

**SYNDICALISM AND
PHILOSOPHICAL REALISM A
STUDY IN THE CORRELATION OF
CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL
TENDENCIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649134045

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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SYNDICALISM AND PHILOSOPHICAL REALISM

A STUDY IN THE CORRELATION OF
CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL TENDENCIES

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15345-4
6/12/19

A. & C. BLACK, LTD.

4, 5, & 6 SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

1919

TO MY TEACHER
SIR HENRY JONES
AND ALL THE OTHER GREAT TEACHERS
WHOM HE HAS TAUGHT ME
TO MAKE MINE

THE reader must judge as to the justice of the leading position maintained throughout the following chapters. To the writer the case is perfectly clear. It seems to him that much current philosophy would, if true, essentially justify what is sometimes spoken of as the new philosophy of Labour. The primary intention of the book is simply to point out this fact; a fact which, if genuine, would seem to be of some importance for the deeper understanding of our times.

CHAPTER I

WHAT IS SYNDICALISM ?

SYNDICALISM is the voice of the failure of something. The failure has not been exposed by the "living" philosophy of our time. It has not been detected. It is of such a nature that, even if it were detected, a large body of recent thinking, so far from censuring it, would be bound to raise hands of benediction upon the failure itself and say "Well done!" Such, in the most general terms, is the state of affairs to which we would draw attention in these pages. The thesis.

To state it more particularly : we are interested in the relation between syndicalism, a recent form of social movement, and some movements, also comparatively recent, of philosophical thought. We find no clash between them ; and, we maintain, there is no wonder. One does not feel a current when one is swimming in it. Our most recent philosophical thought, all unconsciously, is swimming in the same current with that general social movement which has been making itself felt during the last decade or two within the socialistic camp and is appropriating to itself the name of