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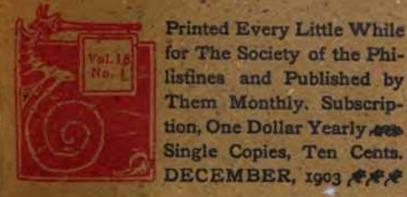




A Periodical of Protest

Every fault is forgiven in the man of perfect candor.





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The Philistine

Vol. 18 DECEMBER, 1903

No. I

It does not take much strength to do things, but it requires great strength to decide on what is best to do.

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Heart to Heart Talks with Philistines by the Pastor of His Flock



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HERE are two distinct schools of Socialism:

The Marxian and the Fabian.

Both schools are made up of idealists, and they disagree only as to

the policy to be adopted for reaching Utopia; and there is also a variance of opinion as to the distance to be traversed in reaching the Ideal City.

(The Marxian school takes its name from Karl Marx, a most excellent man, sincere, earnest, simple-hearted—a Jew, who saw with clear and vivid vision the wrongs and inequalities of society. The fact that one set of men had most of the culture, and another did all the

THE PHI-

work; that some had vastly more property than they could use, and that others suffered for the necessities of life-these things caused Marx to formulate in his own mind an Ideal Condition, where none would be cursed by either too much or too little. And to Marx this Ideal Condition could be brought about by voting the power out of the hands of the men now in control and putting in Socialists, instead. The Marxians want Utopia, and they want it now. And as the Prohibitionists hate a Republican teetotaler, and the Christian Scientists have no fellowship with the Mental Scientists, and Christians look loftily on men who have nothing but their morality to recommend them, so do the Marxians despise and brand as cowards the Fabians who carry on a campaign of education, and take what they can get.

The Fabians take their name from the Roman general, Fabius, who, about the year 250 B. C., fought the hosts of Hannibal. Fabius wore the combined forces of Carthage, Gaul and Etruria to a frazzle by a policy of opportunism. He struck and retreated, and the enemy could never find him. He carried no supplies—the enemy furnished everything, even the corpses for most of the funerals. Fabius laughed at their challenges to meet him on the open plain

in pitched battle. But to prove that he was alive, THE PHIhe stampeded the enemies' cattle, cut off their LISTINE horses' tails a hundred miles away the same night, and separating the opposing forces. fought them piece-meal on ground of his own choosing, usually attacking them in the rear as they chased in vain pursuit of his forces.

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If I was n't Fra Elbertus, I would be Christian De Wet Quintus Fabius, who, like the Midianites, lapped water like a dog; who fought odds as ten to one; who was never defeated and never captured; who kept his good-cheer, and rode further and faster out under the stars than any of his enemies could by day, and when he finally capitulated, dictated his own terms, and afterwards, visiting the enemy's country in citizen's dress, unaccompanied, was proclaimed conqueror.

To get the thing done some time, is what the Fabians want-but the Marxians want the honors and the offices, and like a child in the tantrums, can't wait.

The business of liberal denominations is to make all other denominations more liberal. The Universalists and Unitarians have not grown numerically, but you can hear good Universalist sermons now in any Presbyterian pulpit, and excerpts from the Age of Reason will go

THE PHI- unchallenged in most of our Baptist and Meth-LISTINE odist Churches.

> The Fabian is a man who does what he can, and thanks heaven that things are not worse. Let no one confuse Fabianism with the doctrine of laisser faire. One is alert, vigilant and watchful of its opportunity; the other merely drifts. I The Marxian will not compromise—he demands all, and will accept nothing less. But the Marxian is doing good service; his work is to infuse the spirit of Co-operation into all the parties, and it is the Marxians who have evolved the Fabians. And the Marxians now stir the Fabians on to do and to dare.

> Karl Marx was born in Germany in 1818, and died in London in 1883. Marx was profoundly influenced by Heine and his school of revolutionaries, but was much more judicial than that erratic singer. He was a man of genuine worth, beloved by his family and friends. His greatness was shown in that he had a goodly contempt for popularity, and as fast as his ideas became accepted by those about him he moved on to new premises that confounded both disciples and critics. He was driven out of Germany on account of his revolutionary writings, went to France, was exiled from there,

and about the year 1850 found refuge in London. THE PHI-(He was urged to come to America, and it LISTINE seems he seriously contemplated doing this, but finally he flatly refused, saying, "If I go to America I shall go into business and become rich, and that will be the last of Karl Marx." So he remained in London and wrote his book, "Capital," which is the arsenal from which all socialists get their intellectual weapons. It will be noted that this book, " Capital," is labeled Volume One: there were to be various other volumes, but like Buckle's "History of Civilization," the preface is all that was written, but that is enough upon which to found a lasting name # #

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The book made a profound impression, and such eminent thinkers as Darwin, Spencer, Wallace and William Morris acknowledged themselves as debtors to it. Especially were Ruskin and Morris drawn toward the philosophy of Marx. Marx had taken their theories and carried them further, and shown, to his own satisfaction, that society could only be redeemed by the overthrow of those in political power. To be sure, his battle was to be bloodless, with the ballot, by organizing a political party # #

Marx and Morris for a time were fast friends,