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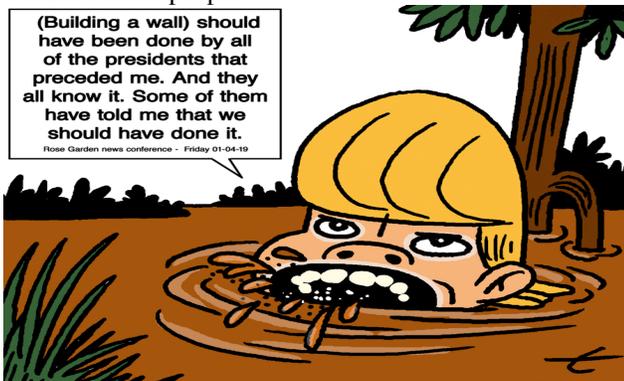
Edited by Dave Schall

Presenting Democratic Socialist Viewpoints

Mr. Trump: TEAR DOWN THAT WALL!!

IT IS TIME FOR THE WORKERS OF THE WORLD TO UNITE!!

Trump, “the Bulley “or is it “the Deal Maker” is holding Americans hostage over his “wall”. While 800,000 federal workers work without pay, does this mean that their landlords or mortgage holders were willing to go without income? Will insurance companies continue to cover for mishaps and illnesses? Will grocery stores handout food? Who will make emergency repairs if there is no funds available? Plumbers, electricians and other skilled crafts people?



Trump is offering further proof of his incompetence and inability to govern. Trump rejects all science, instead he preaches fear that we are all being overrun by hordes of illegal, immigrant criminals. His claims are contrary to all evidence, even that published by federal agents, who are supposed to work for him. It is tragic that the government and the nation is being held hostage by a debate that is really irrelevant.

Trump: Impeachment Talk and Hopes

Ever since November, 2016 when Trump was elected president, many of us have talked about (and hoped) Trump would be impeached. Trump is corrupt and an incompetent liar. Thanks to the US Constitution, Trump has a “GET OUT OF JAIL” card.

Politically with the two-party system, impeachment becomes an almost impossible task. With only two parties, both usually dominated by the same economic elites, we find that neither party can act rationally and work toward the common good. The US Constitution says impeachment is a remedy if the president (or other government official, occasionally a judge has been impeached) is guilty of “high crimes or misdemeanors”. Unfortunately, high crimes and misdemeanors are not defined. One of the two impeachments that have been attempted against a president (Clinton) focused on oral sex. Given the behavior of most of the writers of the

In 1992 (and since) American workers and most others around the world have opposed the “free” trade deals like Nafta and GATT. The opposition, though admittedly not always properly articulated, focused on the fact that the trade agreements were bad for workers, but skipped the fact that real free trade that would eliminate tariffs and other barriers to trade, and treat all workers in the world equally.

With Trump focusing on immigration, trade and security issues, it is time for all socialists, along with workers throughout the world, to demand the abolition of borders. Labor laws, consumer protections and environmental laws should be equal throughout the world. Labor should be as mobile as capital. We should be calling for a major redistribution of wealth, not on a national scale, but on a global scale.

National governments, as we know them are, at best, part of an evolutionary process uniting the peoples of this earth to work together, share the wealth of the earth and care for each other as best possible. If we look at the origins of socialism in the 19th Century, the roots of a socialist world lie in these principles. Nationalism is merely the breaking down of tribalism that prevailed in earlier civilizations and was best characterized as the “Dark Ages” in Europe before industrialization and nationalization.

If we had a better democracy, we would not even be tolerating a debate about the USA borders! **We would be demanding a global government that rested on socialist principles, thus insuring a safer world, free of war and crime!** DS

US Constitution, it is doubtful that any of them would consider such behavior worthy of impeachment.

Realistically the Dems should not try to impeach Trump. They should present the truth and give evidence of Trump’s bungling. Educate and be objective!

Trump, through his tantrums and lies, alienates people and nations. He is displaying these traits during the government shutdown. Trump does not have the ability to work with others. He cannot prioritize what is important. His stubbornness will begin to break down his base of support, giving many GOP leaders courage to stand-up to Trump and join the Dems in a bipartisan effort to dump Trump

While Trump’s base of support (and GOP leadership) seem incapable of listening to reason, **we have to keep our trust in people and the democratic process that sooner or later rational decisions will prevail!** DS

Words for thought

"It's as if we've fallen down a rabbit hole and landed in a Wonderland totally devoid of wonder." - Gail Collins

Scott Doesn't Know

Wisconsin's former Governor Scott Walker is gone, but he continues to show his ignorance. He recently became embroiled in a twitter flap with newly elected, 29-year old US Representative from New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. It seems that after serving 8 years as governor and more than that in other governmental positions, Scott does not understand progressive taxation. It seems that Scott had a speaking engagement with some 5th graders and was explaining taxation. Scott was so proud of his efforts he had to tweet about them.

