



T-Bone Slim

THE OBVIOUS—

The Public insofar as it suffers the employment of unfranchiseless workers has no rights in the determination of strikes, wages, hours and conditions...

Once we concede a man has a right to think we must concede he has a right to wish. Once we concede he has a right to wish—even if it be such an outlandish thing as higher wages—we must concede he has a right to ask.

Once we concede he has a right to ask for higher wages we must concede he has a right to strike for higher wages. Once we concede he has a right to strike we must concede he has a right to join a general strike.

Once we concede a (lone) man is weak we must concede he has a right to build his strength. Once we concede he has a right to build his strength we must concede he has a right to organize the source of his strength.

Once we admit an individual is unequal to any task we must concede he has a right to enlist the services of others.

Once we concede he has the right to enlist the services of others we must concede he has a right to enlist as many as he can, as many as he needs—any or all.

Once we concede he has the right to enlist the services of any, many or all—if he can—we must concede *he is some baby!* and entitled to a hearing.

Once we concede him all these rights we must concede he has a right to life, liberty, leisure and comfort.

Once we concede he has a right to life, liberty, leisure and comfort we must concede that in the absence of any these he has a right to establish them.

Once we concede he has a right to establish life, liberty, leisure and comfort we must concede he has a right to proceed to do so without interference.

Once we concede he has the right to freedom of action in this we must concede that in the event of interference he has a right to so organize as to overcome that interference.

Once we concede he has a right to overcome the interference in the establishment of life, liberty, leisure and comfort we must concede that if the interference is powerful he has a right to organize a power that is its superior.

Once we concede he has a right to organize a power superior to that of the interference we must concede he has the right to organize unlimited power—if, or if not necessary.

Once we concede he has the right to organize unlimited power for the establishment of life, liberty, leisure and comfort we must concede he has the right to organize a general strike for that purpose or any other purpose consonant with the wellbeing of the human family of which he is a part the world over—or in any of its subdivisions.

Once we concede he has the right to organize a general strike we must concede he and all those so organized has the right to so strike and so establish life, liberty, leisure, labor, food, clothing, shelter, happiness and what not.

Once we concede he and others has a right to go on general strike we must concede, if they do strike, that want, misery, torture *has seen its day* ("wasn't The Depression TERRIBLE?"—their jokesmiths inquire.)

Once we concede the general strike has the power to end want, misery, torture "forever" we must concede it has the power to scorn palaverfests and gold-braided compromises.

Once we concede it has the power to scorn palaverfests and compromises we must concede it has the power in itself to establish life, liberty, leisure, comfort, labor, food, clothing, shelter, happiness and disestablish want, misery, torture and degeneration—and that is "*the new society within the shell of the old.*"—

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P. S.—Argument:

This logic cannot very well be contested insofar as to do so is to repudiate the whole wages system which is based upon the enlistment of the services of others for pay. I win either way: If the wages system is discredited, underpay is eliminated; if the logic holds, wages system is discredited and full pay rules the roost.

I've got a dead cinch here for it must be conceded man has rights—if he has only one right, right to think, it follows in logical succession he has the whole sum and substance of righteousness.

The denial of any (one) right is the repudiation of freedom in favor of slavery—what remains is neither graduated freedom or enhanced slavery; it is stagnation—an untenable position.

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