

COMMON SENSE PARTY AMERICA'S NEED TODAY

Proletariat Should Take Advantage of Existing Conditions and Start a Yankee Revolution, Says Saturday Evening Post Writer

The following editorial is reprinted from this week's Saturday Evening Post:

SEIZE THE GOVERNMENT. Revolutions are all the rage in Europe and they are becoming quite fashionable over here. Foreigners who are returning—let us hope only temporarily—among us, and some men who were born in America—though they have since become un-American—are displaying these new styles to us. By all means let us follow the fashion, but with due regard for our limitations. For when it comes to this sort of thing Europe has certain inherited advantages that it is quite impossible for us to overcome, unless we keep on importing European.

For a regular revolution in a Russia we are terribly handicapped by our American proletariat. It is sickeningly prosperous for a proper proletariat, and rather more inclined to oppress the "upper classes" than to be oppressed. In this country, where any one who is willing to be a "wage slave" for eight hours a day can earn big pay, where anybody who has a "city" can rise to the top, and where anybody who is able to fake a job, to keep up the appearance of being ground down, still is the only proletariat that we have, and we must make the best of it. There are not conceivably a regular revolution of those who have only six pairs of silk stockings and Hudson seal coats against those who have two dozen pairs and silver owners against the drivers of taxicabs and the owners of taxicabs, and a bloody uprising of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie would put it.

As a preliminary to the only kind of Yankee revolution that we really need, we suggest that the American flag be run up and that press, pulpit and platform call on the proletariat to rise and elect the government at the next presidential election. For our grievances are not against our form of government, which has proved itself the most perfect device devised, but against the men who have largely selected and run the show for the government.

American Proletariat Inarticulate. With the exception of inconsiderable minorities, grouped in tight organizations, that pursue their selfish aims regardless of the larger good of the country, the American proletariat, comprising in great part the farmers, bankers, merchants, laborers, editors, manufacturers, poets, clerks, preachers and professional men, have been quite inarticulate politically. They have, it is true, been given a chance to express themselves in cheers, speeches and parades, but the politicians have expressed themselves first in the candidates. The average voter is about as much a part of the game as a college cheer leader. And after it is all over, the politicians take the boot, if he craves further expression.

The politicians will continue to rule until this prosperous proletariat of ours takes up to the fact that the American is no longer a man, but a piece of property. Several methods by which this revolution may be accomplished suggest themselves. The first and best is the formation of a third party. Three years ago such a party was in existence. Were it alive today and standing for what a progressive party should stand in our national life—if it were, as it should be, headed by a broad-minded, businesslike and determined politician—it would sweep the country at the next election. But it was done to death by its leaders when it no longer served their political purposes and ambitions; when they thought they saw a nearer and quicker chance to win with the old crowd. They could not stand the gaff. They were too short-sighted to see that in holding fast through defeat they would have been strengthened and prepared for victory. No doubt they meant to serve, but they were out to win. And so they lost the chance of a century both to win and to serve.

The Next Administration. No third party that is formed around the ambitions of any man, or any set of men, or any class, or any interest, can get anywhere in America today. The slowly crystallizing purpose of the voter is to rid our politics of that particular form of unintelligent selfishness. They should take office as one-term men. If they do that sincerely and courageously, refusing to allow their acts to be influenced by the hope of a second term, they are likely to be re-elected. But only a President who is willing to do things that will look like suicide to the politician only a Congress that is prepared to kick down the Capitol steps any interest or class that demands special legislation at the point of a gun can give the country the kind of an administration that it wants.

Essential But Simple Issues. We need old-fashioned Americans in office, headed by a grim, determined, business executive—not men who seek office for salary or position, but men who are willing to sacrifice salary and position to take office. We need yes and no men, not the if and perhaps fellows.

As things stand today our two great parties are simply traditions. Voting for the candidates of one or the other is largely a matter of birth and habit. There is no good reason why the voters should not stick to their traditions, provided they seize control of both parties and dictate their platforms and the selection of their candidates.

The suggestion that one party should become radical and one conservative does not go to the root of the matter. Average Americans of good understanding are neither radical nor conservative in the sense in which the words are commonly used today. They stand on a middle ground that demands the application of ordinary common sense to our problems.

exploitation of men and resources for the enrichment and aggrandizement of a few and the limitation of opportunity, are the wrong kind of conservatism. Common sense with courage in office would find ways to crimp this brand of conservatism.

Common sense tells us that toleration of strikes that hold a gun to the head of the community, of beds who plot against our government and of the repetition of socialist failures is the wrong kind of radicalism. Common sense with courage in office would soon find ways to abate this brand of radicalism.

A common-sense, not a conservative or a radical, party is what Americans need and want.

