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EDITORIAL

## ROOT'S CONFERENCE WITH MORGAN.

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**T**HE working class is now having ample demonstration of the socialist truth that in the capitalist system the government is controlled and directed by the capitalist class in the interest of capitalism.

Two weeks ago, Secretary of the Treasury Shaw called on the capitalist financiers of Wall street and, after consultation with them, released \$130,000 of currency and averted a financial stringency. Shortly after that Attorney General Knox engaged in frequent negotiations with the coal operators and finally brought about the disastrous coal strike conference in the temporary White House. At the present time, still another cabinet officer, Secretary of War Root, is dancing in attendance upon J. Pierpont Morgan and engaging in five hours' long conference with him on the coal strike. Even John Mitchell is controlled by capitalist interests, as his frequent conferences with Mark Hanna, as Hanna's friend, show.

Judging from this splendid array of facts, which can be matched by a similar array from the records of Democratic administrations, where is the workingman so foolish as to believe that this is "a government of, for, and by, the people?" If government was "of, for, and by, the people," it is the part of wisdom to conclude that these cabinet offices would consult with "the people" and not with the capitalist class.

Every epoch of society is dominated by the class in control of the prevailing system of production, distribution, transportation and communication. The interests of the members of this class prevail in every department of life. They stamp the impress of their interests upon the church, the law, the state and the family.

The present system is a system of capitalism, in which the capital of the nation—the land, the factories, stores, steamships, railroads and telegraphs—is owned by a small class, called the capitalist class, and used by them to exploit the largest class, the

working class. This capitalist class, acting in accordance with its class interests, buys and controls the government. Presidents and cabinet officers realize this truth and regulate their conduct accordingly, hence their consultations with leading capitalists.

Every epoch of society is antagonized by the class that is not in control of the means of production and distribution and that is exploited as a consequence. The interests of this class compel it to fight the interests of the ruling class in every sphere of social activity. This class endeavors, always with some success, to influence the church, the law, the state and the family in its interests.

Under capitalism this class is the working class. The working class is the class that is exploited by capitalism. The working class is the class on which capitalism rests as a house upon a solid concrete foundation. Without the strength, skill, intelligence and inventiveness of the working class capital could not be created and endure.

The working class is beginning to awaken to the fact that its interests are fast becoming the dominant interests of society. The working class is beginning to recognize that all the economic panaceas, and like government by-plays, of the capitalist class are enacted for the purpose of placating and influencing its actions in the interests of decaying capitalism. The working class has, consequently, determined to obtain control of the means of production and distribution. With this end in view it has determined to capture the power of state by means of the ballot and thus create a government in the interest of the working class. For this purpose the working class has organized the Socialist Labor Party and entered the political field as an official party.

Workingmen, if you desire a government that will represent you, cease voting for the parties which events show represent the capitalist class, that in other words, represent not you, but the class that exploits you. Workingmen, if you desire a government that will represent your interests vote for the Socialist Labor Party, the only party intent on capturing the powers of state in order to obtain control of the means of production and distribution for the benefit of the working class.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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