

THE EVILS OF SOCIALISM

Since my discussion with Clark, I have received a number of letters from brethren who were Socialists, condemning me for: what they consider “dabbling in politics.” On the other hand, I have received a number of letters from brethren asking me for my arguments. I cannot answer all these letters, and for this reason, and others, I have decided to write a book on this question for the benefit of all concerned. I deny the charge of “dabbling in politics,” only in so far as the truth demands of every loyal Christian. Some want to know why I do not condemn the Republican and Democratic party. I am not condemning parties, but theories. The God of heaven has put the parties that are ruling over us in power, and through them he has given us liberty to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and they promise us this liberty so long as they are under the constitution of the United States. And inasmuch as they are in power, I am commanded to pray for them as rulers, and am forbidden to condemn them.

It is true that no government has ever existed, and none will ever exist, that has no evil men in it. In fact, God has ordained that the world shall rule in civil governments, and that Christians shall be subject to the powers that be. I am not commanded to be subject to the Socialist party, for they are not in power. If they ever come into power, then, and not until then, am I commanded to be subject to them and to pray for them.

In this I am going to give my reasons for objecting to such a system of economics as is offered by the Socialist party. There are many good brethren in the party who are giving more time, attention and money to the party than they are to the cause of Christ. This is a fatal mistake. Those brethren do not understand Socialism. They commenced in the middle. What is in the foundation is wholly Greek to them. I think I know Socialism from its foundation up, and the authority I shall give in this book will come from their best propaganda literature, furnished by Chas. H. Kerr & Co. of Chicago. I have in my library more than a hundred of these books and pamphlets, which were recommended to me by said company as books to study on Socialism. Hence, if these men have advocated their own doctrine I know what it is—what Socialism means. I call on every honest thinking man to watch the arguments which shall follow.

I.

It Is a System of Infidelity and Darwinism

I want the reader to note that the very foundation of Socialism is infidelity and Darwinism. We quote:

“But while Spencer’s Study of Sociology is the most signal and brilliant refutation of the *Great Man* theory, no one man really killed that theory. The general spread and acceptance of Darwinism has produced an intellectual atmosphere in which such a theory can no more live than a fish can live out of water.

“By Darwinism we mean, as you know, the transmutation of species by variation and natural selection—selection accomplished mainly, if not solely, by the struggle for existence. Now this doctrine of organic development and change or metamorphic evolution, which was, with its originators, Wallace and Darwin, a purely biological doctrine, was transferred to the field of sociology by Spencer and applied with great power to all human institutions, legal, moral, economic, religious,” etc.—*Socialism Positive and Negative*, pp. 18, 19.

Our readers must see from the above that Darwinism is applied to every department of economics, including religion, by the leaders of Socialism. But J. H. Moore, another recognized leader, says:

“But Darwin has lived. Beings have come into the world, we now, know, through the operation of natural law. Man is not different from the rest. The story of Eden is a fabrication, bequeathed to us by our well-meaning, but dimly-lighted ancestors. There has been no more miracle in the origin of human species than the origin of any other species. And there is no more miracle in the origin of the species than there is in the birth of a molecule or breaking of a tired wave on the beach. Man was not made in the image of a hypothetical Creator of heaven and earth, .but in the image of the ape. Man is not a .fallen god, but a promoted reptile.”—*Universal Kinship*, p. 107.

When I say that this is the doctrine of all the main leaders of the Socialist party from Karl Marx on down the line through Chas. H. Kerr, Wayland, Col. Dick Maple of the Rip-Saw, Clark and others, I speak the truth.

“Which is worse, to be a demagogue or an infidel? I am both. For while many confessed Christians contrive to serve both God and mammon, the depravity of my nature seems to forbid my serving either.”—*God and My Neighbor*, by Robt. Blatchford, p. 25; *Value, Price and Profit*, p. 5.

Next we quote from the pen of Ernest. Untermann, another recognized leader of the party:

“Haraklitos [...] claimed that a continuous process of development pervaded the universe; that. all forms were in constant flow, and that, ‘struggling is the father of all things,’ thus expressing the idea of Darwin in regard to

struggling for existence.”—*Science and Revolution*, pp. 21, 22.

Next we quote from Fredrick Engels, who stands next to Karl Marx as authority on Socialism. His works also abound in manifestations of infidelity:

“Private ownership of flocks must have had an early beginning. It is difficult to say whether to the author of the so-called First Book of Moses, Father Abraham appeared as the owner of the flocks by virtue of his privilege as head of a communistic family or of his capacity as general chief by actual descent.”—*The Origin of the Family*, p. 66.

Wm. M. Bolsche, in *Evolution of Man*, p. 11, in speaking of man’s evolution from vegetation, says: “We all have grown up, we all have developed from such a small baby, such a bud of humanity.”

