To our ancient ancestors, it was obvious that the sun went round the earth. They only had to look at it to see that's what it did. There are still denizens of remote areas who are sure that's what the sun is doing today. It requires the teaching of the rudiments of astronomy and physics to get the erroneous idea out of their heads.

WHO PAY TAXES?

The workers of our time who are assured that they are paying the tax bills, will have to have their illusions removed through the therapy of social knowledge. They will have to have the fact impressed upon their minds that instead of them paying the taxes out of their wages, that the taxes are really paid by the employers out of the portion of the wealth that is taken from the producers, and to which the owners are entitled due to their social standing in the capitalist system.

A relevant illustration may help to elucidate. Take the case of the cow. The cow is a useful domestic animal. Her production consists of milk and meat. In order to get the optimum results, the cow has to be well fed, groomed, and stabled. Every care must be given her to enhance the milk and meat supply.

Suppose the Government, in its quest for revenue, levies a sales or income tax on the cow. Such could have no effect on the economic status of the cow. She still must be attended to, and provided with the same amount of food and care if she is to continue on the same productive scale.

Should the Internal Revenue Department insist on payment, and insert a clause in the form the cow is required to fill out, stating that if the payment is not pronto, a certain quantity of bran and turnips will be withheld from her dietary quota, this would only mean that the cow would retaliate by withholding the anticipated measure of milk and meat. It wouldn't pay off.

If the cow tax is to be paid at all, it is the man who owns the cow who will have to make good. He is the custodian of his property, be it landed, bovine, or mechanical, and as such, must be ready to satisfy the Government's demands.

The cow is more accomplished than the worker. She has two commodities to offer. He has only one — labor power. He sells this for a price that represents its value. Under ordinary conditions, while the price is not sufficient to enable him to indulge in luxury cars, furs, jewelry, and night club entertainment, it does give him enough to keep him functioning on the job, and reproducing his power to labor.

When the Government calls upon him to dig up a specified sum of money to pay taxes while, in the short run, there does seem to be a deceptive vision of something being handed over, in the long run the tax payment becomes part of the costs of maintaining the labor power, and only the capitalist is in a position to pay this.

J. A. MacDONALD

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INTERNATIONALISM

Introductory note: Like many of the terms used over the years by socialists, "Internationalism" has been subjected to the confusing influences of a usage supporting the efforts of nations, usually in the name of peace and freedom, to band together to improve their position in the ferocious struggles of capitalism. In this article our old comrade uses the terms, as we have done, to mean a world approaching and arriving at socialism — a world without nations. — Editorial Committee, SPC.

The imperative mandate of our time is not merely a concept but the implementation of internationalism. It is the need which grows more obvious year by year, day by day. Those who ignore it deceive themselves and hamper all humanity.

In his pursuit of speed, sex and dollars, that soft shelled animal we call man seldom pauses to ponder this need. If he does, a few seconds are all that are necessary. First, an elementary knowledge of geography shows the earth only so large and no larger. Then there is a rather important factor called population, fewer habitable portions, and many areas all but unfit for human occupancy being utilized. Improved health methods whereby infant mortality is becoming almost a thing of the past, old age extending, and wonder drugs curtailing epidemics and thus adding to the mounting human mass, causing nations to burst at their seams and spill over weaker contending nations, all point up the need for the one vital thing being ignored — human federation.

As for examples to serve as precedent, they are as plain as the points of the compass. In almost every respect, excepting survival, humanity has already federated. Thanks to communication each part of the planet knows what almost all other parts are doing, saying and all but thinking. Only yesterday, communication was bound up with transportation. They were virtually one and the same. Today they are virtually divorced and both are all but instantaneous. Man's mechanical devices encircle the earth with incredible speed, probing and spying and automatically relaying back information to a sphere which has become as a mere child's playball which we weigh, measure and compute almost as accurately, while man on either hand confronts the naked poles.

And transportation! The Aztec runners, the pony express, covered wagon, stage-coach, river steamboat and steam locomotive; all came and all have passed into the ilmbo of all but forgotten modes of travel. Clive was a year and a half in journeying from England to India. Were he alive today he could make it in a few hours. By virtue of the jet airplane one can leave the Arctic atmosphere behind and be in sub-tropical zones before your milkman has made his daily rounds.

All the prerequisites of an internationalized, a civilized humanity, are here — save one, man himself. He is ever the great enigma, the arch predator, the only creature to plot the destruction of its own kind. He builds cities, then razes them. Years back, a famous war correspondent returned after ranging over Eurasian battlefields for nearly a lustrum. He was met at the ship by a mob of reporters.

"Of all the scenes you have witnessed," one asked him, "which impressed you most?"

"An Arab farmer plowing in the ruins of Babylon with his wooden stick," he replied.

Such recurring contradictions down through his past make one wonder whether man can ever become a social animal, and internationalism ever become anything but a wishful dream. Yet the symbol, the guideposts, have ever pointed in that direction. Perhaps the first symbol was the sun, a benefactor even our primitive ancestors doubtless saw,