

textile mills when they were nine or ten years old, and they worked 12 to 15 hours a day. It was said that the beds in which they slept never got cold as one shift took the place of the other. It was said that they were "machines by day and beasts by night." Tuberculosis and other diseases killed them off like flies.

Yes, conditions were terrible. Not only Marx, but other warm-hearted men—Charles Dickens, John Ruskin, Thomas Carlyle—poured out a literature of protest, which was read around the world.

On his facts, Marx can scarcely be challenged. But his diagnosis was wrong; and, therefore, the remedy he prescribed was wrong also.

A GOSPEL OF HATE

MARX SAID that these terrible conditions were due to greed, exploitation, and the theft by the owners of the mines and mills of the "surplus value" produced by the workers. That was his diagnosis. And to some extent, it was partly correct. Man's inhumanity to man has always been a factor in human affairs. Greed can never be defended—whether in business or in government. Sympathy for the underdog will always have its work to do—always, certainly, in

the communist nations with their forced labor camps and human slavery.

The remedy advanced by Marx was to preach the gospel of hate, of the class struggle, of the redistribution of wealth, of the confiscation of property and its ownership and management by the state—which always means the politicians. But greed and exploitation are not cured by socialism. Stalin and Molotov live like oriental potentates, giving state dinners that would make Nero and Caligula green with envy—all this in the name of the down-trodden proletariat!

Greed, however, was not the main reason for the conditions which Marx described. If all the wealth of the owners of the mines and mills had been redistributed to the workers, it would have relieved their condition but slightly, and for but a short time.

So, the class struggle, as the remedy for these conditions, was wrong. What then, was the *real* trouble, and what is the *true* remedy?

LOW PRODUCTIVITY AT FAULT

THE REAL trouble was the low productivity of the workers. And, as workers can be paid only out of production—whether in England a century ago or in