THE WESTERN CLARION

Published in the Interests of the Working Class Alone.

Library, Legislative Assembly
DEC 11 1905
VICTORIA, B. C.

THIS IS NUMBER **350.** VANCOUVER, B. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1905. Subscription Price PER YEAR **$1.00**

NEW WEAPON OF REVOLUTION

e Mass Strike Used With Paralyzing Effect by the Russian Workmen Against The Autocracy.

The press and political authorities f Europe are slowly awakening to he fact that a new weapon of re- olutionary warfare has recently een brought into play; a weapon orged by the genius of Italian, Ger- n and French thinkers. The sec- nd-named nation has given it a ame—the Massenstreik, the strike f masse, universal. This blood- ss weapon, according to journalis- c opinion, has played a greater role recent political upheavals than he rapid-firing guns of Togo's ships n the battle of the Sea of Japan. hat precipitated matters in the ustro-Hungarian tangle, in Russian olish, and Finnish revolutionary ovements? The Massenstreik—the rike universal, which paralyzed the fe of the countries concerned. Such the general testimony of the for- gn newspapers. They declare that strike, which was once merely an conomic movement in support of a laim for higher wages, is now be- g resorted to in support of a claim r liberty and an enlarged suffrage. Though never before utilized with ch amazing results, this method winning a political victory has ng been taught and prescribed by ocialist agitators; and at the great ocialist gathering at Jena some eeks ago August Bebel, as reported his own journal, Vorwaerts (Ber- n), advocated the principle of gen- al strikes as a means of influencing arliament and gaining an exten- ion of the suffrage, and he support- d the resolution which declared at "the stopping of work by the asses" was an "effective method" gaining the political privileges med at. In the Neue Zeit (Stutt- art) the German Socialist weekly, aul Lensch advocated the political rike for two reasons, the first of hich is thus stated:

"The foundation of stability in uropean political affairs has so far in in the preponderating influence Russia all over the continent. ince she has been dethroned by Ja- an's victory, the whole existing po- itical system of Europe has collaps- d like a house of cards. The poli- ical forces in Europe are to be con- olidated under new combinations, nd this movement appears in the ew treaty groupings, and contin- ous rumors of coming war. France declared to be on the eve of war ith Germany, and England is fol- owing her example; next, the en- nte between France and England to be developed into a defensive nd offensive treaty; such a treaty soon to unite Germany and Rus- a—and so forth. In any case the orking class find themselves in a ifficult and critical dilemma, and ey must be on their guard lest omething happen in this crisis hich may turn out to be a menace o their vital interest.

"It will occur to everyone that in his new political situation some ew weapon of defense must be found and it is quite correct to suppose hat this new weapon will be that of he universal strike."

He continues to show that this toppage of labor is the only just nd peaceful method for obtaining he extension of the auffrage.

A very striking illustration of the ruth of this axiom is seen in the esult of the Russian strikes. Of his movement the Westminster Ga- ette (London), says:

"A hundred years ago the pike and uillotine were the instruments of he revolutionary; today he chooses he universal strike. And since of ll the strikes there is none that is o immediately paralyzing as that hich stops work on the railways, he Russian insurgent begins with hat."

The Czar was brought to terms by his strike as Pharaoh, tyrant of Egypt, came to terms at the wave f the prophet's rod. The new and ample manifesto of Nicholas II., as ublished in all the European papers atisfied the Revolutionary Commit- ee, according to the Petit Parisien, o that they "decided to suspend the olitical strike for thirty days, in rder to organize an armed rising n case the Government, after the nd of that period, should fail to eep its pledges, including the pro- ise of amnesty to political prison- rs."

The Guardian, (London) comments as follows on Russia's great politi- cal labor movement:

"It has really been no more than a strike, but a strike which involves every industry and almost every class in a country is now seen to be a far more powerful weapon than the ordinary rising against constituted authority. In Russia such a rising would have been hopeless unless the army could have been brought over —you can not fight a military autoc- racy without arms and ammunition, and in the Empire of the Czar such commodities are as hard to come by as personal freedom. . . . Happily, at the eleventh hour, the Emperor Nicholas, who had remained imper- vious to statesmanlike ideas while he might have acted with a good grace, has been compelled in sheer desperation and in the hope of sav- ing his throne, to capitulate, and to grant the most important and the most elementary demands of his peo- ple."

Another victory won by this new weapon of popular freedom, to quote from the German weekly cited above, has been the emancipation of Fin- land, which is a Russian province, of which the Czar is Grand Duke, and which groans under the yoke of Russia. According to the Action, (Paris) the strike has been general, and order has been kept by a volun- tary militia, formed of students and workmen. At last capitulation came, as is thus related by the Pa- risian journal:

"The Governor of Finland, Prince Obolensky, and the Senate have offi- cially abdicated, and surrendered all power in the presence of the whole population of Helsingfors in the pub- lic square. The Russian flag has been superseded by the Finnish na- tional standard."

Another great strike is at present prevailing in Poland, but according to the Government documents issued by Witte with regard to the Polish agitation for universal suffrage and other political privileges, Poland is not to be put on the same footing as Finland, nor for the present to be included in the last manifesto of the Czar. Poland's strike in War- saw, according to the Temps (Par- is), has been accompanied by bomb- throwings and massacres by the sol- diery, whom Witte has been vainly importuned to withdraw. In Witte's manifesto to the Poles he says:

"Rejecting the idea of co-opera- tion with Witte and the Russian peo- ple in the douma, they (the Polish politicians) are demanding in a ser- ies of revolutionary meetings com- plete autonomy for Poland, with a special constitutional Diet, thereby aiming at the restoration of the Kingdom of Poland. Two political groups, Socialists and Nationalists, who are opposed to each other, are united in this aspiration, which is supported by many writers, public- ists, and popular orators, who carry the people with them.

"In different districts of the Vistu- la there have been numerous proces- sions with Polish flags, singing Po- lish revolutionary songs. At the same time the Poles have begun ar- bitrarily to exclude the State lan- guage even from Government institu- tions, where its employment is pro- vided for by law. In certain locali- ties bands of workmen and peasants have been pillaging schools, State spirit shops, and communal build- ings, destroying all correspondence in the Russian language that they found. . . .

"Representatives of local authori- ty have, in defense of order and pub- lic safety, been watering the earth for a year past with their blood, falling victims to political crimes. The reasonable part of Polish socie- ty is impotent against the pressure of revolutionary organizations.

"The Government will not tolerate attacks on the integrity of the Em- pire. The plans and acts of the in- surrectionaries force it to declare in a decisive manner that as long as the troubles in the Vistula districts continue, and as long as that part of the population which adheres to political agitators continues its pres- ent sway over the country, these dis- tricts will receive none of the bene- fits resulting from the manifestos of August 18 and October 30, 1905." —Translations made for The Literary Digest.

It is reported that the Pope is shocked at the discovery that some of the American Bishops "had sur- rounded themselves with more lux- uries than even the Pope himself was entitled to." The good old chap should take into consideration how hard the Bishops work and what use- ful animals they are withal. Surely the laborer is worthy of his hire."

o

Complaint is made that American manufacturers are forcing inferior goods on foreign markets, and a Washington correspondent of the Chi- cago Record-Herald suggests that the United States consular service be used to protest foreign customers against the imposition. This is an excellent suggestion. Only first-class goods should be shipped abroad. Shoddy and inferior trash should be sold at home.

o

Chauncey M. Depew, senator from New York if you please, confesses to the insurance investigating committee that he doesn't know much about insurance anyway. Still he drew down $20,000 a year for looking af- ter the business of one of the big New York swindles in that line. The question that naturally arises is this. If, under such circumstances, the services of Chauncey M. were worth $20,000 per annum, what would the services of a man be worth who knows as much about in- surance as we know about this old bunco-steerer and humbug in the light of recent developments?

Glass workers in the United States had a most excellent reason for de- voutly observing "Thanksgiving Day." They just had their wages cut 25 per cent a few days before.

o

At least 10 miners killed in the Diamondville coal mine disaster; 3 killed and a large number injured in a furnace explosion at the Interna- tional Harvester Works; several seri- ously injured in the collapse of the roof of the Charing Cross station, and 7 coal miners suffocated in a West Virginia mine, is but a part of the list of casualties in the indus- trial field. The "risks of capital" are something fearful to contemplate.

o

The Granby mine at Phoenix de- clares a dividend of over half a mil- lion dollars, which is said to be the largest ever paid by any mining company in British Columbia. If the Phoenix miners will first ascer- tain the number of employees of the Granby company, and then do a lit- tle figuring, they may be able to de- termine the price they pay per man this year for the beneficent pater- nalism of capitalist property in the means whereby they live. There are, however, many among the Phoenix miners who understand the mechan- ism and workings of capital suffi- ciently well to know that the half- million represents the unpaid toil of the Granby employees. That it is, in other words, the proceeds of robbery; a robbery that will contin- ue so long as labor remains in eco- nomic bondage to capital.

PROHIBITION FAILS TO REMEDY

Evils Of The Liquor Traffic Must Continue So Long As There Is Profit To Be Made Out of It.

The drink traffic is subject to at- tack all the time by various organi- zations and from time to time an extra vigorous crusade is instituted against it. Judging from the press reports an extra effort is being put forth at the present time and var- ious individuals are engaged in ex- ploiting their particular nostrums from prohibition to a lessening of the number of licenses issued.

That the drink traffic has its evil side no one will deny but that it is wholly evil is a belief held by pro- hibitionists only. These good peo- ple would, if they could, prevent all from indulging in alcoholic bever- ages because some drink too much. The drinking too much is the evil of the traffic and if this could be abol lished there would be no very ser- ious objection to the man of moder- ation looking upon the whiskey when it is yellow in the cup. To deprive the whole community of what a great majority contend is a necessary of life, because a minority abuses it ap- pears rather a drastic remedy and experience so far, has proved it unpracticable.

The present crusade in Winnipeg is devoted to the reduction of licenses in the city, thus, of course, increas- ing the takings of the fortunate in- dividuals left undisturbed and caus- ing the owners of the premises much rejoicing in the increased value of their property, but this fact is ap- parently overlooked.

Temperance reformers are never tired of pointing out the enormous sum spent in drink and how much more comfortable the working class would be if its members never drank. They point out the "sober" man as an example of how abstinence from drink adds to the material comfort of the abstainer.

