







THE CHICAGO DAILY SOCIALIST

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Class-Consciousness

Every civilized human being bears the marks, more or less distinct, of class. He may be unaware of it or he may be fully conscious of it. In some the social qualities, friendship, devotion, good nature and refinement predominate; while in others the anti-social characteristics, greed, meanness, selfishness, hypocrisy and coarseness prevail.

Every man belongs to one or other of two great modern classes—the fleecers or the fleeced, the oppressors or the oppressed, the owners or the workers, and possesses, in addition to his manhood, a classhood.

It may be noted, however, that while the effect of caste has been bad for all classes, it has had a less corrupting effect upon the working class than upon the owning class. The modern capitalist is less wholesomely human than the working man. The clearest illustrations are furnished by the class politician.

These are extreme cases on both sides. Between them lie the mass of human beings in whom struggle human feeling and class feeling with varying success.

The educated workingman knows that human progress is bound up with the ascendancy of his class. The educated capitalist knows that human progress is bound up with the overthrow of his class, so that among the working class there are ever greater masses that are Socialists, while among the rich only a few individuals overcome their anti-social tendencies.

There are low strata of society, fortunately not large, where the conditions produced by expropriation has produced a distinctly anti-social class feeling. This anti-social feeling is matched in the top strata of society, where the lust for power and possession has eaten away the human elements.

Justice is impotent for good until it expresses itself in concrete acts on the material plane. Any amount of righteous indignation is barren if it does not ultimately change the material conditions of the poor.

Workmen's Compensation Laws

The following article, taken from the Insurance World, gives the insurance companies' idea on the question of workmen's compensation.

The law should pretty clearly outline which constitutes a serious injury and upon a lesser one, while juries would be left to pass upon questions of facts.

The "dangerous employment" law exempts the master from liability for injury caused in whole or in part by the serious and willful misconduct of the workman.

facts to be shown and the degree of money responsibility established as a retroactive by trial in court.

"These laws have been in almost continual consideration by the underwriters for a month past and have been reprinted for distribution, and many comments on them have been publicly made.

"The influence of such legislation upon the workman is to produce injuries, not to prevent them. The influence upon the employer, we grant, is to stimulate him to precaution and care, inasmuch as injury is made a larger menace to him than before; he cannot afford its hazards.

What Does He Need to Know?

See that man walking along the street? What does he need to be told in order to make him support the Socialist movement?

The question is an important one. He is a workman, and there are ten million more like him in the United States. Will he support the Socialist movement by having the materialistic interpretation of history explained to him?

Further, that since the proletariat control all branches of the government, that nothing can be accomplished until the working class seize the power through a party of its own.

THE AGITATOR

We are reproducing an extract from an article on agitation, published by the Appeal to Reason, and written by W. C. Ries, author of the propaganda pamphlet, "Men and Mules," which contains many profitable suggestions to propaganda workers.

John, the Baptist, to Salome

BY WILLIAM MOUNTAIN

Thou beastous serpent and thou ancient shame! Thou wonder and thou wonder of the earth: Eden was darkened when thy beauty came.

Thou art a symbol of the earth-old ache, The ever-blooming flower of desire— The dream of beauty for its own fair sake.

Questions and Answers

Inquiries addressed to this paper should be addressed to the Questions and Answers Department. They should be short, concise, and not exceed more than two or three in each letter.—E. J.

Why the Man Who Makes the Doughnut Must Subsist Upon the Hole

BY JAS. H. BROWER

We love keepsakes for the memories they kindle; but who among us would care to own for love or memory's sake the junk that twenty years ago represented a nation's industrial machinery?

OPEN FORUM

THE CAUSE OF POVERTY AND ITS CURE

I am of opinion it is a mistake to name any one thing (except ignorance) as the cause of poverty. My pet theory, however, is that the protection of property in the interest of individuals is the cause of poverty.

A TROUBLE MAKER

John Fox, the novelist, stayed overnight in a cabin in the Kentucky mountains. In the morning he repaired to a mountain stream, producing incidentally his traveling case, a comb and a toothbrush, and being regarded critically by a native youth, who finally said: "Say, mister, ain't you a lot of trouble to yourself?"—Ladies Home Journal.

A DILEMMA

"What's a dilemma?" asked one small boy. "Well," replied the other, "it's something like this: If your father says the moon may return to work on their own terms tomorrow morning."

STRANGE, INDEED

Circus Man (chasing for a stray elephant)—Have you seen a strange animal around here?

THE REAL LOSS

Head Cashier of the Deale Deep Mining Syndicate—The office was broken into this morning.

A CHANGE

John had worked for ten years at the same salary, and at last the precise amount that he knew he would find in his pay envelope got on his nerves. He decided to strike for a raise.

THE REAL LOSS

Head Cashier of the Deale Deep Mining Syndicate—The office was broken into this morning.

STRANGE, INDEED

Circus Man (chasing for a stray elephant)—Have you seen a strange animal around here?