

*he does not have himself, and he does not have the right to open his neighbor's pocket-book at will, however desirable it may seem to him.*

Thus, the basic issue is a moral one. Shall we obey or defy the strict injunctions in the Ten Commandments, viz: "Thou shalt not steal" and "Thou shalt not covet."

*Those prohibitions very effectively dispose of any moral pretensions of socialism and expose it for what it is: unchristian and unethical legalized larceny.*

Yet there are some so benighted and misguided as to prate of Christian socialism. To me that makes no more sense than Christian cancer. It is a contradiction in terms.

*Christianity is a free-will religion. It is offered but it is not forced. Socialism is force; the force of perverted law by which a misguided majority violates the natural rights of the minority, the Ten Commandments and the Constitution of the United States.*

There is nothing sacred about the momentary will of the majority. It was a majority that crucified Christ, permitted the reign of terror in the French Revolution, and voted Hitler into power in Germany. Majorities will at times do wicked and shameful things; therefore, there are some actions that the constitution of a free government must forbid to a majority, just as the Ten Commandments forbid certain acts to individuals.

*It was implicit recognition of this fact that impelled our Founding Fathers to draw and ratify a Constitution that stressed the rights of the individual and restricted the power of the majority to coerce the individual, to the end that we might be truly free.*

Love, compassion, and charity are invoked to justify the practice of socialism. They are wonderful virtues.

*But they are only a smokescreen to cover the real sales pitch of socialism which is something for nothing. Any sane and honest man knows you can't get that—at least not for long.*

Man's duty is to practice those virtues himself. It is wrong for him to compel others at pistol point to a forced compliance with his ideas of what is proper in that respect.

*The end does not justify the means. If the means are evil, so is the end, no matter how seductively disguised by hypocritically pious words.*

The Constitution of the United States, which is the political corollary of the great moral prohibitions handed to Moses on Sinai, guarantees no one any security except that which he can obtain by his own efforts. That is just, moral, and practical.

*Under the principles established by that document, we became the wonder, envy, and hope of the world. Who could be so criminal*