The temperance reformers either do not see or are wilfully blind to the fact that if all workers were sober the money no longer spent in drink would never reach the workers' pock- et but remain in his employer's. So long as workingmen are united in considering liquor a necessary part of their subsistence so long must their wages cover the cost of this and so long will the man abstaining from liquor reap the advantage over his fellows. If liquor were made unattainable wages would fall be- cause workingmen could live at less cost than before and the competition for jobs would then, as ever, force wages to the cost of living. The "sober" man's advantage would then disappear.

Socialists claim that the most im- portant thing to be done towards abolishing the use of liquor to ex- cess is to eliminate private gain from the selling of liquor. Let the drinking places be municipally own- ed and controlled. The man who would do the selling would have no interest in pushing sales and no drunken men would be served, nor any served after hours. This, how- ever, may possibly savor of social- ism and thus frighten the good tem- perance men of this bourgeois burg. It does not appear to be so much as mentioned.

* * *

In 1890, 15 per cent of the work- ing population of the United States was without employment part of the year, in 1900 the percentage rose to 22 and in 1903 over 49 per cent. was without employment part of the year. These years have been on the whole, years of steadily increasing prosperity for the capitalist class and yet the figures show that the ex- act opposite has been the case with the working class. The cause of the continued displacement of labor by improved machinery and the remedy is the ownership of this machinery by the working class. Thus, and thus only, can the workers reap the benefit of labor-saving devices.

SPARTACUS.

AN UNPROPITIOUS SPLURGE

Vulgar Display of Britain's Pomp and Power Abroad, While Her Workers Starve At Home.

Prince Henry, of Battenburg, com- manding a British squadron, anchor- ed his fleet in Chesapeake Bay, and going across the country in a train, spent the day with President Roose- velt in the White House.

In the war of 1812, a British fleet anchored almost in the same waters and a continental army and navy bri gade expedition went across the country, captured Washington and burned the city.

The only thing that balanced this was the defeat of many of the same troops by Jackson at New Orleans.

But on the day when the prince lunched with the President a strange thing took place in London.

An army of unemployed English men and women marched to the house of Premier Balfour and begged for work.

They told Balfour they were starv- ing. Mothers said their nursing babes at their breasts were starving.

And Balfour, the head of the Eng- lish government, could give the starving no comfort. He was as hopeless as were the starving.

But England has money for battle- ships, for the civil list, for the King and for incomes for the idle rich but is powerless to see to it that there is an opportunity for work for those who are the real producers of the wealth.

Balfour uttered no encouragement, but he warned the starving wretches against socialism as a remedy for their ills.

A government that cannot offer a remedy in a crisis such as confronts the working classes in England is in no condition to warn against any- thing.

The English system of government is the oldest in Europe. In many things it is excellent. But the wis- dom of its rules and Parliament that has run through eight hundred years has not yet reached a solution of one industrial problem.

But not until the common people of France rose over a hundred years ago did the rulers realize their pow- er and begin to appreciate their rights. Until the French revolution, parliaments were mainly concerned in levying taxes for kings, armies, and ships. If the people starved to death they died uncomplainingly or their cries were stifled.

Now it is different. Men refuse to starve without a struggle against the conditions that bring about their hunger.

And England henceforth must give attention to its working classes in- stead of to its navy and save them or be destroyed.

Battenburg's English ships came in an unpropitious time for celebrating an English holiday.—Los Angeles Examiner.

WORKERS ARE OPPOSED TO WAR

The are Discovering that Their Interests Lie Around The Implements of Indus- try and Not The Tools of Murder.

The cause of International peace is being silently fed by various cur- rents that are little noticed by the superficial or even by those who re- ly mainly upon outward appearances and events about which there is much general discussion, as a basis for their conclusions. Three recent happenings will illustrate this fact and help us to understand why men of profound conviction, who view life in the comprehensive manner of broad and deep thinkers, are optim- ists even while in no wise abating their vigorous fight against those things that make for war, corrup- tion, injustice and savagery.

Today the cause of peace is being advanced from two divisions of hu- man activity, one of which has ever before, save perhaps in brief periods of religious awakening, ranged it- self on the side of war. Not only are the wisest, sanest and noblest representatives of conscience-guided intelligence battling for the abate- ment of war and the curse of milit- arism, but the proletariat who have heretofore been the first to respond to the jingo-cries of selfish rulers and demagogues, are today, for the first time in earth's histocy displaying at once the wisdom of enlightened self- interest and regard for the funda- mental ethics of Christianity.

LABOR SERVES NOTICE ON RULING CLASS.

Several months ago, when the par- liament of Norway voted to sever the union which existed between Nor- way and Sweden, the ruling powers of the sister nation immediately re- sorted to threats of violence. The parliament of Sweden talked of lit- tle less than forcing Norway by the might of the military arm to remain in a union hateful to the latter na- tion. Apparently there was little thought on the part of Swedish statesmen of any adjustment other then by an appeal to the arbitra- ment of force. The position taken was precisely such as favors acts which render war inevitable, and in past times under such circumstances the masses have usually been quick to respond to the belligerent sug- gestions of self-seeking statesmen and warriors. On this occassion, how- ever, something happened new in his- tory. The labor unions of Sweden, speaking with unanimity, denounced the talk of war, declaring not only their determination not to shoot down their brothers of Norway, but many unions voted that if the gov- ernment persisted in going to war, a great strike should be called in all departments of industrial activity throughout the realm.

This action, we believe, is the first instance on record where the produc- ing millions of a nation served no- tice on the ruling and parasite class- es that they could not reckon on the industrial army to engage in that form of licensed murder called war. This declaration not only suddenly chilled the ardor of the statesmen, who counted on the workers to be the food for the cannon, but it pro- duced a profound impression all over the Christian world. It is stated that, humiliated and disappointed as was the Emperor William at finding the autocracy of Russia weakened and defeated by England's vigorous ally in the far east, his chagrin and anger at Russia's impotence was less than the alarm and disgust occasion- ed by the talk of Norway's establish- ing a democratic form of government and the new and ominous note that the workers of Sweden struck when organized labor significantly protest- ed against the nation's engaging in an unholy war. He knew that al- ready in his realm over three mil- lion voters were the sworn enemies of miltarism. He knew that the mo- ment the workers the world over came to clearly see the true situa- tion, they would render war impos- sible, for they would not only real- ize that they, the strong arm of the nation, were the food for the cannon and the bulwark for those who in safety reaped glory, honor and wealth from the war, but that the greatest sufferers in war were the hundreds af thousands of widows and orphans of the industrial classes, who are always robbed on every hand of the supporting arm when nations war, and who, after peace is declared, long feel the burden of war through the excessive taxation levied to pay for its expenses.

THE JAURES INCIDENT AND ITS EFFECT.

Another very significant recent in- cident that should afford genuine satisfaction to all friends of inter- national peace was the effect that followed Emperor William's arbitr- ary refusal to allow the illustrious French statesman, M. Jean Jaures, to deliver an address at the Social- ist Congress in Berlin. Great as is the Emperor William's hatred of all cial democracy, and, indeed, of all forms of democracy or aught else in government that exalts the power of the people and tends to curb the au- tocratic sway of the Kaiser, it was not because of Socialism, as was af- terwards shown, that he determined to take so high-handed a course as to prohibit one of the most distin- guished statesmen of a sister nation from speaking in his empire. The Kaiser, it is stated, found out that the burden of M. Jaures' address was to be a plea for international peace. He understood that the powerful stand that the French statesman had so ably taken in his Paris journal as well as in his addresses, in regard to the folly and criminality of war, would form the chief topic of his speech; and knowing the power of the most eloquent orator of Europe and fearing beyond all else the awa- kening of the proletariat to the fact that however much the throne, the ruling classes and the parasites might benefit from war, he refused to permit M. Jaures to address the Berlin public.

But this prohibition outraged the sturdy Germans' innate love of fair play. Men hitherto indifferent to Jaures or his views now became in- terested, and when the Socialist Central committee published the ad- dress in full and scattered it broad- cast, it was read by tens, if not hundreds of thousands of people who would never have heard the address had the statesman come in person to deliver it. And the address was all that the Emperor doubtless fear- ed it would be. It showed the work- ers how their own high interests, no less than the weal of civilization, de- manded international peace. It plead- ed with the wealth-creators of all lands to unite in an international federation, pledged to peace and am- ity—a federation which, when strong enough, will render war no longer probable, if not impossible, and in so doing will destroy the burden of militarism. The following extracts from Jaures' address will give the reader the keynote of the speech the Kaiser feared to have the Germans hear:

"War, like the exploitation of lab- or, is just a form of capitalism, and the prevention of wars between na- tions, and the prevention of war be- tween capital and labor in each na- tion, are associated tasks. The ex- ecution of these tasks means a gi- gantic educational effort, a hopeful effort.

"Our horror of war does not pro- ceed from weak sentimentalism, from enervation. We are as ready as oth- ers to accept the inevitable evils of the human lot.

"But in Europe of today liberty and justice are no longer to be ach- ieved through bloodshed; the griev- ances of a people are no longer to be redressed in that way, but through an international unity—which, how- ever, leaves each nation as unfetter- ed in its specific relations as indivi- duals are in their respective com- munities."—The Arena.

THE SUCCESSFUL STRIKE.

The political strike is a force that it would seem is almost beyond the power of the people of the more pro- gressive nations to invoke. While the European reformers have in the past few years been debating and confer- encing on the possibility or utility of a political or universal strike, the leaders in Russia have been other wise busy; they have been preparing for it. It has been accomplished; it has been successful. The false sys- tem of centuries' growth has been revolutionized. The strike was suc- cessful and peaceful; bloodshed and violence had to be initiated and in- voked by the tottering system. If the mistake not a real step in world's progress has been made in Russia, and it has been demonstrat- ed that the force behind the mere act of a general quittal of work is the most effective that has yet been wielded by the people.—Winnipeg Voice.

It is alleged that the sum of $1,- 800,000 was expended by the Repub- lican National Committee in 1904, to elect Roosevelt and Fairbanks. About 6000 contributors to the fund were unknown to the chairman of the committee. The Republican program is cut especially to con- serve the interests of the working people and it should be especially gratifying to the "mules" to know that they have such friends to look out for their welfare and so gener- ously and disinterestedly provide the cash to secure it.

o

That Polish workingmen no longer tamely submit to being clubbed or killed by the Czar's police is evi- dent from the following poster which recently appeared in the suburbs of Warsaw. "Taught by sad experi- ence, the police promise not to dis- turb workers' meetings wherever such take place, if the workers on their part promise not to attack the po- lice or make attempts on their lives."