The young Congresswoman read the tweets and corrected Walker. Walker gave the example that if one receives \$10 and was in a 70% tax bracket s/he would have to pay \$7 in taxes. One of the fifth graders indignantly protested that it was unfair, then Walker quickly pointed out that progressive taxes are unfair. Ocasio-Cortez tried to correct him explaining that it is not how progressive taxes work. They are graduated with different tax rates based upon ones "tax bracket."

For example if one is earning \$100 and is in the 70% tax bracket, one also be in several lower brackets. There probably would be 0% bracket for the first \$10 earned, The next \$20

may be taxed at 20% which would mean that the person is paying \$4 on the first \$30 earned (13% taxation rate). Maybe the next \$20 earned gets taxed at 40% or \$8, which brings the total taxes for \$50 to \$12 (24%). The next \$30 may get taxed at 50% or \$15 for a total of \$27 (33%) and the last \$20 of a person's income may be in the 70% bracket meaning that that last \$20 is taxed \$14 for a total of \$41 (41% of his/her income).

Maybe if Scott had the smarts to complete his BA degree, he would have learned this (but he did not have the smarts to complete a Bachelor's degree). Unfortunately, Scott is proud enough of his ignorance to go around showing it to 10 year-olds. Meanwhile, Wisconsin is saddled with Walker's misconceptions that are now public policies and programs.

Walker pushes the simplistic messages of the right-wing conservatives that progressive taxes, government safety-nets are dismal failures. Somehow, Scott misses the fact that during one of the most prosperous periods of USA history, the nation enjoyed a marginal tax rate of 90% for the wealthiest tax payers. **It is not socialist policies that have failed Americans, it is the anti-socialist policies that destroy a safety-net that are destroying our nation! DS**

Double Standard

In another conservative attack on New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a doctored picture showed up on the internet portraying the Congresswoman taking a selfie while naked. It turned out to be a hoax trying to discredit her. However, in an election to replace deceased Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy, a real nude picture of the GOP candidate was revealed as he bared all in a *Cosmopolitan* centerfold. Apparently, the voters did not care as they elected

Scott Brown to the US Senate. This is almost 10 years later, what is the big deal? Why should a Republican male candidate be able to pose naked, but a woman cannot?

Why does a young female politician, who claims to be a democratic socialist, create so much hostility? **This shows the fear among the fear mongering conservatives! As we see from their leader, Donald Trump, we cannot tolerate such irrational leadership! DS**

Thoughts from the 19th Century**By Robert Owen, Industrialist and Utopian Socialist**

The whole system has not one redeeming quality; its very virtues, as they are termed, are vices of great magnitude. Its charities, so called, are gross acts of injustice and deception. Its instructions are to rivet ignorance in the mind and, if possible, render it perpetual. It supports, in all manner of extravagance, idleness, presumption, and uselessness; and oppresses, in almost every mode which ingenuity can devise, industry, integrity and usefulness. It encourages superstition, bigotry and fanaticism; and discourages truth, commonsense and rationality. It generates and cultivates every inferior quality and base passion that human nature can be made to receive; and has so disordered all the human intellects, that they have become universally perplexed and confused, so that man has no just title to be called a reasonable and rational being. It generates violence, robbery and murder, and extols and rewards these vices as the highest of all virtues. Its laws

are founded in gross ignorance of individual man and of human society; they are cruel and unjust in the extreme, and, united with all the superstitions in the world, are calculated only to teach men to call that which is pre-eminently true and good, false and bad; and that which is glaringly false and bad, true and good. In short, to cultivate with great care all that leads to vice and misery in the mass, and to exclude from them, with equal care, all that would direct them to true knowledge and real happiness, which alone, combined, deserve the name of virtue.

Society may be formed so as to exist without crime, without poverty, with health greatly improved, with little, if any misery, and with intelligence and happiness increased a hundredfold; and no obstacle whatsoever intervenes at this moment except ignorance to prevent such a state of society from becoming universal.

SP-Wisconsin Local Meeting: Saturday, February 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the Eastside Library, 2320 N. Cramer St., Milwaukee

Socialist Party of Wisconsin

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