society. These property relationships are dispensible, the sooner the better.

The term property has a very wide extension. It covers everything in which the prospect of profit exists. Capital invades every possible sphere of life in its search for profit. It operates in education, medicine, sports and entertainment. The sole object is to continually extend and expand the exploitation of man.

The vast accumulation of wealth in the possession of the capitalist class is proof of their success in this regard. This expansion of capital and increasing profits is not for the benefit of you, the producers. Modern society is undoubtedly the most brutal and efficient system of exploitation. It is also the last of class societies. In the course of its development it has unconsciously contributed to social progress. It has accomplished great achievements in the rapid extensive and intensive expansion of the industrial machinery. Also, it has erected permanent and easy contact between men throughout the world. The social character of wealth production today is international in operation. These basic features are primary essentials for a socialist society which is international in character. However, the usefulness of capitalism belongs to the past. Now and in the future the capitalist system is a hindrance to real social progress.

SOCIALISM

The economic conditions necessary for the establishment of socialism have been here for some considerable time. The important absent factor is the social consciousness of men of the need for and the practicability of a socialist society. The exclusive task of the working class is to abolish all private property in the means of production and the social relations which arise therefrom. Only social production and social ownership can serve the interests of the great majority of people.

Socialist society alone provides this economic foundation. The property relations between men in such a society shall be simple, direct and useful — common ownership of the means of production and the wealth produced. This is the only form of social organization which can enable men to regain control of their labor, lives, and the wealth created and also afford them the maximum facilities for freedom and cultural pursuits. A socialist society rigidly excludes the exploitation of man by man; profit, buying and selling, etc. This revolutionary act entails the complete abolition of classes and the birth of a classless society. It is the last class act in social history. When a majority of working men and working women understand the need for, and the practicability of this social change, they will take the necessary political action and bring it about.

J. H. — SPGB

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AUSTRIAN SOCIALISM?

"We have long been accustomed to the misuse of the good name of socialism" writes the Vienna "Abeiter-Zeitung" in a leading article dealing with Cuba. "The communists now write and speak only of socialist successes, socialist countries and so forth. All this is swindle. And this is not the only theft and fraud committed by the communists. Long ago already they appropriated symbols, forms, historic paroles to which they are not entitled. The misuse is done purposely, to create confusion and they succeeded, indeed by using the stolen signs, in confounding the ideas. Fidel Castro has just declared his government socialist, and instead of voting papers, gave the people guns and tanks, just as Lenin used force of arms to disperse the democratically elected all-Russian Assembly."

REFORMERS—NOT SOCIALISTS

Not a bad statement of fact, but unfortunately for the Socialist Party of Austria we must take into consideration the source. It is not only the Russian Communists who are guilty of the misuse of the name of socialism and the theft of socialist symbols. In fact, denunciation of the misuse sounds grotesque coming from the mouthpiece of a party itself guilty of such swindle. With their comrades in the Scandinavian "socialist" kingdoms (Sweden, Norway, Denmark) and the other countries with "socialist" governments-with-no-socialism they have, down through the years, practiced the same deceit they now accuse the Communists of practicing. The "Socialist International," creature of these non-socialist socialists, closely follows the crises of the international capitalists (Berlin, armament and disarmament conferences, the Oder-Neisse border dispute, European collaboration and economic integration, problems of the underdeveloped countries, colonialism, etc.) and undertakes to advise the ruling class on procedure. Nor is this International to be outdone by avowedly capitalist reformers. It "seeks to raise the standard of living for the masses through land reform and industrialization, the extension of public ownership and the development of producers' and consumers' co-operatives." The only thing, in fact, that is missing in the "Socialist" International's agenda is socialism, but then they explain that they have "passed from propaganda into practice" — if the truth were but known: from the propaganda of statism to the practice of capitalism.

Were it not for the incalculable harm done by this fraud to the work of enlightenment and awakening of the revolutionary class-consciousness of the workers, one might call the "Arbeiter-Zeitung's" denunciation of the Communists merely a case of the pot calling the kettle black. In view of the deplorable fact, however, that the working class stands today, after 70 years of SP-reformism and irrelevant propaganda: frustrated, apathetic, confused, bewildered, in short, woefully ignorant of the meaning and portent of the true socialist proposition; the deceit perpetrated on the working-class by these capitalist hirelings cannot be so lightly dismissed. It is an unscrupulous betrayal of the greatest cause ever given to man to fight for. Actually the S. P. leaders and spokesmen in these and other lands have long ago shed the last remnant of whatever revolutionary spirit there may once have been in that movement.

AN ASSESSMENT

And what can these "socialists" actually show in the way of accomplishment after their 70 years of activity? Certainly nothing that can truthfully be labelled socialism. Political democracy? Outspokenly conservative and liberal bourgeois organizations such as the big European and American political parties respect the right to vote for differently labelled reform programs, no

(Continued on page 22)