It would appear from the follow- ing clipped from "Hikara, the new central organ of Japanese Socialists, that the demonstration in Tokio in September last had other reasons than that given by the capitalist pa- pers at the time. "The Hikara," (The Light), is the new paper of the Tokyo Socialists in place of "Cho- kugen," which was suppressed at the time of the demonstrations referred to.

"There was a great demonstration of people in Tokyo at the beginning of September last. Its true cause, neither being the discontent of the people over the terms of peace, as it was said to be by the shallow journalistic observers, nor being mo- mentary excitement caused by the jingoistic papers as it was said to be by crafty government, but was an outburst of the great discontent our proletariat felt against the ruling class; though it may be it was mani- fested half unconsciously.

"Martial law was then promulgat- ed. Publication of several papers was suspended one after another, of which the "Chokugen," the sole or- gan of Japanese Socialists, was most severely punished, being still under the ban.

"The 'Heiminsha,'" the publishing office of the "Chokugen" and the cen- tre of the socialist movement in Ja- pan, was compelled to dissolve it- self as an effect of the severe oppres- sion.

"So the socialist movement in Ja- pan will take a new course hereafter, though we do not know, nor can say how it will be directed or what move ment will be taken."

o

The class struggle between the capitalist class and the working- class is a struggle for control of the means of wealth production. As ow- nership, and therefore control, is de- termined by the organized powers of the State, the struggle becomes a political struggle, with the public powers as the immediate stake at issue. The capitalists are using ev- ery means in their power to fortify themselves in possession,, while the workers are marshalling their forces for the purpose of seizing possession in behalf of their own economic class. With the conquest of the powers of the State, the working- class will become master of the means of production. To the master of the means of production belongs the pro- duct of labor. Henceforth, labor will be free, because, master of its means of living, it will be no ,ong- er exploited or robbed of its pro- duct. With the conquest of the pub- lic powers by the working-class, the class struggle will end. Government the instrument of repression, will be- come obsolete because no longer nec- essary. "The State will die out."

The Western Clarion

Published every Saturday in the interests of the working class alone at the Office of the Western Clarion, Flack Block basement, 165 Hastings Street, Vancouver, B. C.

SUBSCRIPTION: $1.00 PER ANNUM

Strictly in Advance.

Yearly subscription cards in lots of five or more, 75 cents each.

Advertising rates on application.

If you receive this paper, it is paid for.

Address all communications to

The WESTERN CLARION
Box 836,
Vancouver, B. C.

351 Watch the label on your paper If this number is on it, your subscription expires next issue.

SATURDAY, DEC. 9, 1905.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

It is pleasing to record that evidence comes to the Clarion office each day showing the ideas of revolutionary socialism to be widespread throughout British Columbia. From remote and widely separated parts of the province come words of cheer from comrades hitherto unknown, showing the leaven to be working in a manner to assure a political uuheaval in the not distant future, portentous of stupenduous change in the economic aspect of things.

Comrade Harry Sibble, who is representing the Clarion in the upper country reports that in his travels from Vancouver to Revelstoke and thence to the Okanagan, he finds the doctrines of Socialism meet with ready response, and the revolutionary movement of the proletariat to be the topic of the hour.

Comrade A. J. Arnason, who has just reached Vancouver from a trip on the island as far north as Comberland and Courtenay, makes a similar report, and declares that the workers in the Coal Camps are rapidly nearing the point of being ripe and ready for the overthrow of the present system of property, the exacting exploitation of which they are beginning to understand.

One pleasing feature of it all, is that the straightforward uncompromisingly revolutionary movement alone commands attention. Its doctrine alone is capable of appealing to the class in human society upon whose backs are borne the burden of civilization—the working class. The childish and futile palliatives of patchwork and reform, arouse no interest. The occupation of the "opportunist" seems to be gone.

This is as it should be. The present system of property based upon the utilization of the means of production as capital, or in simpler language as a means of robbing labor of its products, renders unto the workers as a class, all that it can possibly give them. That is the market-price of their labor-power, in quantity to the extent of the amount that may be profitably utilized in production. That the market price of labor-power, (wages) is forced down to the lowest notch by the huge surplus of it continually in the market, is self-evident. Gradually, the workers are beginning to see and to feel this. They are beginning to know that their conditions as wealth producers can be neither appreciably nor permanently bettered by anything short of the abolition of capital and its wage-system. The economic pressure, continually on the increase, is forcing them to turn instinctively in the direction of deliverance and making them peculiarly receptive to the propaganda of emancipation.

Forward with the work of spreading the propaganda of the revolution so that the next provincial election may crystallize into action a political expression of the proletariat of sufficient magnitude to invade the legislature with a representation of sufficient strength to ward off all future attacks of capitalist legislative pirates.

AN ANNUAL DELIVERY.

Strenuous Roosevelt has been delivered of a message, and the same has been turned over to the Congress for post-natal purposes. It is really a remarkable production, that is, it is remarkable for its vacuity. Of course, it proclaims general and wide-spread "prosperity," which every one who reads even the lying capitalist press knows to be not true.

It contains a fierce attack upon corporations, so fierce in fact that it is enough to make that soulless creation fairly guffaw. As a sample of the fierceness the following is offered:

"In order to insure a healthy social and industrial life every big corportaion should be held responsible by and accountable to some sovereign strong enough to control its conduct."

Surely, no red-handed anarchist could desire anything fiercer than that. And then, as if there could be any "healthy social and industrial life," under the present system of property with its wholesale robbery of the working class. And yet again, the strenuous person should have located the sovereign "strong enough," etc., so that the guileless voting mule might have captured him for the occasion at the next election. While the message vaguely hints at the federal government as the sovereign, this must have been intended as a joke for anyone at all well-posted knows that the corporations are the government.

The recommendation that steps be taken to prevent railways charging "unjust and unreasonable rates" should meet with the hearty approval of every workingman, as it is well known that the average wage-slave is a heavy shipper of freight as well as a great traveller.

The Department of Commerce and Labor is advised to make an investigation into the employment of women and children in industry, as "there is need of a full knowledge on which to base action looking toward State and municipal legislation for the protection of working women." The introduction of women into industry is working change and disturbance in the domestic and social life of the nation. The decrease in marriage and especially in the birth-rate has been coincident with it." All of which, somehow seems to conflict with that "general prosperity" assertion, though presumably it is an apparent confliction only.

The suggestion that steps be taken to regulate the conduct of heads of insurance companies should be frowned down by every workingman. From information that has recently leaked out, it seems that a job as president of an insurance company is even better than working in a brewery, and as the opportunity to rise to such a position is open to every one, the wage-slave should offer emphatic objection to any action on the part of government that might tend to prevent him drawing the full scale as set by the insurance presidents' union, once he got there.

Something in connection with this insurance business seems to have awakened Theodore to the necessity of arousing the "public conscience," whatever that may be, for he declares that, "the only complete remedy for this condition must be found in an aroused public conscience a higher ethical conduct in the community at large, and especially among business men and in the great profession of the law." It will at least, be a comfort to those who have been suspicious of business men to know that the great Roosevelt entertains similar suspicion.

Corruption in elections is deprecated. This seems quite apropos in view of the fact that the Republican National Committee only expended $1,800,000 in electing the "strenuous" one last year.

The precious document ends with a modest lot of typical drivel about the "Monroe Doctrine." Immigration Niagara Falls, etc., Take it all around, and it is about the most pitiful production in that line of nonsense that ever happened.

The President's annual message to congress is a sort of first cousin to the "speech from the throne," with which the people of bargain counter monarchies are wont to regale themselves at periodic intervals. About the chief feature of either is that it affords a faithful mirror in which is reflected the mental vacuity of that particular faction of the ruling class that happens for the moment to be in the saddle. That the recent Roosevelt production in this line is about one of the weakest ever brought forth is no accident. The more complete becomes the development of capitalist industry the more helpless become its spokesmen and defenders in dealing with the problems that arise in consequence of it. In its earlier days capitalism, with its mission still unattained, produced men of action, able men, statesmen, who, with their work cut out for them by the industrial development still to be achieved, arose to the occasion in a way that distinctly marked them as the exponents of a social and industrial order that had not yet reached the zenith of its powers and its possibilities.

But Capitalism has practically achieved its mission. The problem of production has been solved. In obedience to the mandate of the all powerful machinery of production, the wide-spread ramification of its operations and the disposal of its products, the great combination of capital known as the corporation has sprung into existence. By virtue of its ownership of the machinery of industry the corporation becomes sole arbiter of the social and industrial forces. It becomes the sovereign, and all social and industrial institutions become its instruments, chief among which is the institution of government itself. The corporate massing of capital into gigantic holdings has already been well-nigh completed. The production and distribution or iron and steel, oil, sugar, meats, flour, cotton, wool, and many other staples, as well as the transportation lines, are now controlled by a mere handful of capitalists through a limited number of corporations.

Capital has conquered the earth. Its piratical banners float over the people of all lands. There are no new worlds to conquer. It can neither control the industrial power it has conjured forth, nor convert the wealth under its hand to the purpose of human progress, and the uplift of the race to higher and nobler planes of civilization. Capitalism is entering its dotage. Its spokesmen, upholders and apologists aee impotent to deal with the problem of what to do with the economic power of which it poses as the master. It has no further mission to perform. Like a man who has passed the zenith of his powers it is now doddering through second childhood to its grave. The one-time ringing words of its Paine, Henry, Adams, Jefferson, Jackson, Clay, Webster and Lincoln, have degenerated into the senile babblings of Depew, Cockran, Bryan, Cleveland, Lodge, Beveridge, and a host of lesser nonentities, and the vigorous presidential message of years gone by into this latest vacuous production of Roosevelt's.

A CALL TO ACTION.

A movement has been set on foot by San Francisco comrades to have the International Socialist Bureau call upon the Socialists of all countries to set aside Jan. 22, 1906, the first anniversary of the massacre of the St. Petersburg petitioners, as a day of international demonstration in aid of the Russian revolution. This movement commends itself to every Socialist and should meet with the approval and support of every class-conscious worker. The bonds of class-solidarity that are to bind the workers of all lands into Freedom's conquering host are being rapidly forged during these glorious days and no more convincing proof of the fact could be given to the ruling class than by the workers laying down their tools upon the coming Jan. 22, in memory of their brothers murdered by the Russian autocracy upon that "Bloody Sunday," and as an expression of sympathy with and aid to our heroic fellows who are so nobly waging warfare against the tyranny of centuries. Let that day be not forgotten by the international proletariat; let the message of fraternal greeting be sent the struggling Russian workmen from all countries; and what is still more to the point let the day be devoted to the raising of funds to provide them with arms in their "defence to bear."

