

**THE PATTERN NATION OR  
SOCIALISM, ITS SOURCE,  
DRIFT, AND OUTCOME**

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The Pattern Nation Or Socialism, Its Source, Drift, and Outcome by Sir Henry Wrixon

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**THE PATTERN NATION**

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OR  
SOCIALISM  
ITS SOURCE, DRIFT, AND OUTCOME

BY

SIR HENRY WRIXON, K.C.

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'SOCIALISM,' 'NOTES ON A POLITICAL TOUR,' 'JACOB SHIMMATE'

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1907

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PREFACE TO THE SECOND  
EDITION

THE Author desires to acknowledge much favourable criticism of this book. A few words have been added to its Title, in order to announce its object. This, as is soon made plain to the reader, is to show, as a fact which we have to face, the onward course of Socialism up to its more advanced stages, when we may expect that peoples, taught by experience, will declare for freedom and thus save civilisation.

It has been objected to the book that it proclaims the danger which threatens us, but does not show how it is to be avoided ; that it states the problem, but fails to give

the solution. The case, however, is this: a powerful party propose a certain course of action as the true remedy for the ills, social and industrial, which beset us. This party is gaining credence and influence among millions of the poor, who are eagerly looking forward to the time when the Socialists will hold the government in their own hands, and the people will enter upon the beneficent conditions of life which are promised under the new dispensation.

The object of *The Pattern Nation* is to show that this movement is a false one, a going back from freedom and true progress; that the reasons by which it is justified are fallacious, and that therefore the course which peoples are so confidently urged to take, they ought not to take. We deal with the day which is passing over us when we say that whatever we ought to do, we will make a mistake if we accept Socialism.



As for what follows, the view presented in these pages is that if we hold fast by freedom, we may reasonably expect that freedom will bring forth its own remedies for the difficulties which arise under it. Liberty, when it is applied to the industrial system, at times causes disorganisation, just as it does when it is given to the political system. But in both cases it is the creed of thoughtful men that the true remedy is not to go back to slavery, but to go forward to freedom. It is part of the argument of *The Pattern Nation* that it is a mistake to discard the free system without giving it a fair trial, and before its ability to meet the wants of the time, with the aid of the better social feelings which now prevail, has ever been effectually tested. It is no small thing, surely, if we can show that the course which we are now asked to take is the wrong one, even though

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we leave to the freemen of the future the duty of exploring for their own day the path of progress.

The present edition has been divided into chapters for the sake of greater clearness, and a few additions have been made to the text with the same object.

*March 1907.*

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