



## Our Chaste System

We must not take the capitalist system's protestations of morality too seriously. If we do, we are liable to underestimate our own undefiled purity. We must guard ourselves, at all hazards, against being contaminated (in our minds) by this far-flung and unholy misrepresentation of the capitalist system's thorough-going rottenness.

Be our condition what it may, it is established beyond a shadow of doubt that the system is bad, from one end to the other; that its moral delinquency must break out in visible evidences periodically.

• • •

As to whether the system uncovers its inherent immorality (in carefully selected spots) or, whether it merely takes advantage of these manifestations (to prostrate itself in pretended abhorrence), we cannot determine off hand; looking at it from our highly moral eminences.

Lest there be doubt as to the "composition" of morality we will be obliged to unlimber our "puritanism."

These many weeks our lustful soul has been sighing for balmy spring weather that would unsheathe the ladies from their heavy overcoats. I've seen them stumping the pave, all winter long, all bundled-up and my soul was grieved. But today, like a sunburst, a vision ensnarls my best eye, in entanglements that are foreign to my unsullied nature. It would be sacrilege to describe all the clothes she wasn't wearing—sufficient to get by the capitalist courts, and insufficient to impede the free play of her muscles or retard her queenly progress down the avenue.

No, fellow workers, she wasn't exactly naked, but the next thing to it. Anyway, if she had been, it would not have made any difference to us. A few clothes more or less doesn't constitute morality.

Still, I will say, the ladies have gone about far enough—and, if they will stop right where they are now, I see no reason why the most of us cannot remain "the immaculate moral morons" we have always been.

But the system does expose its inherent smut, when it serves its purpose—nevertheless the whole rottenness is never exposed at once. Here and there a bootlegger, bent on poisoning the "inveterate drunks," is hailed before the courts because he has failed to contribute support to our glorious institution. Incidentally he is charged with unlawful lawbreaking. Here and there, like in Gary, Indiana, the pillars of politics are sentenced to jail for cooking raisins, not, I suppose, merely for that act alone, but, it may be possible, the "motivators" of "the model city" have no further use for these politicians. It may be that, in their past life, there is some deed incompatible with the "best interests" of that burg—either way, down and out went they.

In Michigan, the House of David is having its innings; and many a real snappy piece of news flashed over the wires of the highly moral Associated Press. Cross-breeds, and so on, was the gist of its plaint, and it would seem that much is being made of the fact that it was practiced with regularity and frequency that is astonishing to "the mere amateurs composing the rest of our virtuous citizenry. Not a hint is given as to any real reason why it was considered opportune to splash the House of David in front of us, at this time—why it was selected as a horrible example of what could be discovered without effort; but it is possible that there existed some form of co-operative movement that was objectionable to the conventional customs prevailing in that locality. The theological morality was severely questioned, in this case, in favor of more conventional cults, and it is now practically settled that any and all other church organizations will compare acceptably in our estimation—considering how much dirtier are the stories connected to the H. of D. if they are true, and I doubt them.

On and on we could go (until it would fill seventeen special editions) and recite the most damnable evidences of, not the decadence, but virulence of the capitalist's system.

Although I am world-wise, schooled in these things from childhood on, I can step in any motion picture palace and get an eyeful of new kinks in love making and practice that would make Diana, the goddess of chastity, swallow her chew of snus in surprise.

• • •

All of these things are intended for the edification of "our" children, because the people demand them.—The Liars!

• • •

Almost any one will agree the system is bad and should be changed. And they will agree that the change, in order to be successful, must be based on industrialism—on industrial control. And they will agree that industrial control can only be brought about by organizing industrially. The Industrial Workers of the World are doing that very thing.

Are you with us?

—T-Bone Slim.