

To the Electors of East Toronto



GENTLEMEN:—

The Canadian Socialist League, which has now over sixty branches organized in Canada, with four in Toronto, has nominated me to contest the East Toronto constituency for the Ontario Legislature. In accepting the nomination and placing my name before the electors of this constituency I feel it incumbent upon me to present to the voters my views upon many vital questions that affect us directly

as citizens and thus give you opportunity to vote for certain principles which I will endeavour to carry out if elected.

There is a widespread dissatisfaction among the electors at the manner public affairs are administered at the present time, owing largely to the fact that party lines are drawn so closely that independent men in both parties find it impossible to do justice to their constituents for fear of being read out of the party.

Public interest can best be conserved by having independent men in our Legislature, and whereas force of numbers is used so frequently to enforce undesirable legislation it becomes necessary to elect

men, free to stand for the rights of the people against the aggressiveness of corporate and capitalistic influences. The indiscriminate benevolence of our legislators in disposing of public property is one of the greatest sins of the men now in power, and while the workers are industriously toiling to develop the resources God has given us for our maintenance and development, the land and money which is publicly owned is being given away in bonuses, bounties, and subsidies to speculators to whom there comes in a short time vast



JAMES SIMPSON,

CANDIDATE FOR EAST TORONTO.

wealth for which no adequate service has been rendered to the country. As a Socialist Candidate I stand for.

(1.) Public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines and ultimately of all the means of production, distribution and exchange.

The public health and comfort, in a word the public welfare, is of far greater importance than the so-called vested rights of any individual or corporation. And if private interests stand in the way of public welfare, private interests must get out of the way.

A privately owned utility is bound to do one of two things, and generally both, either poor service or exorbitant prices. This they do for these reasons:

- (1.) To pay a profit upon actual investment.
- (2.) To pay profit upon watered stock.
- (3.) The great expense to retain lawyers and lobbyists.
- (4.) To subscribe campaign funds to the two old parties,
- (5.) To furnish free passes to ward heelers, politicians, and friends.
- (6.) To advertise and solicit business.
- (7.) To pay salaries to presidents and boards of directors—high salaries for which no real service is rendered.

These and other such expenses together with the fact that the private owned plants aim to build up private fortunes for industrial and political plutocrats prove beyond all question of doubt the insane policy of private ownership.

Public ownership always tends to better service, better wages for the workers, shorter hours of labor, less corruption and reduced rates to the citizens.

(2.) The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor.

The introduction of machinery into every branch of industry, thus increasing the productive results and requiring a less number of men to produce a given quantity, necessitates a continual change of the hours of labor to keep all employed. Over production is the inevitable result when men are compelled to work long hours, and the ever increasing productive power of machinery calls for a reorganization of industry to keep the supply within the limits of the demand.

Definitions of Socialism.

(3.) The inauguration of a system of public industries; public credit to be used for that purpose in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor.

New Zealand to-day owes her own railway, telegraph, telephone and express systems. Coal mines have recently been bought and are now being operated by the Government, and that little colony is now contemplating the establishment of publicly-owned farm implement factories. The result of this has been that the private capitalist has had to leave the country, because the Government controls the industries that would make the best returns for his investments. The workers, however, are benefitting by the increase of wages and reduced hours of labor.

(4.) The education of all children up to the age of 16 years, with free school books. All school books to be printed in the Government printing bureau.

(5.) Establishing of the initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and abolition of municipal wards, together with equal suffrage for men and women.

The very foundation of good Government is a fair and scientific system of voting; because all popular Government is based upon popular vote, and if the system of voting is bad, the Government cannot be good. In the proportional system, (which is now successfully used in Tasmania, Switzerland, San Francisco and elsewhere) there is the possibility of minorities being represented in Parliament and thus the progress of reform would not be so slow, owing to the fact that worthy causes could be advocated by those who give special study to social, moral and economic conditions.

