

SOCIALIST COLUMN

EDITED BY LOUIS COHEN.

Through the courtesy of The Commercial this column, until further notice, will be edited by a member of the Socialist Party to present the news and views of Socialism. The Editor of The Commercial is not responsible for any views expressed in this column. Communications for this column should be addressed direct to its Editor. Questions regarding Socialism will be cheerfully answered.



SLAVES OF THE STATE.

A friend of mine recently expressed the oft-repeated objection to Socialism that it would result in the people losing their independence and becoming slaves of the state. This is the same idea expressed by Herbert Spencer, many years ago in his famous essay on The Coming Slavery, written before the advent of the trust.

It seems, however, that there are about a million patriots in this country who are ready and anxious to sell themselves into slavery by serving the public, and filling the 100,000 jobs that the new administration will have vacant.

Judging by the scramble of ten Democratic patriots to every slavish job, the Socialists can afford to smile at this ancient bogey of people fearing to become slaves because they serve the public and not a private master.

Thanks be to the noble Democratic martyrs who have set such a fine example of public devotion.

ANOTHER FEDERAL CZAR EXPOSED. The idea that because an otherwise ordinary human mortal is elevated to the bench, therefore he becomes endowed with divine attributes, still has some hold on a majority of the people. This idea carefully inculcated into young minds is getting some severe setbacks and is likely to be lost altogether pretty soon.

The latest Federal judge to lose his divine hale in Judge Daniel Thew Wright, who strove so strenuously to preserve his dignity, that he endeavored to place the officers of the American Federation of Labor, Messrs. Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison in jail for exercising their right of American citizenship and criticizing His Royal Nibs, when he issued an injunction against them. Seeing that they held him and his commands in contempt, he proceeded to return the compliment with the ancient prerogative of the divine right of kings behind him.

Now, the National Socialist of Washington, D. C., exposes the fact, that Justice Wright was an officer in a financial institution concerned in litigation and is improperly participating in the financial activities of litigants in his court.

Judge Wright will be impeached in due course of time and another idol of the plutocracy will be found to have clay feet and will tumble off his pedestal.

The sooner we come to understand that a judge is a human being and not a deity, the sooner will judges themselves become servants of justice instead of its master, and the sooner will lawyers in court cease to be treated as cringing vassals, and the sooner will alleged offenders be treated as citizens who have rights until proven guilty.

MAD BILLS AT HARRISBURG.

One of the first bills that met the almost unanimous approval of the Pennsylvania Legislature was an anti-red flag bill that denounces the red flag as a "symbol of anarchy", and prohibits its display in public processions.

So scared have the patriots at Harrisburg become by the Socialist vote of 84,000 in Pennsylvania last year, that they must have their antidote to the witchcraft, so they attempt to pow-wow Socialism away by misrepresenting and prohibiting its emblem.

Like a mad bull when it sees red, the enraged Legislature attacks a piece of cloth, thereby expecting to damage the holder of it.

Bismarck and Emperor William tried the same stunt in Germany without avail, and only made themselves the laughing stock of the world for the red flag still remains the emblem of peace and fraternity, typifying the common blood that

flows in the veins of all mankind, regardless of race, creed or color.

Unlike capitalism, Socialism does not depend for its existence on a cheap flag-worshipping sort of patriotism, and so little have the socialists thought of this bill that they have not lost one particle of their equanimity, and have not even voiced a protest.

There is still left to us the privilege of wearing red neckties, red socks, red shirts, red dresses, ribbons, sashes and in the last ditch they cannot take from us our red hair or red whiskers.

FREE STATES.

In the following States men and women have equal suffrage for every office:—Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington, California, Oregon, Kansas, Arizona and the territory of Alaska.

Equal Suffrage Amendments passed by Legislatures will be submitted to voters in the following states in 1914:—Michigan, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

THE RECALL OF JUDGES.

We are informed that many of the "best" people of Somerset county who formerly were very much opposed to the doctrine, now favor the Recall of Judges, or shall we say "The Recall of a Judge." Presumably they would like to recall their votes.

HOKARA FOR ECZEMA.

QUICK RELIEF OFTEN FOLLOWS FIRST TREATMENT. COSTS NOTHING IF IT FAILS.