The Clarion sincerely hopes to see this call to demonstration meet with such hearty response upon this western continent as to show to the world that in the rapidly approaching day when accounts shall be balances between the economic slave and his master, our own bargain counter ruling class is not to be left out of the reckoning.

Should Isis, who, in the olden days when Ancient Egypt was still in her childhood, had taught the people how to make bread, ever come back to earth she would be amazed and astounded at the progress which has been made in her domestic art. In a report on the invention of a new bread-making machine which converts wheat into bread without the aid of a hand, Consul Liefeld, at Freiburg, Baden, says that if the invention continues to duplicate its alleged success on a large scale, it will undoubtedly effect a great revolution in the bread-making industry. He reports that a large milling bakery, with a capacity of 300,000 pounds a day made by this machine, is now under construction in London, and it is claimed that it will reduce the price of bread from ten cents a loaf to six cents.

As London alone consumes 6,000,000 pounds of bread a day, the invention may effect a daily saving of $60,831.25, or over $21,899,250 per annum to the people of London alone. The machine greatly simplifies the process of bread-making. At present the miller grinds his wheat perhaps as many as 15 times to obtain the best flour. By the new method the wheat is ground only once. This grinding gives three products—flour, middlings and bran. The foremost is conducted to the bin, the bran is mechanically carried and automatically weighed in sacks, while the middlings pass into tepid water, by which all the floury part is washed out. This water, impregnated with nutritive material, flows into the kneading pan, by which the dough is automatically produced. The dough is left to rise for one and a half or two hours, is then shaped into loaves, and forty minutes later the hot bread is ready to be delivered. It is claimed that this process produces perfectly sweet white bread from English wheat alone. It is a well-known fact that bakers will not venture to make bread from English flour unless mixed with the best foreign flour. And thus a large saving is made by the system.—Machinists' Journal.

If there be anything well calculated to make the heart glad it is a device of any sort that will tend to lessen the burden inflicted upon the consumer by being forced to pay ten cents for his loaf. This beneficient invention that is to save four cents upon the loaf should be hailed as a veritable heaven sent blessing. If the figures representing the possible saving in London alone be correct, and the invention be generally applied, what a glorious vista of possibility is opened up before the long-suffering consumer, who has been so ruthlessly robbed in the purchase of bread. Of course, the saving hinted at above will arise from the fact that under the new process less labor will be required in the bread-making industry than formerly. Bread being cheapened by more than one-thied will lessen the cost of production of labor-power and the pressure of the surplus labor in the market will force the wage down in corresponding ratio. The only consumer that will in the long run benefit by the reduction, is the parasite who lives upon profit drawn from the sweat of other men's brows. The bread-makers displaced by the new method and hurled into the vortex of the unemployed, the denizens of which live chiefly on wind, may solace themselves with the comforting reflection that they are no longer robbed either as producers or consumers.

What is a Capitalist?
A parasite.
What work does he do?
None that could be mentioned in polite society.
What is Capitalism?
A skin-game played on the working people.
What does the worker worship?
A job; the process by which he delivers his hide to the Capitalist.
What blessing does he receive in return?
The privilege of gnawing his own bones, which is termed wages.
What is a salary?
Bones with a little fat on them.
What is a Politician?
A capper for the skin-game; a hot-air pump that makes the worker believe himself prosperous even with **but a small bone to gnaw, and fat,** though his belt be buckled in the last hole and his ribs sun-bleached.
What is a sky-pilot?
Another capper; a dispenser of heavenly soporifics to workers, and conscience soothing plasters to capitalists, which has the happy double **effect of making** the worker content with his bones, by showing him how it is easier for a rich man to enter the torrid zone than for a needle to **go through a camel's eye,** and of developing **callouses** upon the capitalists brains that appear to have come from packing the load of responsibility placed in his hands by the ruler of the universe.
What is an Injunction?
A swat on the solar plexus of the worker who becomes affiliated with a horrible disease called hankering after meat on his bones, for the purpose of preventing the spread of the contagion among his fellow bone-gnawers, who are still healthy, sane and docile.
Why is the American workingman called a sovereign?
Because, having a noose, (franchise) with which he might strangle the capitalist class to whom he is compelled to surrender his hide, he has no better sense than to use it to shut off his own wind.

It is reported that nearly 100,000 employees of German textile mills and electrical plants are locked out because they have asked for higher wages. The punishment is indeed, light for such a heinous offence.

The British ministry has resigned, and a bunch of Liberal old women of doubtful sex are hieing to toe parliament house upon the wings of anticipation. The daily papers humorously refer to the ridiculous affair as a "political crisis," and to the aforesaid old women as "statesmen."

Labor produces all wealth and to the laborers it should properly belong. It is needless to remark that it never will belong to them so long as their capitalist masters are left in control of the means—production.

In Maryland a proposed amendment to the constitution having for its purpose the disfranchisement of the working class, was defeated at the recent election by a majority of 28,000. From this it would appear that the Maryland worker is at least up to the average of working class intelligence if not a little above it.

Witte's fall is said to be imminent and the reactionary forces are clamoring for repression and a dictator. It is a wonder they never thought of repression before. Oh, by the way, what is that which has been practiced by the Russian government for centuries! Perchance it would be termed moral suasion.

President Howard, of the Western Fuel Company, of Nanaimo, is to give each "married, or head of household employee" a Christmas turkey. The last time the company fed its employees it was ox, now it has dwindled to turkey. It is rumored that Howard put off making it goose until the next time for fear the presence of that particular fowl might be too suggestive at present.

Five yearly sub. cards, $3.75.

Socialist Directory

☞ Every Local of the Socialist Party of Canada should run a card under this head. $1.00 per month. Secretaries please note.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA. Headquarters, Vancouver, B. C. Dominion Executive Committee, A. R. Stebbings, John E. Dubberley, Ernest Burns, C. Peters, Alf. Leah, A. J. Wilkinson, treasurer; J. G. Morgan, secretary, 551 Barnard St., Vancouver, B. C.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, NO. 1, S.P. of Canada. Business meetings every Monday evening at headquarters, Ingleside Block, 313 Cambie Street, (room 1, second floor.) Educational meetings every Sunday at 8 o'clock p.m., in Sullivan Hall, Cordova Street.
D. P. MILLS, Secretary. Box 836, Vancouver B. C.

LOCAL TORONTO — Meets 2nd and and 4th Tuesdays, Temperance Hall Bathurst St. F. Dale, Secretary, 41 Henry street, W. G. Gribble, organizer, 130 Hogarth Ave.

WANTED: by Chicago wholesale house, special representative for each province in Canada. Salary $20,00 and expenses paid weekly. Expense money advanced. Business successful; position permanent. No investment required. Previous experience not essential to engaging. Address
General Manager, 132 Lake St. Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

SUBSCRIBERS TAKE NOTICE.

This issue is No. 350. If this is the number upon your address slip, your subscription expires with this number. If further copies are desired, renewal should be made at once If care is taken to renew before the expiration of the old subscriptions it will greatly simplify matters in the office as well as avoid any break in receipt of papers.

THE WESTERN CLARION.
Box 836,
Vancouver B. C.

LEE & MORGAN

Sanitary Experts. Plumbing in all its branches. Estimates furnished. Repairs, stove connections, etc.

CHARGES REASONABLE

980 WESTMINSTER AVE., Corner of Prior.

PATENTS PROMPTLY SECURED

We solicit the business of Manufacturers, Engineers and others who realize the advisability of having their Patent business transacted by Experts. Preliminary advice free. Charges moderate. Our Inventor's Advisor sent upon request. Marion & Marion, New York Life Bldg, Montreal; and Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Union Directory

When They Meet; Where They Meet.

☞ Every Labor Union in the province is invited to place a card under this head. $1.00 per month. Secretaries please note.

Phoenix Trades and Labor Council. Meets every alternate Monday. President, M. J. Gillis; Vice-President, N. Lenieux; Sergeant-at-Arms, T. B. Cosgrove; Secretary-Treasurer, Webster Rogers. P. O. Box, 198, Phoenix, B. C.

Phoenix Miners' Union, No. 6, W. F. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Miners' hall. Francis Knott, president, Archie F. Berry, secretary.

ESTABLISHED 1894
The VOICE
The Oldest Labor Paper in Canada

Always a fearless exponent in the cause of labor.

For one dollar the paper will be sent to any address for one year.

Workingmen of all countries will soon recognize the fact that they must support and read their labor papers.

Issued every Friday.

The Voice Pulishing Co., Limited
WINNIPEG, MAN.

J. EDWARD BIRD, A. C. BRYDON-JACK, GEO. E. MCCROSSAN.
BIRD, BRYDON-JACK & McCROSSAN
BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.
Tel. 829. P.O. Box 932.
324 Hastings Street - Vancouver, B. C.

—THE—
Miners' Magazine
Published Weekly by the
Western Federation Of Miners
A Vigorous Advocate of Labor's Cause.
Clear-Cut and Aggressive.
Per Year $1.00. Six Months, 50c.
Address:
MINERS' MAGAZINE,
Denver, Colorado.

C. PETERS Practical Boot and Shoe Maker
Hand-Made Boots and Shoes to order in all styles. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Stock of staple ready-made Shoes always on hand.
2456 Westminster Ave. Mount Pleasant.

WAGE-LABOR AND CAPITAL
By KARL MARX.
Single copies 5 cents. 6 copies 25 cents. 15 copies, 50 cents. 40 copies $1.00. 100 copies and over 2 cents per copy.
These rates include postage to any part of Canada or the United States.

—Printed in the Office of—
THE WESTEN CLAION
165 Hastings Street
Box 836 Vancouver, B. C.
Per year, $1 00. Six months, 50 cents. Strictly in advance.
Bundles of 25 or more 1 cent per copy.

The Western Clarion is an uncompromising advocate of the revolutionary aspirations of the working class in the abolition of capitalist property and its complement, the wage system.

TAKE YOUR HAT TO THE
HAT HOSPITAL
155 Cordova Street
And have it rejuvenated with new life. Old Hats Cleaned, Pressed and Made as Good as New by expert workmen and at moderate cost.
Elijah Leard.
THE MODERN HAT RESTORER.

