that control by the democrat party, or by the people. The democratic party of today is not a democratic party. It never was a democratic party.

UNDER capitalism the worker is a slave to the machine he operates, but does not own. Under Socialism he will be the master of the machine he operates and owns.

SOCIALISM does not favor "dividing up." On the contrary, it would so change society as to prevent the worker dividing up his product with the non-producer.

A FRENCH professor says the skin of future man will be greatly different from that of today. Unless we change our voting methods, future man won't have any skin.

SOCIALISM is not merely a scold. On the contrary, it uncovers evidence of evils only to point a way to their cure, which is not true of those who are scolding Socialism.

SOCIALISM is not a plan for ruling the workers under bosses. On the contrary it is a plan to get rid of bossism by making the workers supreme in both industry and politics.

The press announces that the banks accept the new currency bill. Considering that it was especially made for them it is really remarkable that they should accept the gift.

IMAGINE a man sitting on an open keg of powder smoking a cob pipe and you have a good picture of capitalism today with its never-ending labor wars and millions of idle working men.

CHICAGO is going to establish municipal stores where the people can buy food and clothing at cost. This will destroy initiative, enterprise, and profits; but the greatest of these is profits.

SOCIALISM is not concerned entirely with material things. It rather seeks to make the getting of a living so easy and sure that all people will have time and opportunity to live a higher life.

The capitalist system gets its support, not because there are ever again will be many capitalists, but because so many who are not wise to the situation imagine they will some day be capitalists.

VINCENT ASTOR's professed interest in the men who do all the work makes one think of that line in Kipling's "On the Road to Mandalay"—"They talk a lot of lovin', but wot do they understand?"

SOCIALISM has no desire to forbid you thinking your individual thoughts. On the contrary, it would so free all from economic necessity that all might be able to think as they would and do the things they desired.

Yes, you are living twice as well as your ancestors did a century ago. But you produce a hundred times as much; and they don't work live a hundred times as well as they who did not work a century ago.

SOCIALISM is not a mere set of rules which are to be imposed on the people. On the contrary it is a plan which will enable the people to do what they may want and to shut out those who have been robbing them.

SOCIALISM is not the creator of the great unrest now prevailing. On the contrary, it would remove the causes of the unrest, which inhere in the capitalist system, and by bringing justice promote industrial peace.

We hear a good deal these days about the government taking over the railroads and squeezing out the water in so doing. It is pertinent to ask, Who is going to do the squeezing? Who shall decide how much is water and how much is flesh and blood of workingmen, squeezed out by capital through other channels, converted into surplus dollars and invested in railroads for the purpose of squeezing out more surplus dollars in the same way and from the same source?

"You can't change human nature" is one of the stock objections to Socialism. Socialists don't want to change human nature, it isn't necessary. There is nothing wrong with human nature. It is human nature to want to be happy and see those around us happy.

There is nothing better to hand to a man out of a job than Fred D. Warren's "32,000 Per Year and a Six-Hour Day." A dollar will bring you 50 copies, postpaid.

Henry Dubb and Junior Rush to Hear Vincent Astor Lecture but Learn More When They Get Back "Home" By Ryan Walker