The American way has been to hammer from without, or more often to let the other fellow do the hammering. To be proper revolutionists our proletariat should adopt the Foster method and bore from within. With a good job of hammering and a good job of boring both parties can be forced to stand on clear, simple, business platforms and to nominate trained common-sense business executives. Then it will not make any special difference which ticket the voter marks.

Our besetting sins have been business and political cowardice. Some of our big business men are willing to jeopardize our national safety and the integrity of our institutions in order to pile up dollars that will depreciate and turn into waste paper like the Russian ruble if they are permitted to continue their practices.

Some of our big labor leaders are willing to divide and degrade the country into classes in the name of the brotherhood of man in order that they may prosper and rule.

Work Begins at Home. We are constantly getting letters from readers in which they write their hands helplessly and ask what they can do. Fight. Do what the politicians do. Organize, pick your men and put them into the primaries. Perhaps you are a member of a civic or a business men's association, a club, a grange, a chamber of commerce, a Browning society, a church social, a current-events class

or some other group of men and women. If not, join one or start one. If any one tries to tell you that your organization must not mix in politics, tell him he's a fool, and prove it to him by his tax bills or any one of the concrete evidences of rotten business in government that you can find ready to your hand.

The work of getting good government, city, state and national, of electing the President and the Congress, begins in your block, your precinct and your ward. The time to begin is right now. A few months more and it will be too late. The most important part of the congressional and presidential election is already under way. You can elect Bill Jones or John Smith or mayhap

Herbert Hoover to Washington if you jump in and take a hand. Judging by his work during the last five years and his article in the Christmas number of the Saturday Evening Post it looks to a man up a tree as if Hoover were on the level. Formulate your principles and then pick your man to make them operative. Principles are eternally bigger than men, up to the point where

you try to put them into effect. Then the man becomes 50 per cent of the job. Good principles, clearly formulated, then competent men. The first can get nowhere without the second.

Well-meaning people are continually parroting the phrase: "We must not mix in politics." Nothing gives the devil and the corrupt politician a heartier laugh.

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WOMEN'S COATS & EVENING WRAPS

Table listing various women's coats and evening wraps with prices, such as Cheviot & Plaid-back Polo Cloth Coats, Smart Chinchilla Cloth Coats, etc.

WOMEN'S FROCKS AND GOWNS

Table listing various women's frocks and gowns with prices, such as Wool Jersey Dresses, Taffeta, Satin & Velvet Frocks, etc.

WOMEN'S EVENING & DANCE FROCKS

Table listing women's evening and dance frocks with prices, such as Wool Jersey Dresses, Taffeta, Satin & Velvet Frocks, etc.

MISSES' COATS AND FROCKS

Table listing misses' coats and frocks with prices, such as Misses' Heavy Winter Coats, Misses' Velour Coats, etc.

JANUARY SALE OF FURS

Table listing fur coats for sale with prices, such as Trimmed Marmot Coats, Leopard Cat Coats, etc.

MATCHED FOX SETS

Table listing matched fox sets with prices, such as Taupes, Kamchatka, Lucelle, etc.

WINTER MILLINERY

Table listing winter millinery with prices, such as 75 hats in an excellent variety of shapes and colors.

Lit Brothers advertisement featuring hats, coats, and various clothing items with prices and store location.

The End-of-the-Month Sale advertisement for Lit Brothers, highlighting unprecedented bargains and a special offer tomorrow.

Special Offer Tomorrow! 50 Yellow Trading Stamps Free advertisement, detailing the stamp collection process and prizes.

Women's \$4 to \$6 High Shoes advertisement, listing various styles and prices.

Men's \$25 Conservative Overcoats advertisement, featuring young men's ulsterettes and various suits.

Women's \$25 Underwear advertisement, listing stockings, corsets, and other items.

\$2.35 Sheets, \$1.79 30c to 35c Domestic advertisement, listing household linens.

\$1.65 Cork Linoleum advertisement, listing flooring options.

\$3 Waists, \$1.98 advertisement, listing women's waists.

\$10 Gold-Filled Watch advertisement, listing watches and bracelets.

Aluminum Ware advertisement, listing rice boilers, kettles, and laundry soap.

Lace Curtains advertisement, listing various styles and prices.

Men's \$1.25 & \$1.50 Undershirts advertisement, listing men's underwear.

\$29.75 Fur Scarfs advertisement, listing fur scarves.

Choose Now From This Wonderful \$500,000 Stock of Furniture for the February Sale advertisement.

This Buffet \$79.50 Value advertisement, listing furniture items.

This \$30 Princess Dresser \$22.50 advertisement, listing a dresser.

\$30 & \$35 Wooden Beds \$19.95 advertisement, listing beds.

Clearance of Children's \$6.50 to \$12.50 Coats advertisement, listing children's clothing.

Visit Our Big New Restaurant—Best of Everything at Lowest Prices—Seventh Floor of Our New Building, 7th & Market Sts.