(6.) Local option should be granted to municipalities to inaugurate their own system of taxation. The present method is entirely unsatisfactory, leading men to dishonesty and perjury. The policy of taxing industry should be changed and a gradual adoption of land taxation as a more preferable and safe basis for society. Railways should be taxed at their proper assessed value per mile, with a Provincial Board to apportion to each municipality its proper share of taxation from the companies. In Ontario, Railways are assessed as unoccupied farm lands, a most unjust assessment. By this changed system of taxation the present tax payer would be relieved of 25 per cent. of his tax burden.

(7.) The spoils system should be abolished and all Government employes should be engaged upon the basis of competence and merit, at present the most pernicious practice is followed by the two old parties, using public offices as a means to strengthen their own grip upon the reins of Government by giving situations for service to party or as a favor for anticipated support.

(8.) The system of bonusing and giving land grants is the way our Government is aiding to establish an undesirable aristocracy and should be discouraged.

(9.) All Government officials now receiving over \$800 a year should receive no increase, until a fund has been established to pension the destitute old men of our Province.

(10.) The Establishment of Technical Schools for the benefit of the industrial classes should be encouraged, and greater assistance given by the Government.

(11.) Free University education is within the range of possibility, if the affairs of the province are wisely administered, and it should be the aim of our legislators to so develop the resources of the Province as to receive sufficient revenue to bring this desirable change about.

JAMES SIMPSON.

Definitions of Socialism.

Some people have queer ideas of what Socialism means. They confound it with anarchy, disorder, dividing up property and other absurd statements. For the benefit of such, the definitions from dictionaries and world-famous men are here appended:

The ethics of Socialism are identical with the ethics of Christianity.—*Encyclopedia Britannica*.

Socialism is simply applied Christianity; the Golden Rule applied to every day life.—Prof. Ely.

The deepest depths of vulgarity is that of setting up money as the ark of the covenant.—Thomas Carlyle.

Socialism being the product of social evolution, the only danger lies in obstructing it.—Rev. F. M. Sprague.

The whole aim and purpose of Socialism is a closer union of social factors. The present need is growth in that direction.—R. T. Ely.

Socialism is the idea and hope of a new society founded on industrial peace and forethought, aiming at a new and higher life for all men.—William Morris.

The abolition of that individual action on which modern society depend, and the substitution of a regulated system of co-operative action.—*Imperial Dictionary*.

Government and co-operation are in all things and eternally, the laws of life; anarchy and competition, eternally and in all things, the laws of death.—John Ruskin.

A theory of society that advocates a more precise, orderly and harmonious arrangement of the social relations of mankind than that which has hitherto prevailed.—Webster.

A science of reconstructing society on an entirely new basis, by substituting the principle of association for that of competition in every branch of industry.—*Worcester's Dictionary*.

No thinking man will contradict that associated industry is the most powerful agent of production, and that the principles of association are susceptible of further and beneficial development.—John Stuart Mill.

Socialism does not wish to abolish private property or the accumulation of wealth; but it aims to displace the present system of private capital by a system of collective capital, which would introduce a unified organization of national labor.—Prof. Schaffle.

The answer of Socialism to the capitalist is that society can do without him just as society now does without the slave owner and the feudal lord; both were formerly regarded as necessary to the well being and even the very existence of society.—Prof. W. Clarke.

The citizens of a large nation, industrially organized, have reached their happiness when the producing, distributing and other activity are such that each citizen finds in them a place for all his energies and aptitudes, while he obtains the means of satisfying all of his desires.—Herbert Spencer.

A theory of policy that aims to secure the reconstruction of society, increase of wealth, and a more equal distribution of the products of labor through the public collective ownership of labor and capital (as distinguished from property) and the public collective management of all industries. Its motto is, "Every one according to his deeds."—*Standard Dictionary*.

Any theory or system of local organization which would abolish entirely or in a great part, the individual effort and competition on which modern society rests, and substitute co-operation; would introduce a more perfect and equal distribution of the products of labor, and would make land and capital as the instruments of production, the joint possession of the community.—*Century Dictionary*.

YOUNG MEN—Register and Vote for the Young Man's Candidate and Old Man's Friend.