A strong statement, isn't it? But we mean every word of it. Hokara is being used for treating the most complicated and chronic cases of eczema, salt rheum, piles, sores, ulcers, etc., and it quickly banishes pimples, blackheads, or any other of minor skin troubles, leaving the skin in its normal health and color.

Do not confuse Hokara with any of the ordinary grease ointments, as it contains no grease, mercury or lead, and is entirely different from anything else on the market.

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Your money returned if Hokara fails to benefit.

Sold on guarantee and recommended by S. E. Thorley, The City Drug Store, local agents.

To Increase Auto License.

The Pennsylvania Motor Federation is conducting a vigorous campaign against a bill pending in the present Legislature to double the license fees on all automobiles.

As there are approximately 60,000 motor vehicles in Pennsylvania the efforts of the Federation are awakening a wide-spread response, and a flood of protest is beginning to pour in upon the Senators and Representatives. This is expected to increase in volume as the purpose of the bill becomes more generally known to motorists.

The measure referred to was introduced in the House by Representative James Wettsch, of Pittsburgh. It is an amendment to the automobile license act of 1909.

Under the present law the license fees for automobiles are as follows: Less than 20 horse-power, \$5; between 20 and 50 horse-power, \$10; 50 horse-power and over, \$15.

The Wettsch bill, if enacted into a law, it would double these rates, so that the man with a little car under 20 horse-power would pay \$10 for his yearly license; for a car between 20 and 50 horse-power the annual charge would be \$20, and for 50 horse-power machine and over, \$30.

Last year the automobilists of Pennsylvania paid the State \$597,783.19 for their license tags. Making allowance for the natural increase in machines the license fees this year will aggregate approximately \$750,000. The enactment of the Wettsch bill therefore would add three quarters of a million dollars to the cost of owning automobiles in this State during the year 1913.

Automobile dealers and garage owners are opposing a bill introduced by Representative William J. McCraig, of Pittsburgh, making it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of from \$100 to \$500 for any person or corporation to use anything except an absolutely fire-proof building for storage or keeping of automobiles for hire or profit.

The Wettsch bill is in the Ways and Means Committee of the house and McCraig bill in the Judiciary Local Committee.

For any itchininess of the skin, for skin rashes, chaps, pimples, etc., try Doan's Ointment. 50 cents at all Drug Stores.

Imagine a complaint of a milkman between the call of a donkey and the voice of a donkey.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.

LESSON FOR APRIL 6

JACOB AND ESAU.

LESSON TEXT—Gen. 27:23-24. GOLDEN TEXT—"Jehovah is a God of judgment; blessed are all they that wait for him." Isa. 30:18.

Jacob is one of the great figures presented to us in the book of Genesis. His birth and purchase of the birthright are recorded in Chapter 25, and in chapter 27 we have presented his great sin.

It is absolutely necessary to read carefully all of this chapter before we can properly present this lesson. Moses did not record Jacob's deception because he commended it, but rather as a warning to all who read and ponder thereon. The Bible spreads before us the sins of God's people as well as their virtues, which ought to be a comforting thought to us all, who are sinners "saved by grace."

I. The Deceit, vv. 22-25. Lying, duplicity, profanity, and compounded felony, are presented in the preliminary verses to that section selected for our study. Jacob's conscience rebelled (v. 12), yet he gladly listened to the voice of his unwise mother who thought she knew best how to circumvent God's will; see ch. 25:23, 25, 28. This mother's foolish ambition and teaching had developed a self-seeking, deceitful son. By nature Jacob was unlovely and the greatest lesson we can learn from his life is that he, a "cheater," should by the grace of God be transformed into "Israel," a prince, he that hath power with God.

A Rough Man.

We first have presented the temperamental difference between these two brothers, then the story of the birthright and lastly the stolen blessing. Esau was a rough man of the chase, cunning, clever and skillful as a hunter. Jacob was a plain man, one who inclined to the conventionalities. He loved a settled, quiet home life, for he "dwelt in tents." Again when we consider the episode of the birthright we have set before us another illustration of the great contrast of these brothers. We do not value birthrights as do the Orientals, and further, we must remember this is the story of God's development of a chosen race. Esau, mastered by his appetite, governed by selfish instincts, gladly and flippantly spurns—"despised"—his right. He denied his responsibility to the future of that race of whom Abraham was the first, and virtually said that nothing was of value that did not serve this present lifetime. Jacob, on the other hand, estimated this birthright at its supreme value, as of the highest importance.