SMOKE "KURTZ'S OWN" OR "KURTZ'S PIONEERS" OR SPANISH BLOSSOMS" BEST IN B.C. CIGARS

United Hatters of North America

THE UNITED HATTERS OF NORTH AMERICA — UNION MADE — REGISTERED

When you are buying a FUR HAT see to it that the Genuine Union Label is sewed in it. If a retailer has loose labels in his possession and offers to put one in a hat for you, do not patronize him. Loose labels in retail stores are counterfeits. The genuine Union Label is perforated on four edges, exactly the same as a postage stamp. Counterfeits are sometimes perforated on three edges, and some times only on two. John B. Stetson Co., of Philadelphia is a non-union concern.

JOHN A. MOFFITT, President, Orange, N. J.
MARTIN LAWLOR, Secretary, 11 Waverly Place New York.

Socialist Party of Canada

DOMINION EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS.

J. G. MORGAN, Secretary, Vancouver, B. C.

VANCOUVER LOCAL NO. 1.

The regular business meeting of the above local was held at the headquarters on Monday evening, December 4, Comrade Leah presiding.

After the adoption of the previous minutes and the reading of communications from Com. Burris, of Seattle, The Victoria Local and the Provincial Executive, warrants were authorized for the following amounts:

Rent	$ 3.50
Literature	10.00
Total	$13.50

A vote of recognition was passed, acknowledging favors from Mr. Dobbin, who presented the local with a coal-box, and coal for the use of the headquarters, and also a Victoria comrade, who sent us a neatly painted headquarters' sign.

Comrades Mrs. Burns, Waley, and the Secretary, were appointed a committee to devise ways and means of liquidating the financial obligations of this local.

The financial report showed receipts of $5.50.

The matter of the communications from the Provincial Executive, and Victoria Local, respectively, both of which relates to the matter of the Provincial convention, was after some discussion referred to a special meeting to be held on the 10th inst. at 3 p.m., it being the general opinion that the regular meeting on the 11th will be too much taken up with the matter of the nomination of candidates in the municipal elections.

All comrades are requested to accept this as final notice for both meetings.

D. P. MILLS, Sec.

Vancouver, Dec. 6, 1905.

THE MEXICAN METHOD OF CONCESSIONS

An interesting letter signed by Mr. W. H. Kelly, appeared in a recent issue of the Nanaimo Free Press. As a matter of public instruction the information which this letter contains is worthy of the notice of a larger field of readers than it is likely to attract in a local daily. By way of introduction, I may say that Mr. Kelly has at all times been a member of Mr. Smith's campaign committee, changing his political complexion from independent labor to labor, from labor to labor liberal, and from labor liberal to liberal in the most beautiful unison with Mr. Smith's own slide.

Mr. Kelly says:

"Three years ago Harry Fargher told me that "a good thing" was going to waste in Nanaimo, and asked me, on behalf of himself and friends, (all fishermen) to apply for a ten years' lease of the foreshore near Nanaimo.

"Ten year leases were common things at that time, so I applied in the usual way through Mr. Sword. My letter went to Ottawa and was handed to Mr. Smith. Soon afterwards I got a letter from him in which he told me he could not see his way to grant a monopoly of this kind. Indeed he was just then actively engaged trying to have these privileges stopped altogether, and I may say that a few months after this time the council at Ottawa decided to grant no more of these monopolistic privileges.

"Then I applied for a yearly license with exclusive privileges. This he again refused to grant. I then wrote and told him that if two permits were granted, the men associated with me felt they could go no further, as two seines would not pay.

"He then replied that if I wanted the license he was willing to grant it on condition that we employed no other than white labor, and that my statement was correct regarding the employment of two seines, he thought that the department would give us reasonable protection.

"That being the best we could get we closed with the offer. We signed a paper to the effect that we should employ white fishermen only.

"That ends the Ralph Smith part of it, but here is something the public ought to know. Smith was the only M. P. in the province at that time who refused his friends the usual ten years' lease; and secondly, he is the only M. P. in the province who demanded that these licenses should be used solely for the benefit of white labor, as far as the fishing is concerned."

The interesting feature of the above is the brazen admission that the natural resources of the country are handed over to the party member to be doled out to party favorites. We knew that "to the victor belongs the spoils" was an accepted principle in Canadian politics, but we did not know that the spoils were quite so extensive. We knew that the heads of the various departments found opportunity to suddenly grow rich, a la Sifton, but in the above we get the information in the most matter of fact way that the resources of the various districts are farmed out to the respective members to grant or to withhold, just as the exigencies of party and personal interests may dictate. We commend these facts to the consideration of those individuals who have failed to procure fishing rights in Vancouver Island waters. Possibly they did not apply through a member of Mr. Smith's campaign committee. An explanation is also supplied of the fact that fishermen in the Island districts find after twenty years continuous fishing—their rights to fish questioned by firms holding a late concession. Perhaps they didn't vote right.

It is a long step from Miners' Agent to dispensing the natural wealth of a district larger than many of the empires of Europe. It is also nearly six thousand dollars between eighteen hundred dollars in the hole and the property qualification of a Canadian Senator.

X. X.

J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M. L. A., of Nanaimo, came over to Vancouver on Thursday for the purpose of consulting with the Provincial Executive Committee in regard to various acts which Parker Williams and himself propose to bring before the provincial house this coming session. It is needless to say there will be lively doings during the session.

The Western Clarion is making arrangements to publish full reports of the daily doings in the house, which will make it os exceptionable value to those working-men who desire to keep an eye on what is going on in the legislature halls.

The exact amount paid to the old employees of the Haslam mill, says the Vancouver World, is $3,500. Of this amount the assignees gave $14,000 and the government $2,100. It is stated by parties interested in the transfer of the Haslam estate to the purchasers. (the Ladysmith Lumber Company and Mr. J. S. Emerson,) that the government practically held up the transfer until the assignees agreed to contribute the amount named.

Query—Who held up the government?

LAST SUNDAY'S MEETING

Com. Borrough, of Victoria, occupied the Chair at last Sunday evening's Socialist meeting in Sullivan Hall, Cordova Street. Comrade E. Burns was the speaker of the evening, his subject being "The intellectual Decline of Capitalism."

Said Com. Burns in part:

The Socialist regards the evolution from slavery to serfdom; serfdom to capitalism and capitalism to Socialism, as steps in human progress.

Therefore capitalism is not all bad. On the contrary while its progress has been accompanied by much suffering, physical degeneration, and moral confusion it has through its intellectual leaders played a grand and noble part in broadening and deepening the mental horizon of the race.

It has broken down the isolation of nations; liberated science from the domination of theologians; taught the workers the lesson of industrial co-operation, and secured for the mass of the people, rights of free speech and of a free press.

Will this forward movement continue? Will the intellectual leaders of capitalism continue to broaden and advance until they reach a position when they will confer upon the working class the rights and privileges which all should enjoy?

I fear not.

As I see it capitalism has reached and passed its intellectual zenith.

To the superficial observer it would seem but natural that the radical or advanced wing of capitalist politics would continue to become more radical until they meet the more moderate of the socialists on a common ground.

But such is not the case. The Liberal or radical schools of capitalist thought, instead of becoming more socialistic are becoming more conservative or reactionary. Instead of the gulf between liberals and socialists growing less it is the gulf between liberals and conservatives that is disappearing. Nor is this tendency confined to any one country. It appears to be equally true of Great Britain, France, Germany and the United States. It has become a common-place with current literature to deplore the scarcity of brilliant minds compared to those that existed forty or fifty years ago.

Nor are such regrets mere idle fancies. Take any profession and compare the class of thinkers that capitalism produced fifty years ago to what it produces today. Especially is this deterioration made manifest if we deduct from capitalism's intellectual crop the brilliant minds that accept the truth of socialism.

In English political life, where is the liberal leader of today that will compare with Gladstone in intellectual power, versatility of ideas, or sincerity of purpose? Where are the poets that will take the place of Tennyson, Browning and Swinbourne The novelists whose genius equals that of Dickens, Elliott or Charles Reade? The philosophers to occupy the niches made vacant by John Stuart Mill and Herbert Spencer. Where is the trinity of scientists whose names reflect the lustre that surrounds those of Darwin, Tyndal and Huxley?

In my own memory I have seen a marked deterioation of the public men of my native town, Birmingham,

Half a century ago, Birmingham's rising manufacturers and merchants were, almost to a man, radicals in politics and religion. Many of them in their early youth had been leaders in the Chartist movement or Owen's Socialist propaganda. Even amid prosperity and affluent circumstances they were unable to completely divest themselves from the revolutionary ideals of their youth. They had yet to secure complete political domination. Their enemies were above them and they made common cause with the working class to resist the aggressions of an idle landlord aristocracy. The names of George Dawson, John Bright, Dr. Dale, Geo. Dixon, and Sam Timmons, are but a few of the men who helped to make Birmingham a centre of all that was progressive and healthy in English politics.

What is the condition of Birmingham today?

Instead of being overwhelmingly radical, she is hopelessly conservative. The sons of those radical leaders, reared in an atmosphere of ease and fulfilled ambition, removed by one or two generations from the working class which gave them birth are invariably conservative in politics, conventional in religion and decidedly wanting in conspicuous ability.

Joseph Chamberlain, the one brilliant exception as regards ability, exemplifies in his own career, the steady deterioriation of middle-class ideals. Chamberlain sprung into prominence as a republican in politics, and was mainly instrumental in the municipiliation of Birmingham's public utilities. Until the early 80's, Chamberlain was generally regarded as a wicked socialist. Since then he has abandoned one by one every principle he originally professed to love, until today, as the apostle of imperialism, jingoism and protection, he stands the main bulwark of the privileged class against the rising tide of Social democracy. As an instance of this inconsistency, when a few years ago, a referendum vote was taken of the citizens of Birmingham, as to whether they should own and operate the street railway, the whole of the influence and prestige of the Chamberlain family was thrown against the proposition. This in spite of Joseph Chamberlain's oft repeated boast of being the father of the municipal ownership movement.

In Great Britain's literature, outside of a few socialists like George Bernard Shaw, Robt. Blatchford, Hall Caine, and the late Wm. Morris the most conspicuous literary lights are Rudyard Kipling and Rider Haggard, both of whom stand as defenders of England's imperial conquests glorifying bloodshed and robbery as the acme of constructive statesmanship. Shades of Bright and Cobden; to what have we descended.

