

THE ESSENTIALS OF SOCIALISM

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The Essentials of Socialism by Ira B. Cross

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IRA B. CROSS

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OF SOCIALISM**



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ESSENTIALS OF SOCIALISM**

**BY
IRA B. CROSS, PH.D.**

"Some people study all their lives, and at their death they have learned everything except to think."

DOMINICA.

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TO MY WIFE



PREFACE

THE ordinary volume on socialism is either biased in its presentation of the subject or it covers too small a portion of the field by being an historical sketch, a bit of propaganda literature, or merely a discussion of its theoretical foundation. In the following pages I have endeavored to avoid these objectionable features, in the hope that the volume may serve as a handbook to the busy reader or as a textbook for the classroom. My object has been to cover the field usually discussed and to present the subject in such a manner that the reader or instructor may be free to form and express his own opinions and to elaborate or to curtail any part of the discussion that he may desire.

An effort has been made to state fairly and accurately both sides of the issues involved, and although I realize the practical impossibility of attaining this ideal, I cherish the hope that the following statement may prove satisfactory to the advocates as well as to the opponents of this widely discussed and much misunderstood subject.

In the text only American and English publications have been cited. This has been deemed advisable because the ordinary reader does not possess a reading knowledge of Italian, French, or German. With but a few exceptions, magazine articles and pamphlets have also been omitted from the list of references, because the former are without number and the latter are very difficult to obtain. Asterisks (*) have been used to point out the references especially recommended.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge my indebtedness to my colleagues, Professors Alvin S. Johnson, Harry A. Millis, and Burt Estes Howard, all of whom have given much kindly criticism and many helpful suggestions in the preparation of this small volume.

IRA B. CROSS.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY,
November, 1911.