Karl Kautsky, another recognized leader, says: “Thus for instance the development of the human ape from a tree-fruit eater to a devourer of animals and plants, which are to be found on the ground, was bound to be connected with a transformation of the hind pair of hands and feet. [...]”

“If man begins his rise over the animal with the discovery of the tool, he has no need to create a social compact, as was believed in the eighteenth century and as many theoretical jurists still believe in the twentieth century. He enters on his human development as a social animal with strong impulses.”—*Ethics and the Materialistic Conception of History*, pp. 135, 136.

Karl Marx accepted Darwinism, and applied it to every department of social economics. We quote the following from the pen of Arthur M. Lewis:

“Karl Marx accepted evolution with all its consequences and implications, and applied it without any reservations to those questions which engaged his attention. It is because he did this successfully that he is justly regarded as the real creator of sociology and the founder of that historical philosophy which has its root in evolutionary materialism.”—*Vital Problems in Social Evolution*, p. 22.

This shows who is the real founder of Socialism, and proves beyond quibble that it is founded on Darwin's evolutionary materialism.

Again, our author says of Marx: “He believed in Socialism not because it should be, but because it will be; not because it is in harmony with any ethical ideas, but because, with its present composition and tendencies, capital h as no other possible outcome,” p. 35. See pp. 119, 123-125.

I challenge party who does not believe and advocate the doctrine in the above extracts. In these theories Socialism must stand or fall. Are you willing to be led by such infidels? Am I not justified in entering my protest before it is too late against such leadership?

I hope that our readers, both in the Socialist party and out of it, will be conservative enough to give our evidence a careful reading. Our next witness is Friedrich Nietzsche, another recognized leader, who says:

“When on a Sunday morning we hear the old bell ringing, we ask ourselves: Is it possible? All this for a Jew crucified two thousand years ago who said he was God’s Son. The proof of such an assertion is lacking. [...] A god who begets children by a mortal woman; a sage who demands that no more work be done, that no more justice be administered, but that the signs of the approaching end of the world be heeded; a system of justice that accepts an innocent as a vicarious sacrifice instead of the guilty; a person who bids his disciples to drink his blood; prayers for miracles; sins against a god expiated upon a god. [...] Is one to believe that such a thing can be believed?”—*Human, All Too Human*, pp. 149, 150.

Ranker infidelity was never advocated by leading infidels in any age of the world. W. T. Brown is our next witness:

“It does not follow that because a man can trace his lineage back to the monkey, that he is justified now in living a merely monkey life. The fact that the human ancestry descended through wolves and reptiles does not justify any human being in living a wolfish or snakish life.”—*Socialism and Primitive Christianity*, p. 6.

Next we call Ernest Untermann and others on the stand, to prove that religion is a menace to Socialism, and to establish our next point.

II. Socialists' Attitude Toward Religion

“The chief sinner against this canon of dialectical thinking is our old friend theologian. When the evolutionary naturalist demonstrated the hopeless untruth of his ‘revealed’ legends about the origin of man and things, he sought refuge in the ingenious theory of these fables which, while scientifically indefensible, were, notwithstanding, spiritually true. In short, scientific truth and spiritual truth were so distinct as to have no vital relations. [...]

“Socialists have always been among the first to enjoy these entertaining performances, and it seems like divine retribution when these same theological and ‘reverend’ persons tumble over into the Socialist camp and bring their obsolete methods of thinking with them.

“They dub themselves ‘Christian’ Socialists and proceed to show that Socialism is a philosophy concerning the social and economic life of men, *and not the religion at all*. When Marx declared that political and legal and other socialist institutions and ideas were the result of economical conditions and class interests, religious institutions were, of course, exempt.

“After a mental contortion like that, what is to prevent a reconciliation between the seventeenth century twaddle

of the Methodist pulpit and the materialistic conception of history.”—*Evolution Social and Organic*, pp. 133, 134, 135.

That Socialism is the only religion, according to the leaders of the party, is unquestionably true from the following from Untermann:

“According to materialist monism, the only ‘true religion’ is the ‘religion’ of Natural Truth. And this truth is not to be sought in the unknowable and impossible nothing called the supernatural. It is contained in the physical and chemical elements in us and around us. And it can be found with the natural means which every human has received by nature, and the five senses, and the brain, which is the origin of the sixth sense of mankind.

“But this ‘true religion’ of Natural Truth never came to conscious life until it found its monistic expression in the minds of thinkers of proletarian socialism. [...] To the extent that science compels nature to yield one of its mysteries after another, the basis of mystical religion and authoritative revelation disintegrates, and the science of life comes into its own,” etc.