Returning to our own continent, how fares it in America today. Where are the men to compare with Lincoln, Windall Phillips, Horace Greely, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Walt Whitman and Robert Ingersoll? It is true we have a John D. Rockefeller, a Tom Lawson of Boston, W. H. Hearst, of New York City, Chauncey Depew, of the U. S. Senate and Theodore Roosevelt, of the White House. But is a nation advancing or declining that supercedes the former by the latter type of men. It is true that Emerson, Lincoln and the others did not comprehend the trend of modern industrial development, yet their faces were turned towards the light, and their written and spoken words are an inspiration to every soldier in the cause of freedom.

In Emerson's essay on self reliance we find the working of a fine example of his Lowell, had he prophetic vision, could he have foreseen the events in Russia today. When he exclaims:

"Are there in the America of today any really great men in public life?"

Most certainly there are, for does not the daily press, of both Europe and America, assure us that in President Roosevelt, we have a man who combines in his own personality the statesmanahip of a Caesar with the morals of a Christ. However, I shall venture to subject this capitalistic prodigy to a little minor criticism. Roosevelt's chief characteristic appears to lie in his contradictions. He is willing to ARBITRATE any dispute to which he is not a party. For this paragon of piece is never so strenuous as when advocating an increase in the army or the navy. He is determined to assist the authority of federal government to regulate railroad rates, and yet he expects the railway companies to supply him with private cars and haul the same free of charge wherever he goes. He is out with the big stick to smash up the criminal trusts, and yet in the Presidental campaign, the bulk of his campaign funds came from these criminal trusts.

Just one concluding incident. In one of Roosevelt's historical works, during events of the Revolutionary Period, he alludes to Thomas Paine, as "The dirty little athiest." Teddy's attention has been drawn time and time again to the fact that Paine was not dirty, having been scrupulously clean and tidy in his habits; that he was not little, having been two inches taller than Teddy himself, and that Paine was not an athiest, being a diest and a firm believer in the existence of a God. And yet in his subsequent editions of his works, Roosevelt has never retracted or modified one single word of his dastardly libel on one of the most heroic souls that ever suffered in the cause of human Freedom.

We find the triumph of reaction expressed, not only in the character of the public men of the day, but it has been pointed out very pertinently by the editor of the International Socialist Review that hardly anything has been achieved in the way of reform or progressive legislation during the last ten years. While the decade or so previous was quite conspicuous for the advances made in factory legislation, political reform, etc. Also that during a period of vast commercial expansion and rising prices, the fact that wages have remained stationary or in some cases even declined, is something unique in the light of past experiences.

The truth is that with the consolidation of capitalist power, the dominant class have become more unwilling to grant concessions, either upon the economic or political plane.

Next to the United States and Great Britain, the leading commercial nation of today is Germany. Here we find the strongest, best organized, and most intelligent working class political organization the world has ever seen. Here, then, would have been the chance for progressive capitalist party to do something for the people. The liberal party there have, however, with the progress of time, become fewer in numbers and more conservative in ideas.

Twenty-five years ago they were quite progressive; today they are conservatives in everything but the name.

Bebel, in his recent speech at Jena has considerable to say regarding the decay of German Liberalism.

(Here the speaker quoted at some length from Bebel's Jena speech.) Resuming, he continued:

The same reactionary tendencies which we have observed as accompanying the triumph of capitalist political domination in Germany, the United States and Great Britain are prevalent in all countries in which capitalism has fully developed.

This mental degeneration is inherent in the system, and not the result of any accidental circumstance.

Capitalism has attained and passed its maximum of intellectual strength. Henceforth, with its back turned upon the light of human progress, it will march down the highway of time, until Oblivion, with its mantle of charity, shall have blotted out its record forever.

Capitalism's intellectual death is foreshadowed by three distinct characteristics. First its mental sterility, by the comparatively few men of ability produced by commercialism today as compared with the rich harvest of great minds produced forty or fifty years ago.

Second, even the occasional intellectuals who appear in the ranks of the defenders of present day institutions, are, as a rule, apostles of force, cunning and oppression, and compare unfavorably with their predecessors of half a century ago.

"Thirdly, this degeneration is manifest in the departure of middle-class politicians from their former efforts to extend political and social power to the workers of the world; in the alliance of the money-bags with autocratic privilege and priestly rule. Shall progress stop because capitalist domination can no longer profit by an extension of human freedom?

No, a thousand times, no. The burden of human progress must fall on broader shoulders. A new class must take up the work of the regeneration of the race."

And to which class must we look for the emancipation of humanity?

It is to the one which is the most important and useful in modern society; it is the class that has been oppressed from the dawn of recorded history; the class that bears upon its shoulders the burthens of the world; the class that is destined to absorb all others; the class that by its emancipation will liberate humanity and convert all individuals into decent self-respecting members of society. It is the working class of which the poet has sung when he exclaims:

"Sing inward, oh gates of the future,
Sing outward ye doors of the past,
For a giant is waking from slumber
And breaking his fetters at last.
From the dust where his proud tyrants found him;
Unhonored and scorned and betrayed,
He shall rise with the sunlight around him
And rule in the realms he has made."

60 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS
COPYRIGHTS &C.

Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents.

Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the

Scientific American.

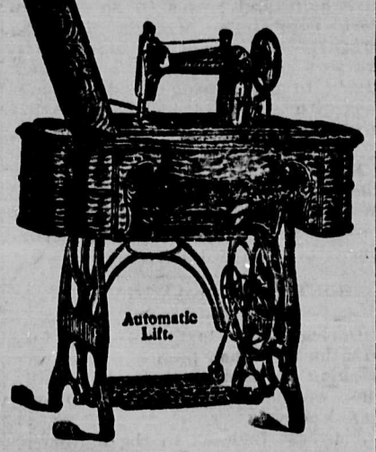
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, $3 a year; four months, $1. Sold by all newsdealers.

MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 625 F St., Washington, D. C.

LEARN TELEGRAPHY and R. R. ACCOUNTING. $50 to $100 per month salary assured our graduates under bond. You don't pay us until you have a position. Largest system of telegraph schools in America. Endorsed by all railway officials. OPERATORS ALWAYS IN DEMAND. Ladies also admitted. Write for catalogue. Morse school of Telegraphy, Cincinnatti, O.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Atlanta, Ga.; La Crosse, Wis.; Texarkana, Tex.; San Francisco, Cal.

"The Eldredge"

SEWING MACHINE.
ROLLER BEARING.
HIGH GRADE.



Save Money by buying this reliable, honest, high grade sewing machine.

STRONGEST GUARANTEE.

National Sewing Machine Co.,
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
FACTORY AT BELVIDERE, ILL.
Hudson's Bay Company, Agents

- Our Victoria Advertisers -

Patronize Them and Tell Them Why.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Morris Reclining Chairs from $8.50 to $35.00
Ladies' Fancy Rockers, from $5.00 to $7.00
Sleepy Hollow Chairs, from $5.50 to $12.00
Fancy Odd Parlor Chairs, from $9.00 to $25.00
Sofa Cushions, $2.00,
Cushion Tops, 50c.

SMITH & CHAMPION
Phone. 718. 100 DOUGLAS ST.

FALL SUITING
From $25.00 up
E. SHAPER,
32 Broad St. Victoria, B. C.

Colonial Bakery
29 Johnson St., Victoria, B.C.
UNION-MADE BREAD AND CAKES
Delivered to any part of the city. Ask Driver to call. 'Phone 849.

Patronize our advertisers.

PAYING HIGH PRICES BECOMES MONOTONOUS
TRY HASTIES' FAIR
FOR A CHANGE
72 Government Street, Victoria, B. C.

Patronize Clarion Advertisers.
5 yearly sub. cards for $3.75.
Bundles of 25 or more copies to one address, for a period of three months or more at the rate of one cent per copy.

HAROLD BURNETT, News Agt.
Victoria General Agent for The
SEATTLE TIMES
PORTLAND OREGONIAN
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES TIMES
CHICAGO AMERICAN
BOSTON AMERICAN
PENNSYLVANIA GRIT
NEW YORK AMERICAN
" " HERALD
" " NEWS
" " TELEGRAPH
" " WORLD
Also handles San Francisco Sunday Bulletin and Call. Prompt and regular daily delivery service to subscribers.
P. O. Box 444 VICTORIA, B. C.

TELEPHONE B779
HENRY BEHNSEN & Co.
Manufacturer of HAVANA CIGARS
No 8 Centre St. VICTORIA, B.C.
—THE— BIG B CIGAR REGISTERED

TELEPHONE 717
VICTORIA
STEAM DYE WORKS
All Descriptions of Ladies' and Gents' Garments Cleaned or Dyed, and Pressed Equal to New. Dry Cleaning a Specialty.
eh6 YATES ST. VICTORIA, B.C.

Harris & Moore
Dealers in
Bicycles, Guns, Ammunition, And Bicycle Sundries.
MAIL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO
42 Broad St. VICTORIA, B. C.
Phone B969

ALBION STOVE WORKS,
LIMITED
MANUFACTURERS OF
STOVES, RANGES, GRATES AND FRENCH RANGE
FACTORY, 38, 42 Pembroke Street, - - VICTORIA
SHOW ROOMS, 81 Douglas Street, - - - VICTORIA
" " 121 Hastings Street, - VANCOUVER

PLATFORM OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to and support of the principles and program of the international revolutionary working class.

Labor produces all wealth, and to labor it should justly belong.. To the owners of the means of wealth production belongs the product of labor. The present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of wealth production; therefore all the products of labor belong to the capitalist class. The capitalist is master; the worker is slave.

So long as the capitalists remain in possession of the reins of government all the powers of the state will be used to protect and defend their property rights in the means of wealth production and their control of the product of labor.

The capitalist system gives to the capitalist an ever-swelling stream of profits, and to the worker an ever-increasing measure of misery and degradation.

The interest of the working class lies in the direction of setting itself free from capitalist exploitation by the abolition of the wage system. To accomplish this necessitates the transformation of capitalist property in the means of wealth production into collective or working-class property.

The irrepressible conflict of interests between the capitalist and the worker is rapidly culminating in a struggle for possession of the power of government—the capitalist to hold the worker to secure it by political action. This is the class struggle.

Therefore, we call upon all workers to organize under the banner of the Socialist Party of Canada with the object of conquering the public powers for the purpose of setting up and enforcing the economic. program. of the working class, as follows:

1. The transformation, as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, railways, etc.,) into the collective property of the working class.

2. Thorough and democratic organization and management of industry by the workers.

3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

The Socialist Party, when in office, shall always and everywhere until the present system is abolished, make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct:. Will this legislation advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will the Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

In accordance with this principle the Socialist Party pledges itself to conduct all the public affairs placed in its hands in such a manner as to promote the interests of the working class alone.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for membership in ....

