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Socialism is the only hope for its Abolition

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Organ of the Australian Socialist League and the Sociali

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SYDNEY, SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1907.

Some years ago the canting "keeper of the nonconformist conscience."— Sread—wrote a namphlet entitled, "If Christ came to Chicago." What would Hado? Well, if He was Stead's Christ Hedo? Well, if He was Stead's Christ He wouldn't flog the money-changers from the Temple. Carlyle, when asked by a "society lady" once, "Wouldn't he welcome Christ if He came to-day?" "No: we would not, ma'am," replied raved in gorgeous trappings we would receive a card to meet our Saviour 'at a recoption; but if He came preaching His sublime truths it would be, " Away with Him to Newgate and hang Him.

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T. EUW .

2071

A leading British scientist, Sir Oliver Lodge, has written much the last few years on the horrors of our social system, and though some of his statements are correct enough his proposals of solution cannot satisfy any Socialist. Caught in the "new theology" irrnption he has contributed towards that question of no importance to the working class.

Here's a fairly virile statement culled from a daily paper:

If Christ came again among us what would He do? According to Sir Oliver Lodge, writing in the

"All these taxes were taxes on trade, the remission of which ought to give more money to many storekeepers and others whose profits were worked down to the limit that made them pay smaller wages, and he hoped this would be added to the wages of the workers."

Wait and see if the workers will get the increase. To prove it they ought to bring July round to the bosses to ask for it. If the workers are to receive the benefit of the remission of taxes why are the papers so jubilant?

Don't forget Australia is "enjoying boundless prosperity." Now read this: Since 1901 to 1905 the official statistics of N. ". W. give the average wages " per head" as follows: 1901, £14 13; 4d; 1905, £11 18s 7d. Commenting on it the financial editor of the "Telegraph" said on 15th April last: "Wages too were still higher per hand employed in 1900 and the average has steadily been coming down since Federation." The latter alone was not responsible for the circumstance : it is but the resalt of economic conditions under capitalist development.

The writer continues: "The preliminary statistics published disclosed the fact that the increase in female

Lab r is the source of all weal entrance was made Adam Smith.

The wealth of a community is sum-total of its exchange values.

The riches of a community is sum-total of its use values.

If all the things necessary to he life came into existence without there would be no exchange value, if under the name of t fore no wealth-but plenty of ril of Australia" in 190

The same would be true if things necessary to human-life produced by labor for use and no two Houses, the Se sale; there would be plenty of riof Representatives. but no wealth in the economic s

Under the Cooperative Com wealth there will be no excisSenate is elected by values-no buying and seilinglas one constituency commedities, only products, prodequal representati for the use and enjoyment of the irrespective of popu who do not produce or render an being appointed to valent necessary service will hav suffrage prevails for thing to use or enjoy. Justice, no lements, and with the blind, will then be Queen of the Veria and Queenslan

The doctrine and practice of rules in the Sti robber class, its economists and lickspittle supporters, is the c - mares of this

Australia approxid of their fellows e of degree. State and other activitie out the States, have the State as esse velopment of the exploitation; the latter end not bein private capitalists t in the building and etc., in the earlier s history. Both : Zealand have trav in the direction of ! this beyond affordin ment to a section has accomplished as a whole. Tho capitalist State are zen rights, that is, a a vote, they are pro participation in pul

Since 1891 —wh into politics-a lab existence in the fo South Wales, Victo and Queensland, I Australia and th Tasmania-the mo trially of the federat

Australia was proc for the first Feder place. The Const

The House of elected on a popula

"Hibbert Journal, He would the nounce the "sinfulness of society." And in unmistakable terms, too, as when He was on earth. "The vigor of that denunciation would, I expect, eclipse anything now heard from pulpits, though it would, I be-Heve, take a tillerent and unexpected direction and concern itself less with the weakness and follies and halfrepented sins of humanity, than with the greed, the selfishness, the sheer individualism and mammon-worship which excite but occasional reprobation; it would attack the heartless, and contented acquiescence in conditions which debase the soul of a people and erect the extravagant luxury of a few on the grinding poverty of many."

There is only one solution—Socialism. The Focialist stands for the only real. humanity, morality and brotherhood.

Here's another picture from a recent book by an English writer, G. W. E.

