the profit system, on the surface, which aid in preserving the old system at its base. What the leftists advocate today, the centrists and the rightists will legislate ten or twenty years from now. Many of today's laws were the lofty ideals of the so-called Socialist Party of America in the U.S., and Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (in Canada), a couple of decades ago. With the inauguration of their ideas came the disbandment of the woolly-minded crusaders who pushed them. Now they are reorganized behind new utopias, still trying to make capitalism do something beyond its nature, that is, to function in the interest of society.

Not being socialists, leftists do not understand capitalism and consequently seldom, if ever, perceive the causes of war. They stage pathetic and fruitless protest marches against this war or social inequality, while supporting the productive relationship that causes these things.

If it is implied that I am a leftist, then by the same token I will be associated in the minds of many with Lenin's forced labor camps; with the British Labor government's strike-breaking activities; with Russia's sale of arms to India, Pakistan, and the Middle East; with Sweden's high suicide rate, or with Soviet-Cuban sponsored guerilla violence for a slice of the markets and materials of South America; or perhaps with the Chinese atom-bomb-backed bid to relieve the U.S. of its control of the wealth of South East Asia.

But, being a socialist, I spend my time exposing the outmoded social relationships that give rise to this social insanity. In many respects I include the IWW among the political immature, while at the same time realizing your good intentions. But remember, that old road to Hell is paved with them.

J. G. JENKINS
Victoria, B.C., S.P.C.

$15.00 WILL GET YOU A LIFETIME SUBSCRIPTION TO THE WESTERN SOCIALIST

The Forgotten Revolution —Fifty Years After

Although the Bolshevik Revolution of October, 1917, is well known as one of history's landmarks, the February Revolution that preceded it and that toppled the Czarist regime has been all but forgotten. Yet the events comprising the February Revolution deserve commemoration because they can be instructive in several respects.

First, the power of a determined population that has rejected its rulers and the existing social system was amply demonstrated. The Russian Empire, in size and population, was the third largest in the world. Its mechanisms for control and repression were vast and well-organized. The Czar's army of nearly fifteen million was the largest in the world. The Okrana, the secret police, was world renowned for its stranglehold on the populace and its zeal in suppressing internal threats to the regime.

Against this vast machine of tyranny was arrayed a group of very pitiful-appearing forces. Masses of ignorant peasants of several nationalities, unorganized, separated by great distances, and long politically inert, comprised the main revolutionary force. At key points events were sparked by the small urban working class that had barely reached the stage of trade union organization. Some assistance and direction was also rendered by the small and timid bourgeoisie class of merchants, professionals and large capitalists — the class that really stood to gain from a new order.

Yet in spite of the unimpressive nature of the revolutionary forces they were able to triumph because the times were ripe for the abandonment of the outmoded and discredited Czarist superstructure of governmental and social organization. Without its acceptance by the populace, all the power of the regime was fatally undermined making it relatively easy to push it over.

Socialists find this instructive because we are frequently told that the ruling class has vast power, that they will never surrender their power voluntarily, and that only a fighting organization with military-like discipline and which is led by leaders with military-like power can institute the socialist revolution. Since the socialist revolution, involving for the first time the immediate liberation of the vast majority of the world's population, will be qualitatively different from past revolutions, historical parallels are less applicable. But on the issue of the ability of a determined population to get rid of an obnoxious system that has lost legitimacy in its eyes the Russian February Revolution is illustrative. Several organizations of professional revolutionaries existed in Russia in 1917, including the Bolsheviks, but they took no part in the February Revolution — in fact — they were taken completely by surprise by it.

By 1917, the population of Russia, generally, had had enough of the age-old repressions, cruelty, and misery of the existing semi-feudal society. When enough people lost faith in the system and saw the need to go beyond it, Czarism was overthrown, and with little — if any — violence by an unarmed population. Although there are other lessons to be drawn from the Russian February Revolution, of primary importance is the evidence that a power structure — in the final analysis — rests upon mass support or tacit acceptance by a majority. The working class of today's highly developed capitalist world will need have no fear of capitalist power structures once a majority have accepted the principles of socialism. There can be only one course for a capitalist ruling class once it has seen the handwriting on the wall, the course of Czar Nicholas II — abdication.

W. JEROME

PASS THIS COPY :_____
_____: ON TO A FRIEND

SCIENCE AND SOCIALISM

One of the significant consequences of the capitalist mode of production is the general recognition, *at long last*, that there are physical-material(a) explanations for all phenomena taking place in infinite existence. We live in a "scientific age" and the intent of this piece is to briefly view science through socialist eyes.

The new Random House Dictionary defines science as "the systematic knowledge of the physical or material world." We would substitute the term, "infinite existence" (usually referred to as cosmos or universe) for "world," in the definition. Science is concerned with the nature of the universe. Suffice it, for the present, to say that although we can conceive of existence prior to astronomical phenomena, it is only a postulate (an educated guess) as yet.

There is but one science: the interrelationships of infinite existence in a constant process of motion and change. Science is monist(b). The special characteristic of science is the verifiable organization of its statements. The validity of the scientific method (an essential adjunct of science) is rooted in its materialism(c).

However, there is a profusion of many branches of science — usually called *the* sciences, including the

(a) Physical-material refers to all-encompassing nature, both things that occupy space (tangible substances) and forces (intangible energies).

(b) Monism is the realization that there is no phenomenon that exists by itself, independent of and apart from the rest of existence. This contrasts with dualism which holds a twofold view of the ultimate nature of existence as being mind and matter or soul and body.

(c) To attempt to define matter meets an unavoidable obstacle, in the sense of trying to define something in terms of itself. The essence of materialism is matter. (See summary below.) Everything in existence is materialistic, whether subject to our sense perceptions or not.