From Bad Stock. Subject as Jacob was to the rule of a seeking, scheming, mother, yet we must remember that she, too, was actuated by the same high estimate of the value and the importance of the birthright. Her mean manner of seeking to accomplish her purpose did not succeed, but, in fact, delayed the desired end for Jacob had to fly for his life. Let us look at Rebekah. She came from the same stock as Laban, who was a fraud, a cheat, and a liar. She taught her son to follow those same methods and had to smart for it, for she lost his companionship through long years, and never saw him again. Is it ever right to do wrong? God's word tells us no, see Rom. 3:8. Rebekah was more concerned with her partiality than with the purposes of God. (Ch. 25:28) Jacob's conscience was aroused as we see from v. 12, though it was probably not so much fear of the error of the act, but rather fear of being caught.

God would in his way and in his own time have given Jacob the promised blessing without the aid of his deceit. As it was Jacob engendered his brother's hatred, was separated from his home and endured multiplied suffering.

II. Esau's Sorrow, vv. 30-34. Esau had sold his birthright and sought to regain it. Now he is too late to secure the blessing that should accompany his birthright. The brothers parted for the birthright. One brother secured the blessing and with it, banishment. The other brother lost both birthright and blessing and gave vent to a bitter cry. (Heb. 12:17.) Esau was himself to blame. What a wrecked home partially and deceit brought forth. Rebekah's anticipation (v. 45) was never fulfilled and her conduct with that of Jacob well deserves the censure and the punishment inflicted.

Because the Bible records no word of censure some have asserted that God approved of Jacob's course. Even a casual reading of his life, of its delays, its disappointments and its misfortunes, reveals God's vindication of the moral law and that retribution follows wrong. As much as we sympathize with Esau we are compelled to acknowledge that Jacob was the fitter man of the two. He was tenacious, constant in his affections, devoted to the covenant of God and sensitive to spiritual influences. Esau was impulsive and shallow.

Second National Bank

OF MEYERSDALE, PA.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Methodist Episcopal church service, Rev. G. A. Neeld pastor—Services at 10:30 a. m. Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Epworth League at 6:45 p. m. Evening service at 7:30. Subject Sunday morning: "Politics and Religion."

Church of the Brethren—Preaching 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School, 9:30 a. m. Christian Workers Meeting at 8:30 p. m. Bible Class, Saturday evening, 7:30 p. m. Teacher Training classes meet Monday evening 7 and 8 o'clock, respectively. Sunday School Workers' Meeting, Friday evening, 30th inst., at 7:30.

Evangelical Lutheran church—Rev. J. A. Yount, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Morning service at 10:30. Luther League at 6:45 p. m. Evening service at 7:30. Lenten service every Wednesday evening at 7:30.

At Grantsville the Holy Communion will be observed on Easter Sunday morning. Preparatory service on Good Friday evening. Special Easter service by Sunday school and church on Easter Monday evening.

St. Paul, Wilhelm Reformed church, E. S. Hassler pastor. Regular services next Sunday at 10 a. m. Sunday school at 9 a. m. April 6th is Sunday school Rally Day. You are invited. Special program and commencement of school's trip to Palestine.

Evangelical church, Rev. L. B. Rittenhouse pastor—Services will be held next Sunday as follows: Sunday school at 2:00 p. m. Preaching by the pastor at 7:30 p. m.

St. Philip and James Catholic church, Rev. J. J. Brady, pastor.—Mass next Sunday 8:30 and 10:30 a. m. Vespers and Benediction at 7:30 p. m.

At the A. M. E. Zion church Sunday School at 3:00 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 7:45 p. m.

Brethren Church—H. L. Goughnour, pastor.—Services in the morning at Summit Mills, in the afternoon at Salisbury and evening in the Meyersdale church. Sunday school and Christian Endeavor at usual hours. All are invited.

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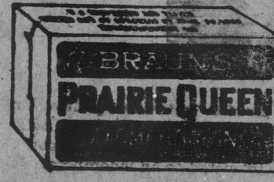
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