"We are Romans of the worst period given up to luxury and effeminacy, and caring for nothing but money. We care no more for beauty? in art, but only a brutal realism. Sport has lost its manliness, and is a matter of pigeons from a trap, or a back up their ballots. mountain of crushed pheasants, to sell to your own tradesmen. Religion is coming down to jugglers and table turning, and philandering with cults brought like the rites of Isis from the East; and as for patriotism, it is turned on like beer at election times, or worked like a mechanical doll by wire-pullers. We belong to one of the most corrupt generations of the human race."

Out of their own mouthpieces the capitalist class and their system stand convicted at the bar of Judgment. Chough the writer of the extract doesn't iee the working class, only the parasites. He is correct enough. His "patriotism" is well defined. Just consider the "pay-pay-triotism" of the Boer war and the wild beast show it worked up.

Now that the "Land Scandals" have en pushed in the background and jury have again disagreed over and Willis, N.S.W. Premier Cars-the stained-glass saint-has on his policy for the coming State

System of Ownership with its accompanying Class Rule and Class Oppression, cialist Labor Party's full Ticket for the and establish in its place Socialism, an Senate:

labor was more rapid than with males, and that, of course, tended materially to reduce the average because female labor is much cheaper. But the present statistics carry us further, and show that amongst girls and boys the expansion of employment has been much faster than amongst women and men, the aim being to employ cheaper labor all through." And "Thus the men constituted nearly 5 per cent. less in the total hands employed in 1905 tuan in 1901."

Those are facts from a capitalist witness And the horror of it!-working class men and women will cheer "Oily Gammon" Carruthers and his henchmen when they propose to "re duce taxation." The working class duce taxation." don't pay taxes Dosthey pay income tax? In Victoria they do-slightlybut Labor as a class does not Labor produces all wealth and only receives back a portion in the shape of wages Taxes are paid by the capitalist class out of the surplus produced by labor. The robbery of the workers takes place at the workshop and pay table. When the workers are organised in the I.W.W. as conscious Socialists and as men and women, then they will take and hold what they have produced and

Money invested at compound interest is doubled every 14 years (approximately).

The seventh heaven of capitalist financiers is the gilt-edged security, i.e, money invested in the state or imunicipality. State socialism so called, and municipal ownership so much havonred by Labor leaders, is laying a golden highway which will enable the capitalists to reach this summum bonum of their aspirations.

Interest-like profit, dividends, and ent-is theft: it is stolen from the men, women, and children of the working class who produce all the world's wealth. This is the sole reason why there are but two nations in the world to day-the nation of the rich and the nation of the poor.

Where shall the human mind be stopped in the conquest of eternal realities? When will it be satisfied with the present, and no longer spread

the fact that the increase in female

The following is the Australian So-

What is interest?—the automatic crease of invested money.-The I Economic Catechism.

"Capital - permanent value w! endlessly multiplies itself ' (sati of course.-" New Principles of tical Economy."

You have only to watch the rec of financial operations-the selfgratulations, felicitations, and selfrifications of the capitalists and to tools when prices, dividends, re rates of interest, etc., are high and a mulations mount up—to be convi-Mallock : to wit, that it is the few produce the world's wealth and no many, is a correct translation of t true belief-a belief which will main impervious for ever to rez morality, or justice. No privil class was ever yet convinced the considerations, and the present leged class will be least of all. the Bourbons-and all other privil persons-"they learn nothing (ex new methods of plunder) and Ic nothing" (that they have learn The only thing to which they are nerable is the superior force of their tim the Toiler. Workers of the W unite in the I.W.W. to take and

What idea does your imagin give you of the most enormous su money which has ever been calcula This sum-a rather surprising on that which would be produced by compound interest on five centim halfpenny) invested at the bird Christ. A mathematician will in assure you that this sum would enormous that all the waggons o the railways of the world could carry it. It would be in vain for to tell you that if the Alps and Pyr were mines of diamonds they v not represent its value; but if a d lator proves that it could only be wi by the following row of thirtyfigures, 342,653,248,699,000we are absolutely stunned by the of such a number. This number t enlightens, illuminates, transform self, when we reflect that the e globe of the earth weighs but 5875 tillions of kilogrammes, and that i were formed of solid gold it would three and a half times beavier, we Sir Oliver Lodge, writing in the minary statistics published disclosed lickspittle supporters, is the

port to Internati Economically the workers' position in Australia approximates to the condition of their fellows elsewhere simply one of degree. State ownership of railways and other activities is general throughout the States, having been forced upon the State as essentials toward the development of the country and profitable exploitation; the inducements to the latter end not being sufficient to warrant private capitalists taking initiative action in the building and extension of rai ways, etc., in the earlier stages of the country's Both Australia and New Zealand have travelled a good distance in the direction of State capitalism; but this beyond affording permanent employment to a section of the working class, has accomplished nothing for the class as a whole. Those employed by the capitalist State are deprived of full citizen rights, that is, apart from recording a vote, they are prohibited from active

Since 1891—when the first definite entrance was made by Australian labor into politics—a labor party has been in existence in the four States of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland, later followed West Australia and the island State of Tasmania—the most backward industrially of the federated group.

participation in public affairs.

Australia was proclaimed a Federation under the name of the "Common wealth of Australia" in 1900, when the election for the first Federal Parliament took place. The Constitution provides for two Houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The House of Representatives is elected on a population basis: while the Senate is elected by each State voting as one constituency, each State having equal representation in the Senate irrespective of population, six Senators being appointed to each State. Adult suffrage prevails for the Federal Parliaments, and with the exception of Victoria and Queensland, the same franchise rules in the States. Payment of

It will, therefore, be perceived that the movement rejects the International character of the Labor movement and deliberately places an obstacle in the way of progress and the real Socialist and Labor movement in Australia.

Since 1887 the Australian Socialist League has been the chief educative and propagandist Socialist organisation in this country. Through every vicissitude it has unswervingly kept the principles of Socialism to the front, and with the advent of Federation decided to enter the political field as a distinct and separate party and movement from every other section under the name of the S.L.P. Until recently its sphere of operations was mainly confined to the State of New South Wales, but now it extends to the sister States and New Zealand.

On account of numerical weakness and cost, political action on the part of the Socialist Labor. Party has been confined to contesting the Senate, the State being one constituency affording an opportunity of recording its growth and a wider field for propaganda.

The highest vote polled by the Socialist Labor Party in 1900 was 5,000; in 1903, 26,000. Last election, December 1906, the highest vote was 15,000 and the lowest 10,000. For the Senate the full number for the Senate (six in 1900, and three at successive elections). A sum of £25 has also to be deposited for each candidate, which is torfeited if a fifth of the votes polled by the lowest successful candidate is notobtained. It is simply impossible to cover more than a fractional portion of the State, and as the party ticket is also copied by each party, the capitalists bunch, with the backing of a powerful and unanimous capitalist press, is ensured in success. On the occasion of the last two elections the Socialist Labor Party forfeited the whole of its deposits, a cost anticipated at the very outset, as the Party fought uncompromisingly all other political sections,

Inne growth of the S.L.P. has been slow, and the active membership small, but it is growing both in strength and influence, having in line with it an active section in the next important State of Victoria. The official organ, "The People," owned and controlled by the Party is issued weekly, and is growing in circulation and thus extending the Party's sphere of influence.

As an organisation and Party of working-class men and women, the futility of expecting the realisation of Socialism by political action alone has been generally recognised by its membership, therefore, the movement has adopted as part of its methods the organisation of the workers into the Industrial Workers of the World, on the revolutionary basis as contained in the Preamble of that revolutionary organisation in the United States.

In the conviction that emancipation from capitalist exploitation and wage-slavery must spring from class-conscious action on the part of the working class itself, the S.L.P. of Australia is in full accord and agreement with the S.L.P. of the United States, Canada, and Great Britain, and while here there are other bodies claiming to be "socialistic" in their aims, none can be regarded as definite class-conscious revolutionary parties, as the majority of their membership accept, advocate, and support the reactionary policy and platform of the Labor party in politics.

The Socialist Labor Party is the pioneer Socialist organisation in Australia, and to its persistent propaganda and general efforts of the past ten years lies the credit of whatever Revolutionary expression of Socialism has manifested itself in the struggle of the classes on the political battleground so far as the State of New South Wales is concerned.

GENERAL EXECUTIVE,

S.L.P. OF AUSTRALIA

Marx Hail, 251 Castlereagh st., Sydney, N.S.W.

17/5/07.