

# A Rose Is a Rose Is a Rose—and A Red Is a Red Is a Red

You'll meet, methinks, a lot of Pinks  
Whose statements are dogmatic  
That Communists are Liberals  
And really Democratic;  
But when you hear that type of tripe  
Keep this fact in your nut  
—That Communists are Communists  
And nothing  
else  
but!

The starry-eyed kind souls who tried  
To labor and to plan  
With Stalin's party-liners for  
"The Betterment of Man"  
Have had their trust stamped in the dust  
While prison doors banged shut,  
For Communists are Communists  
And nothing  
else  
but!

In Occident and Orient  
When war is cold or hot,  
On any ground where Reds are found  
Marx always marks the spot;  
And folks who thrill with good will  
End up with gullets cut;  
For Communists are Communists  
And nothing  
else  
but!

So, here's your cue—whatever hue  
They take, be not misled  
Scratch and you'll find beneath the rind  
The Reds are always red;  
In every land where people planned  
To "reason" with this ruthless band  
Their liberties went "phut"  
For Communists are Communists  
And Communists are Communists  
And Communists are Communists  
And *nothing*  
else  
but!

—Berton Braley  
(1882 - 1966)

**PATHFINDER**

December 27, 1947: p. 42