Local..... .....Socialist Party of Canada.

I recognize the class struggle between the capitalist class and the working class to be a struggle for political spremacy, i. e. possession of the reins of government, and which necessitates the organization of the workers into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties of the capitalist class.

If admitted to membership, I hereby agree to maintain or enter into no relations with any other political party, and pledge myself to support by voice, vote and all other legitimate means the ticket and the program of the Socialist Party of Canada only.

Applicant .....

Address ....

Occupation ....

Age..... Citizen.....

Admitted to Local..... 19.....

.....Chairman .....Rec.-Sec.

NEWS AND VIEWS

AS GIVEN OR EXPRESSED BY SOCIALISTS THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

Edited by R. P. PETTIPIECE, to whom all correspondence for this department should be addressed.

There are only "ins" and "outs" as distinguishable between political parties representing the ruling class.

* * *

Washington Coast comrades are hereby tendered an invitation to contribute to this department. Let's have the news; condense the views.

* * *

"Ninety-nine per cent. of all things with which parliament is occupied are of absolutely no interest to us and will disappear the moment that the proletariat overthrows class rule."

* * *

"If, however, the Industrial Workers of the World accepts the ridiculous anarcho-socialist position advocated by De Leon and Haggarty and which is so well satirized in Bebel's great speech, then it will soon degenerate into a mere caricature of a labor movement. * * " — International Socialist Review.

* * *

Speaking of the Adams' "defalcation" in Seattle, Marion B. Baxter, in the "Times," says: "There is no question whatever about society being at fault, and that before these things can be remedied society itself must be rebuilt, outside and inside. * * "

* * *

Sometimes the Socialist Party is looked upon as a "third" party. To a man up a tree, it looks as though it ought to be moved up a notch. Socialist Party members in B. C., 2; Conservative Party members in Alberta, 2; Conservative Party members in Quebec, 1. Burial services are now in order.

* * *

The only voter that's any good to the Socialist Party, is one who knows why he votes the Socialist ticket. Popular candidates, etc., are delusions. It's not a matter of "who," but "what" we vote for. Last year the Seattle school elections brought out a vote for two candidates of 1,124 and 1,070 respectively. This year the same vote with two different candidates dropped to 650 and 553 respectivsly.

* * *

A real orthodox garden party was recently put on in Tokio, Japan. The Vancouver World says, editorially of the event: "* * This is a great forward movement and is further evidence that our Oriental allies are disposed to follow the lead of Great Britain in the matter of religious toleration as well as in the methods of conducting A GREAT WAR ON HUMANE PRINCIPLES." —"Humane principles" in the art of wholesale murder, is good.

* * *

"We are of the opinion that before we enter into a great battle we must first thoroughly organize and agitate until we have created the political and economic understanding, made the masses self-conscious, and ready for resistance and inspired them for the moment when we can say to them, ("You must throw everything into the scale now because a question of life and death for you, and for all mankind, as fathers and as citizens is now decided.") "—Extract from Bebel's great speech.

* * *

The Erfurtur (Germany) platform, concludes with these words: ("The battle of the laboring class against capitalist exploitation IS NECESSARILY A POLITICAL BATTLE. The working class cannot continue their economic battle and develop their economic organizations without political rights. They cannot bring about the transition of the means of production into the possession of society without coming into possession of the political power. To transform this battle of the working class into a conscious and united movement, and to point out its natural and necessary goal, is the task of the Social Democratic party.")

* * *

A. L. Kempster, superintendent of the Seattle Electric company, recently fined one of the company's constructors becaused he appeared in court in response to a summons and gave evidence against the company in a case in which the latter was defendant. He declared to the conductor that "no employss had a right to appear in court as a witness in any damage suit without first notifying the Seattle Electric Company." Kempster was perfectly correct. The slave has no rights other than to obey the master. If he does not want to do that he is unfit to be a slave and ought to have his bread and butter cut off.

* * *

The Japanese capitalists, with the assistance of other capitalists of the world, have secured the "open door" in the Far East. The Japanese government has the dominant power in Korean territory. Now it demands that Japanese residents shall have a voice in its legislation. But, strange to say, no such privilege has yet been granted to the Japanese workers in their own country—or what will be their own country. Capitalism is capitalism, no matter where you find it. Likewise the Socialist movement. And the Japanese Socialists are becoming so active that the gaols will need to be enlarged for their reception. The Socialist press, too, has a hard time to live in Japan. But freedom will triumph.

The reason fresh eggs are high in Vancouver is because they are scarce.

As soon as they become plentiful, the price will go down.

Just so with any other commodity, Labor-power, the thing a wage-earner sells, comes within this category.

At this very hour in London, the unemployed are so numerous that they have become "Obnoxious," as the News-Advertiser terms it.

Practically the same condition prevails the world over—a constantly glutted labor market.

There can then be but one tendency—to force wages down to the life-line, and even below it.

Competition among the workers for jobs will make this possible.

The trades union movement cannot alter the iron law of supply and demand.

It cannot fit 100 job-seekers into 50 jobs.

It cannot guarantee a job to anybody, for it doesn't own any.

It is a denial of the right of everybody to earn a living.

There is no difference between the hungry stomachs of union or non-union workers.

They must have food.

To get it they must have a job.

The trades union movement is founded upon and within the limits of the wage-system and its every act admits or implies its commodity nature—collective dealers in various brands of labor-power.

Socialism will remove the workers from the unmerciless laws of a competitive labor market, so that they will be free to act like men rather than slaves.

It will take their power (labor), out of the category of commodities.

It will cease to produce things for profit.

To feed, clothe, shelter, educate, and organize the workers of the world will be its first duty.

The Socialist movement has nothing to do with trades-unionism.

The latter has to do with "wages" "hours," and what not; the former seeks to abolish the wage-system with all the accursed slavery the term implies.

We Socialists seek not to shift or make the yoke less galling, but to remove it.

We want industrial democratic administration rather than government by a ruling class composed of an element in society which has not only become useless, but positively harmful to the best interests of mankind.

AMONG THE WORKERS.

Coms. Arnason on Vancouver Island, and Sibble in the interior, are doing good work for the Clarion sub. list. Over 2,000 papers were required to fill last week's orders.

"Our own type-setting machine; our own power press; our own type." This can be said by S. P. of C. members now of the Clarion. What we want now is thousands more paid-up readers.

The Clarion's sub. hustler, Harry Sibble, reported with another list of paid-up readers from Salmon Arm on Monday last. He is now heading for the Okanagan Valley, thence to the Boundary district. Another "chase" has been secured by the mechanical department—in which to "lock" up the new addresses—in anticipation of things to be.

"* * I was pleased to notice you were back in harness again on the 'Clarion,' and would in future take charge of the Socialist News department. Possibly you have heard rumors that there has been 'something doing' of late in the Southern Okanagan. Things are getting warm down this way. Will try and give you some matter for your department next issue." Yours for revolution. Geo. E. Winkler, Penticton,

"Clarion received today. News and Views very good idea—just what Clarion needs. Com. Kingsley's articles are magnificent, but the paper has been a little too "heavy." Your department should remedy this. I'll try and write once a month. Slaving on a capitalist paper, however, takes most of what is in me. It's a change to write something that I can put my heart in—something for love rather than for bread; but still, it's pen-pushing and I don't want to overdo it. Am sending payment for three subs—wish it was more. Let me have a list of what circulation Clarion has in Eastern Canada so that I'll know who gets it. Wouldn't it be a good idea to do some sampling? * * * Regards ro all. Yours in Revolution."—Weston Wrigley, Toronto, Nov. 22.

CLARION QUESTION BOX.

K. A. P., Calgary—So you think if you were sure of all the bread you wanted you'd be apt to get lazy and not appreciate such a condition. Using the same mode of reasoning, it logically follows that you've quit drinking water (or even beer), and ceased to appreciate its value for like reasons. If you get bread under a Socialist administration you'll have exchanged a pro rata amount of the social labor-time it took to produce it. Under Socialism, every minute you work, it will be for yourself, instead of four days for the master and two for yourself, as at present.

CHILLIWACK, B. C.

By Dr. W. J. Curry.

Chilliwack, B.C., Dec. 1.—We are going to have a live Local here. Old party adherents are listening; one of them is now painting a "red flag" on our club room window, while another contributed a stove and a dozen chairs.

Now we need Hawthornthwaite, Kingsley, or some good live speaker to stir things up. * * * I'll have something more for your department next week.

CUMBERLAND, B. C.

By Charles Webster.

Cumberland, B.C., Dec. 2. — Comrade A. J. Arnason, of Victoria, has been hustling our "Clarion" in this vicinity. He gave a very good lecture last Sunday evening. The attendance might have been better—about 50. The weather being a bit cool, and no stove in the hall, no doubt accounted for this. However, those who attended were well repaid as Com. Arnason certainly did good work considering the experience he has had at public speaking. Both the Clarion and the socialist movement will be benefited through his efforts here

TORONTO, ONT.

By G. Weston Wrigley

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 27.— Toronto Local met Tuesday, 28th. Delegation were present from Jewish socialists, who reported the organization of a Jewish branch. Organizer Gribble is working on the job and a charter for the branch will probably be given next meeting.

Two new members were enrolled.

The Socialist class will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at Comrade Robinson's, 226 Brunswick Avenue. All Socialists invited.

Financial report of Cowen's tour in Western Ontario showed a deficit of $12, which Toronto Local will have to meet. Severe criticism was given Com. Cowen for using dictionary definitions of Socialism in his address. The propaganda committee will do its utmost to choose speakers who will call socialism a scientific movement rather than as being "identical with the principles of Christianity."

Arrangements were completed for a lecture by Comrade Geo. H. Goebel in Toronto Junction on Dec. 7. Goebel is passing through from the "Soo" to Buffalo.

William Mailly, editor of the Toledo Socialist, will probably speak in Toronto Jan. 13, and in several other Ontario points on the same trip.

Comrade O'Brien, Combermere, offers to make an organization tour of Ontario at low rates and his offer will likely be accepted, but it may be delayed until spring opens, and open-air speaking is possible.

Election of officers of Toronto Local and nominations for municipal elections will be held on Dec. 12. All members should attend.

COURTENAY, B. C.

By A. J. Arnason.

Courtenay, B. C., Dec. 2.— Found conditions in Cumberland much the same as in Ladysmith. The workers for the most part are afraid to have the Clarion come to them openly.

