READ AND CIRCULATE

WHAT IS ANARCHISM
WHO ARE THE ANARCHISTS

JULY 1913

REFUTATION OF CERTAIN INCORRECT STATEMENTS, MADE IN THE CENTRAL POLICE COURT AND ELSEWHERE, CONCERNING THE DOCTRINE OF ANARCHISM.

"GROUPE D'ETUDES SCIENTIFIQUES" (late) "MODERN SCHOOL"

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DEFINITION OF THE ANARCHIST.

Under the designation of anarchist, one can group a large quantity of individuals completely in accord upon all points of a like doctrine.

Question: Who are the anarchists?

Anarchists are individuals who do not accept authority. It follows from this that Anarchists will not accomplish an action because ordered, but because they have weighed the motives.

Question: Are anarchists legal? They would answer: "We submit to positive laws because they are the positive laws." Anarchists would say: "We do not accept positive laws because we will, at every moment, judge if it is reasonable or not to act in a certain way or another. Positive laws are imposed by force, not by reason."

To say that individuals do not accept authority; does not imply in any way the desire of disorder (from lat.; Diis, negative; and Ordo, methodical, systematical arrangement) or one must admits that authority is synonymous, which is incorrect. It is by excess of words that Anarchists are defined as partisans of disorder.

Being that individual authority, implies on the contrary, that these individuals reserve to themselves, which at every moment, the motives which determine their actions; and will not leave that work to others.

Individuals are, after all, reasonable. When they do not admit any other motives of action than those which they CAN FREELY DEMONSTRATE to themselves, the necessity, given their nature.

Anarchists are then in consequence of our definition, reasonable individuals, because they do not admit any other motive of action than that which they can demonstrate the necessity of to themselves given their nature.

It is important to remark that the word "Reasonable" is employed by the major part of the human
out knowing these principles. In such a case one practices a theory of which one is ignorant.

In view to show how the humans who are supposed to reason correctly are habitually unreasonable, we will take as example those which it is agreed to call "SAVANTS" (scientists), and we will have no difficulty in showing that outside of their specialty -- and even often in their specialty -- they act without discernment. In scientific matter, scientists do not generally recognize the right to anyone of imposing their will upon them; They comport themselves as anarchists, as individuals decided not to submit to any authority, reserving to themselves the right of controlling and exercising freely everything.

For instance, why do they accept that at a certain temperature and pressure water transforms into ice? Because they can demonstrate this truth to themselves and not because others have decided so. If positive laws happened to declare that at this temperature and pressure water does not transforms into ice; "NEVER MIND POSITIVE LAWS," they will say; The legislators can impose under sanction of fine, prison or death that at the temperature and pressure indicated, water transforms into an archbishop or a politician, we will none the less have ascertained that it transforms into ice, because we have acquired this notion A PRIORI and no one will force us to accept A POSTERIORI anything else.

What is necessary to check their a posteriori acceptance? Not orders, not authority imposed by others but simply a posteriori arguments unknown to them until now. For example, in this case, the relation of precise experiments from which will result that they had observed incorrectly.

In a word, Scientists consider that in scientific matter it is important not to have such or such opinions but to have opinions after free examination, a posteriori.

They will only recognize as true what their reason has demonstrated to them as such. They consider TRUTH as the expression of verifiable ratio (our definition), or as a plausible hypothesis, logical consequence of non-contradictory hypothesis (definition of H. Le Maitre). In scientific matter they will be exact.

Now these same scientists, who are content to practice the scientific method, who are anarchists in their social domain, who are content to determine verifiable ratios without wishing to impose them upon others, refusing to accept a priori those determined by others and acting in consequence of the ratios verified by them, may be complete ABRUTIS in other domains.

DEFINITION OF THE ABRUTI.

The one who cannot reason is a BRUTE.
The one to whom it has been interdicted to reason, to whom it has been suggested to renounce reasoning or who interdicts to oneself the use of reason, is an ABRUTI.

Example: As bacteriologist Pasteur was an ANARCHIST, rejecting all authority and reasoning a posteriori: As believer, he was a Theist) Pasteur was an ABRUTI, accepting ideas a priori.

Another example more general: the Scientists, who however, in their domain, base themselves on a posteriori ideas will, in social matters, accept positive laws and authority, that is to say, will do a great number of acts, not because they consider them logical - a posteriori, but because they are the positive laws, that is to say, because these actions are ordered a priori. Anarchists on the contrary transport the scientific method everywhere, refusing to accept anything a priori. They will not submit to authority in any way, any more than in any other scientific matter. For them a positive law having been imposed by force will have to be discussed, if they do or find it reasonable, if they do not find any positive law reasonable, they will refuse to accept that positive law, all positive laws, any principles that they will recognize as unreasonable. They will not be abrutis, they will say to the scientists: YOU WILL REASON SOMETIMES, WE WILL REASON ALWAYS.

THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD.

Against the fact that many scientists accept yet, in scientific matter, a priori ideas, all appear to be in accord to banish authority out of science and to be scientifically anarchist, the cause of this is indeed very simple. It will not be in their power to be scientists and authoritarians at the same time.

Authority implies imposition of ideas, a priori, [without reasoning]; science implies acceptance of ideas, a posteriori, [after reasoning].
What Pascal called GEOMETRICAL INTELLECT can be well considered as the scientific method and we will undertake very easily to show that science can be brought back to a vast enchainment of theorems. 

What are the professions doing when teaching geometry to pupils? Are they using authority? No! they reason in front of them and there is nothing more pleasing, fraternal and equitarian than the event to which such a teaching gives rise.

Individuals are there, saying to others: Here is what we are going to demonstrate to you. And, after the demonstration is made, they add: Here is what was to be demonstrated. This means: Now friends, have you well understood, are we all in good accord, is it your opinion that we have not made any mistake. And this also signify: "If one amongst you find that we are wrong or if any one of you aperceive an error; warn us quickly and we will verify together because we are seeking TRUTH and desire to render the verification possible to you and not impose anything by force.

To the reasoning of a child or a pauper demonstrating logically the falsity of a theorem, the most stupid, vain and foolish beings, Officials of Universities themselves --- who often toady to the "privileges" but not to the "common people" --- will bow.

And it is why we consider that the true characteristic of the scientific method is the establishment, a posteriori of the TRUTH, that is to say of verifiable ratios, in opposition to the AUTHORITATIVE METHOD the characteristic of which is to impose a priori the arbitrary, that is to say contestable ratios which it is interdicted to contest.

THE ANARCHIST METHOD.

The anarchist method is nothing else but the scientific one generalised and introduced into the social domain.

In summary we will say that the Anarchists extend the scientific method to all domains. They determine a POSTERIORI, their relations with their contemporaries. They want to act consequently of the scientific laws, that is to say in conformation to ratios always verifiable determined logically, and not consequentially of the positive laws, contestable relations imposed by force, that they reserve to themselves the right to contest, even against the fact that it is formally prohibited.

Those who accept positive laws, authority, will appear to them then, as individuals accomplishing a certain number of acts without reasoning. They will consider that the near totality of humans are lunatics or in better words, abrutis (our definition) amongst whom there is a small quantity of reasonable individuals who are called anarchists.

THE FALSE ANARCHISTS.

The major part of individuals whom, in our time, are called anarchists, are abrutis (our definition). Only the anarchists called SCIENTIFIC, are TRUE ANARCHISTS, to know, individuals decided to be reasonable in all circumstances and able to be such.

To be anarchist (negator of authority, then partisan of reason), one must be able to reason correctly without which it is impossible to make the selection between the formule of arbitrary end those of reason.

Now, those individuals SO-CALLED ANARCHISTS, their imitators followers and supporters do not know science (classified natural laws): are nearly all more ignorant, dirty, pathological than their other contemporaries whom they call "bourgeois", are often alcoholic tobaccoist and megalomaniac and, sometimes go so far as to praise the uselessness of learning, also preaching with bitterness their errors; antipathy against the "learned".

They do not seek, habitually, to leave their ignorance and to learn to reason correctly, the result of which is that they are unable to practice the fraternal integral comradely and to evitate their mistakes of their contemporaries.

All this is so true that actually Anarchists are considered generally as individuals dirty, badly clothed, living innumerable stupidities and travelling the world their pockets full of explosives.

Some of these so called anarchist "Groups" are composed of professional informers, jokers, sexual perverts, business vampires continually plotting and tricking even against their own comrades.

It is such degenerates which are called Anarchist.

What an absurdity!

What a calumny:

But, be ignorant, dirty, tobaccoist, alcoholic, megalomaniac,
refuse, etc., refusing to leave one's ignorance, and to learn to reason correctly, it is putting oneself in the impossibility of thinking a posteriori, to make a selection between the formulae of arbitrary and those of reason.

Therefore it follows that amongst the many called anarchists, those called "Scientific" are the true ones, the only ones; that they are the only individuals decided to be reasonable in all circumstances and able to be such.

All the previous remarks, made by us, concerning the false anarchists, apply to those abruti known as Jouili, lben, Nieche, Max Stirner, etc., etc., etc., with whom, given their ignorance did use their prejudices as a pretext to misrepresent and discredit the scientific and rational doctrine known as Anarchism which they never understood.

REASON LEADS TO ANARCHY:

The humans will be reasonable;
Or they will be unreasonable.
If they are unreasonable, then unreasonable society with or without government.
If they are reasonable, then no need of government.

NO AUTHORITY —— REASON.

PARAF-JAVAL.

(Translated from the "OEUVRES" of Paraf Javal by Dr. X. Sphynx).

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ISSUED BY FRIENDS IN INTEGRAL COMRADELY

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