“As for the revealed word, to whom was it revealed? To Moses, the prophets, the editors of the Christian gospels who wrote from two to three hundred years after the death of the first Christian revolutionaries some contradictory records which they claimed were the revealed words of Christ and his disciples, were human beings like the rest of us, but with less positive knowledge of themselves and the world. [...] A proletarian who today believes their assertions, or those of their

unthinking followers, all of whom were either members of the ruling class or merely controlled by them, surrenders his intellectual or 'spiritual' life into the hands of his enemies."—*Science and Revolution*, pp. 164, 165, 166.

Who is it among the leaders of the Socialist party that does not believe that Socialism is all the religion that the world needs? Can you show a single one who is not first, last and all the time, against the preachers of the land? Do they not fight Christianity from start to finish? Why? Because they know that the preachers will not stand for their infidelity, so long as they remain outside of the Socialist camp. They all believe that the Bible is a fabrication, written by a half civilized class of people. I am talking about their leaders. They seek to undermine Christianity, and this will have been accomplished when they get into power. We here introduce more testimony:

"There is much to show that greed of private property was the old serpent which brought about the fall of our first parents."

"With these earlier worshipers, too, the later religions have mingled with inextricable but not meaningless entanglements. The Passover, the greatest feast of the Jews, borrowed from the Egyptians, handed down to become the supreme festival of Christianity, and finally blending in north of Europe with the worship of the Norse goddess Estre, is, as is well known, closely connected with the celebration of the spring equinox and of the passover of the sun from the south to the north. [...] The sun at the moment of passing the equinoctial point, stood 3,000 years ago in the Zodiacal constellation

of the Ram or he-lamb. The Lamb, therefore, became the symbol of the young triumphant god.”—Love’s *Coming of Age*, p. 130.

“Certainly it is curious that in later Egyptian times the bull-headed god was adopted in favor of the ram-headed god Ammon; and that Christianity adopted the lamb as the symbol of its Savior.”—*Ibid.*

“Jesus himself—so entangled is the worship of this greatest man with the earlier cults—is purported to have been born like other sun-gods, Bacchus, Apollo, Osiris, on the 25th of December.”—*Ibid.*, p. 132.

In the extracts we have learned that Socialism, as a system, denies the first statement in the Bible, that, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth,” and that the statement of Genesis, 1:27, which says that “God created man in his own image;” that instead of God’s making man and giving him dominion over the “fishes of the sea, and over the fowls of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing of the earth,” as in the 26th verse, that man, according to Socialism, sprang from this lower creation. In the *Evolution of Man*, by W. M. Bolsche, can be found the pictures of the fishes, animals, and reptiles through whom we have evolved.

Why is it that socialism takes evolution as a basis for its so-called system of social economics? The answer is easy. It supposes that religion and our present system of civil governments are only the outgrowths of heathenism, and that we have reached a point in evolutionary developments when all our present systems of religion,

governments, marriage relations, educational institutions, and society generally, must give way to Socialism, which proposes to correct all the present evils of society, and that, too, without offering us one statutory law, through which we are to reach this end: Socialism is to become the religion—the politics—the everything, with many promises, but with no remedy through which they can be carried out.

Nietzsche, in speaking of a certain religious work, says that had the author lived in our day he would have said:

“Never has a religion, directly or indirectly, either as dogma or as allegory, contained a truth. For all religion grew out of dread of necessity, and came into existence through an error of the reason.”—*Human, All Too Human*, p. 140.

“In reality, there exists between religion and true science neither relationship nor friendship, not even enmity; they dwell in different spheres. Every philosophy that lets the religious comet gleam through the darkness of its last outposts renders everything within it that purports to be science suspicious. [...] Moreover, though all the people agree concerning certain religious things, for example, the existence of a god (which, by the way, as regards this point, is not the case) that fact would constitute an argument against the thing agreed upon, for example, the very existence of a god.”—*Ibid.*, pp. 141, 142.

“Let us transport ourselves back to the time in which religious life flourished most vigorously and we will find a

fundamental conviction prevalent which we no longer share and which has resulted in the closing of the door to religious life once for all so far as we are concerned; this conviction has to do with nature and intercourse with her. In those times nothing heaven is known of nature's laws. Neither for earth nor for heaven is there a must."—*Ibid*, pp. 142, 143.

Chas. H. Kerr & Co., as well as all leading Socialists, will tell you this is good Socialist doctrine. What right have I to deny it? Who has a better right to know Socialism than the makers and promoters of the party, who furnish the literature through which people are converted to the doctrine? But read carefully the following from W. T. Brown:

III.