Held a propaganda meeting in Cumberland last Sunday evening, about 50 present. I endeavored to point out the wage-slaves' position in present day society; how they were robbed as producers of wealth through the wage-system process; explained the commodity nature of labor-power, its price (wages) being largely determined by the same unwritten law as other commodities—hence its dependence upon the condition of the labor market; how machinery was displacing labor in all lines of industry, thus adding daily to the ever-creasing number of unemployed; the over-stocked labor market becoming still more so. And that this order of things would continue so long as the workers permitted others to own their means of living, all of which is now largely capitalist property. The remedy was, first, to elect men who understood their needs and requirements, and then by virtue of their majority in the legislative halls and power to do so, convert capitalist property into the property of the working class. The workers present listened very attentively to my message, and a number with whom I had conversation afterwards seemed to feel very keenly the Dunsmuir oppression here.

But it is such factors as these that force the growth of our movement, and soon the rumblings of revolution—freedom—will not be confined to faraway lands.

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN, B. C.

During the last three or four months there has been a decided awakening of interest in Socialism in the southern portion of the Okanagan Valley.

The first impetus to the movement was given largely through the organization of a local for Okanagan riding at Kelowna, early in September, with a charter membership of eight. Three or four of these were residents of Kelowna, while Westbank, Peachland and Penticton were each represented.

While Kelowna local has shown little growth in the interval, the organizing microbe infected the Peachland anh Penticton comrades to such an extent that healthy branch locals are being formed at each place. Peachland local will start with between 12 and 15 members, while Penticton already has 21, with more "coming up."

Arrangements are being made by both locals for the holding of educational meetings and public discussions, also for the dissemination of suitable literature. Socialism is being discussed more than ever before in this section, and there is little doubt candidates will be placed in the field both in the Okanagan and Similkameen ridings next provincial election.

Pentiction branch elected the following officers at its last meeting: Geo. E. Winkler, organizer; J. W. S. Logie, secretary; L. C. Barnes, treasurer.

While no organization of the Socialist Party exists at present in the Similkameen, the construction of a railway through that valley during the coming year is certain to result in a large influx of population. As the new comers will to a great extent be engaged in mining and kindred industries, the outlook is good for a change in the complexion of the constituency that may place it in the Socialist column inside of a year or two.

The present activity in Socialist propaganda in this district is largely due to the work of a few earnest and enthusiastic men,—Com. Jas. F. Johnson, of Penticton; Geo. H. Van Hise, of Peachland, and Alex. McLennan, of Kelowna.

PENTICTON, B. C.

By Geo. E. Winkler.

Penticton, B.C., Nov. 27. — On Thursday, the 16th inst., Com. Earl Prather, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Prather, of White Lake, in the Southern Okanagan Valley, died after an attack of typhoid fever lasting three weeks.

Comrade Prather, though but 19 years old, had been for some time a member at large of the Socialist Party of Canada. He was of a bright, cheerful disposition, and a hard worker.

In connection with his death, the Socialists of Penticton passed the following resolution:

"We, the members of Penticton "branch of Okanagan Local, in "meeting assembled, hereby express "our heartfelt sympathy with Mr. "and Mrs. J. T. Prather in the sad "loss of their youngest son Earl.

"Our sorrow is increased by the "fact that our movement has lost "an intelligent and faithful member "whose coming years promised much "usefulness to the great cause with "which he had so early identified "himself. The Socialist Party can "ill-afford to spare one of its most "disinterested workers in the struggle for humanity it is waging "against such heavy odds.

"Brief though his life, we feel that "he has not lived in vain, and his "brave example will be a source of "pride and inspiration to those who "are left to continue the fight."

Will try and write you again in a few days.

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

Revelstoke, B.C., Dec. 5.—Comrade Sibble. the Clarion man, has paid Revelstoke a visit, resulting in 100 or so of Clarion subs. on their mission of emancipation coming to this town, which should, in the course of a few months, be felt in the organized movement here. He should return in a year and work the town again, and also take subs. for an Italian paper, also Finn and Swede publications.

The local is not what it should be and every member should try to advance the organization. If we forget to work for our own advancement we will have more energy to build up the local. What we need more than anything is a good street speaker like Lewis or Kingsley. I hope there will be some of this work done here next year, the field is very good.

Jimmy invaded an orchard in quest of fruit while Tommy discreetly remained outside the fence. The result of the raid was three apples which Tommy proceeded to divide by keeping the two largest ones for himself. Jimmy entered a demurrer, which Tommy scornfully brushed aside, by remarking, "Huh! didn't I lay de plans?" Tommy will become a great capitalist.

NANAIMO, B. C.

Editor Clarion:

A couple of weeks ago I saw in the capitalist press where Col. Holmes was asked "if the young men of B. C. joined the militia would they be called out to suppress the working class in case of strike against their employers?" The D. O. C. replied they would not be called out in the district among their own friends and relations, as that would be too bad.

From this answer we might be led to infer that he had a lot of sympathetic feeling for the workers. As, however, another bunch could easily be brought in from some other district, the depth of this feeling may be readily determined. If this gentleman is really so tender-hearted he might go a step further along this line. The capitalists have brought Chinese and Japanese here to use as a whip to beat down the wages of the white workers. Why not enlist them to do the trick of quelling labor disturbances? They could be gotten cheaper than the white slaves, and it would probably not heart their feelings no matter what district they might be called into. The only objection the Colonel could have to this move is that the strikers might get enough manhood in them, in the event of a squad of Chinamen being called out to subdue them, to retaliate, which they have not got when the white squad is knocking them down.

My advice to young men is not to join the militia, and to boys not to join the Church Lads' Brigade, or if they do, they should learn that they belong to the working class and should use their guns in defense of that class if they use them at all. As they are principally recruited from the working class, and the military is maintained by the sweat and toil of that class, the militia man should use his gun to defend that class.

It should be the duty of every father and mother to drill into the minds of their boys that they should learn to shoot, and in which direction, should occasion arise. Every man, to whatever country he belongs will be found ready to repel invasion, but none should be willing to invade another country for the purpose of killing people they have never seen and whom they have nothing against.

It is time that the workers understood that these capitalist wars are not of their making. Let the capitalists who cause them and profit by them do the fighting. Governments send men out to kill other men and call it war. When a man, driven to frenzy by harsh treatment kills his tormentor the same government calls it murder, and hangs him for it. If you kill a lot of people in battle you are quite likely to get a medal for it. Capitalist morals, ethics and law is indeed a peculiar combination.

OLD SWADDY.

Nanaimo, B.C., Dec. 5, 1905.

Five yearly sub. cards, $3.75.

SPECIAL NOTICE

J. H. HATHORNTHWAITE, M.L.A.

Will Speak in the

GRAND THEATRE

ON

Sunday, Evening, Dec., 10th, 1905

Doors Open at 7:30 o'clock
Meeting Opens at 8:00 o'clock

Admission Free Discussion Collection

Twenty-seven thousand duly registered citizens failed to vote at the recent municipal election in San Francisco, Cal. A vast majority of those who did vote would have shown better sense had they likewise refrained, as they cast their ballots for capitalist candidates of either the Republican, Democratic or Labor Union brand.

According to the police records the poor are great thieves. These same records overlook the fact that whatever may be the extent of such thievery it is a mere bagatelle in comparison to the stealings of the rich. All of their vast wealth is but the result of that wholesale thievery practiced upon the working class under what is known as the wage-system. The polite term for this sort of thievery is business.

Negligee Shirts
Not Too Early to Look

Exclusive patterns are now here—some of the choice ones will be sold early, and some of the designs we cannot duplicate. If you appreciate unusual styles it will interest you to come promptly.

Flatiron Hats
The Smartest Soft Hat of the Season

These Hats have been enthusiastically received by young men from the very first day we brought them out. Neither trouble nor expense has been saved in the production of these goods, as you will cheerfully acknowledge upon examination.

KILROY, MORGAN CO., LTD.
110 Cordova Street

BURNS & CO.
HARDWARE and
Second Hand Dealer

Largest and cheapest stock of Cook Stoves in the City.

Boom Chains, Augers, Loggers' Jacks, Etc.

We have moved into our new and commodious premises:

138 Cordova St, East

'Phone 1579 Vancouver, B. C.

S. T. WALLACE'S
Cash Grocery Store

We also carry a full line of Furniture, on easy payments, at prices that cannot be duplicated. Kindly inspect our stock.

Cor Westminster Ave and Harris Street.
VANCOUVER, B. C.

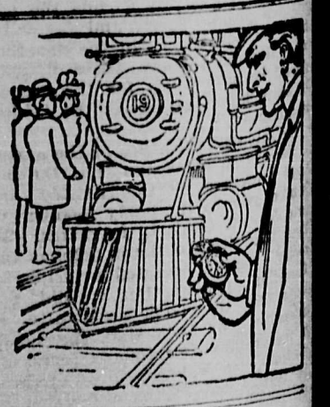
BRIDSON'S BAKERY
Powell Street, Cedar Cove
TRY OUR BREAD, CAKES, ETC.

Mounting Large Game Heads a Specialty
JOHN COOPER
Taxidermist and Furdresser
336 Powder St. Opp. People's Theatre
VANCOUVER, B. C.

THE WESTERN CLARION
THE WESTERN CLARION
THE WESTERN CLARION
THE WESTERN CLARION
THE WESTERN CLARION
THE WESTERN CLARION
PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS
PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS
PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS
PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS
PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS
PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS
TYPE-SETTING and PRESSWORK
TYPE-SETTING and PRESSWORK
TYPE-SETTING and PRESSWORK
TYPE-SETTING and PRESSWORK
TYPE-SETTING and PRESSWORK
TYPE-SETTING and PRESSWORK

IN WATCH REPAIRING

GREAT CARE IS EXERCISED, AS WE ENTRUST THE REPAIR TO EXPERIENCED WORKMEN ONLY, AND NOT TO APPRENTICES OR AMATEURS.



SPROTT & Co.
72 Cordova St., next to Harvey's

MATCHLESS LIGHT

There is no home too small to use Electric Light. Every dwelling should use it—everybody should use it.

The children—bless them!—they cannot upset the Electric Light and burn the house down. They can do no harm whatever with Electric Light.

It can be lighted or extinguished by a touch of the button. No lamps to clean, no smell of Coal Oil, no disfigurement of walls.

When a small amount of light is needed, 6 or 10 candle power lamps may be installed, thus reducing the total expense of lighting by this method.

Call and see us in reference to installing Electric Light to take the place of your Coal Oil Lamps.

B.C. ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO.