

## Gentrain Unit 14 Dialogue: The New Deal, Socialism and Wall Street

1) Video of FDR's Fire side chat, 1935:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LW32QE-SIgI&feature=relmfu>

2) Senator Carter Glass, "The great corporations of the country have acquired the habit of throwing their surplus funds into the vortex of stock speculation, instead of distributing them among their stockholders in the nature of dividends, and individuals are doing the same thing." 1929

3) "The country needs and, unless I mistake its temper, the country demands bold, persistent experimentation. It is common sense to take a method and try it: If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something." Franklin D. Roosevelt

4) "One of the consequences of such notions as "entitlements" is that people who have contributed nothing to society feel that society owes them something, apparently just for being nice enough to grace us with their presence."

Thomas Sowell

5) In practice, socialism didn't work. But socialism could never have worked because it is based on false premises about human psychology and society, and gross ignorance of human economy.

David Horowitz

6) "Socialism proposes no adequate substitute for the motive of enlightened selfishness that to-day is at the basis of all human labor and effort, enterprise and new activity." 1913, William Howard Taft

7) "Many people consider the things government does for them to be social progress but they regard the things government does for others as socialism."

Earl Warren, 1952

Excerpts from *Le Manifeste du Surréalisme*, 1924 by André Breton

We are still living under the reign of logic...In the guise of civilization, under the pretext of progress, we have succeeded in dismissing from our minds anything that, rightly or wrongly, could be regarded as superstition or myth; and we have proscribed every way of seeking the truth which does not conform to convention. It would appear that it is by sheer chance that an aspect of intellectual life - and by far the most important in my opinion - about which no one was supposed to be concerned any longer has, recently, been brought back to light. Credit for this must go to Freud [investigation of the subconscious]. On the evidence of his discoveries a current of opinion is at last developing which will enable the explorer of the human mind to extend his investigations, since he will be empowered to deal with more than merely summary realities. Perhaps the imagination is on the verge of recovering its rights. If the depths of our minds conceal strange forces capable of augmenting or conquering those on the surface, it is in our greatest interest to capture them...

...The mind of the dreaming man is fully satisfied with whatever happens to it. The agonizing question of possibility does not arise. Kill, plunder more quickly, love as much as you wish. And if you die, are you not sure of being roused from the dead? Let yourself be led. Events will not tolerate deferment. You have no name. Everything is inestimably easy...

...When the time comes...when by methods yet to be determined we succeed in realizing the dream in its entirety...when the dream's curve is developed with an unequalled breadth and regularity, then we can hope that mysteries which are not really mysteries will give way to the great Mystery. I believe in the future resolution of these two states - outwardly so contradictory - which are dream and reality, into a sort of absolute reality, a surreality, so to speak. I am aiming for its conquest, certain that I myself shall not attain it, but too indifferent to my death not to calculate the joys of such possession...

**SURREALISM** [is] pure psychic automatism by which it is intended to express, either verbally or in writing, the true function of thought. Thought dictated in the absence of all control exerted by reason, and outside all aesthetic or moral preoccupations.

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Adapted from Patrick Waldberg, *Surrealism* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1971), pp. 66-75.