It Claims to Be Primitive Christianity

“But comparably the most important fact to be noted in connection with modern Socialism is that it is—not may be—a religion. Indeed, I claim and shall proceed to show that it is the logical and historical successor to primitive Christianity as a world religion—that is the only thing in the world today that bears any moral or spiritual resemblance to the religion of Jesus. And I undertake this task purely because I am convinced that until Socialism becomes for you and for me our religion—that by which and in which we live—we know neither Socialism nor religion. [...] Nothing could induce me to become a party to the work of getting men and women [...] to join any church you can name [...] under the impression that in doing so they were performing a religious act. It means nothing of the kind—never did mean anything of the kind. The whole process means one thing and only one: the manufacture of hypocrites; and for the best of reasons, namely, because men can not be religious in a church or through a church. The thing is simply impossible. They can in that way merely ‘act a part’—the exact definition of hypocrites.”—Socialism and Primitive Christianity, pp. 4, 5.

“If a man loves father or mother or wife or children or land more than this cause, he can not become a part of this movement. [...] I cannot too earnestly say to you that we men and women, or any others, are not religious,

cannot know the meaning and uplift or power of religion, unless we are today consciously giving our lives to and in and for a movement of world-inclusive beneficence. What movement is there which answers to the description outside of the world-wide struggle for Socialism?"—*Socialism and Primitive Christianity*, Pamphlet, pp. 14, 15.

Speaking of religion, which Mr. Roosevelt says will be destroyed by Socialism, our author says:

"I do not forget that Socialism has often rejected the whole philosophy of religion on which the church rests, and even professed atheism. I am not the least disturbed at that. No more name—I care not what it be—has any sacredness. No repetition of the word 'God' ever made or ever can make any man religious. No profession of any faith, how ever ancient or popular, makes a man religious."—*Ibid*, p. 19.

Hear the testimony of Chas. H. Kerr, who owns the publishing house of the Socialist party, and who furnishes practically all the literature in the way of books, and who publishes a daily Socialist paper, and owns other publications. He certainly voices the sentiment of the party.

"The national religion, like that of our viking ancestors who worshiped Odin and Thor, is the religion of equals, of freedom and free women. They teach that happiness is good, that the body is good, that the way to serve the gods is to help your neighbor. That is the way the people naturally think and feel when there is no master and no slaves among them. These religions took

shape in the various independent tribes of many different races all over the world, including the ancestors of the Jews who wrote the Bible.”—*Folly of Being Good*, Pamphlet, p. 9.

“The church teaches that God made some people rich and others poor, that to covet the property of another is a sin, and that to please God and receive a reward in heaven when we die, we must deny ourselves and be content without earthly pleasures.” —*Ibid*, p. 10.

Real and practical Socialism knows no God that is above man. It is really, when boiled down to its quintessence, a system of man-worship. A. M. Lewis says that “It is no longer God and man, nor even man and God, but man only.”—*Evol. Soc. and Org.* Paul says of such: “Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise they became fools.”—Rom. 1:21, 22. Again he says in the following verses that God gave them up to vile affection because they changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshiped and served the creature more than the Creator. But hear our author once more:

“And thus, as a result of scientific research into the origin of dualism and the nature of dreams, as Professor Clifford says: ‘The dim and shadowy outline of superhuman deity fades slowly from before us; and as the mists of his presence float aside, we perceive with greater and greater clearness the shape of a grander and nobler figure—the figure of him who made all gods and shall unmake them. From the dim dawn of history, and from

the inmost depths of every soul, the face of our father man looks out upon us, with the fire of eternal youth in his eyes, and says: 'Before Jehovah was, I am.'"—Evol. Soc. and Org.

Even the casual reading of these extracts will convince the most skeptical, if honest, that Socialism is the only religion that the world needs, if we are to rely on the propaganda literature put out by the party. Furthermore, we are forced to the conclusion that in order to be a first-class Socialist, we must forsake everything that is dear to the truly Christian. Not only this, but we must forsake home and home relationships, and give ourselves wholly into the hands of this new god, and worship and serve it, and it alone, or we are neither Socialists nor Christians. In fact, we are only animal, we are not human until we reach this evolutionary system called Socialism, as we shall see as we proceed with our investigation. "Socialism has often rejected the whole philosophy of religion," and that is what it will always do. The would-be "Christian Socialists"—their leaders—all reject the Bible. Even the editor of the "Christian Socialist" is a materialist of the first water. His writers are not different from the rest—the main party—the International party—all alike are infidels, and his branch of the party is under the guise of "Christian Socialists" as a blind to catch a few suckers out of the religious field. They "compass sea and land to make one proselyte," and when he is made, "they make him two-fold more the child of hell" than themselves. Why? Because he must deny the religion of Jesus Christ, become an infidel or materialist—swallow Darwinism—in order to be a genuine Socialist. Look at the many who have gone into Socialism from the various denominations. Are they not,

nine out of ten, infidels, or semi-infidels? I could cite you to preachers, as well as “Lay members,” who have lost all interest in Christianity, and are giving their life's work to propagate this daughter of Rome, which is seeking for an amalgamation of church and state.

This is a sample of the material contained in
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by W. F. Lemmons

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