Library, Legislative Assembly
MAR 4 - 1905
VICTORIA, B.C.

THE WESTERN CLARION

Published in the Interests of the Working Class Alone.

10. VANCOUVER, B. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1905. Subscription Price PER YEAR $1.00

APITALISTS DISTURBED BY LABOR LEGISLATION

Amendment to "Coal Mines Regulation Act" and Proposed "Eight-Hour Smelter Bill" Cause a Flurry.

SOCIALIST MEMBERS FIGHT HARD FOR SHORTER DAY

is often made as to what alist members in the Pro- House busy themselves about the sessions. In order to wide-spread publicity to their as possible we publish the g, re the Smelter Eight-Hour hich was defeated by a vote o 12 in the House last week. nopsis of Hawthornthwaite's will give a fairly good idea ttitude taken by the Social- bers in regard to questions bearing upon the daily life who are forced to sacrifice ergy upon the altar of capi- n order to obtain enough of of life to enable them to sacrificing. The report of h as we clip it from the ess, while not as complete uld wish still gives a fairly ight into the argument used y a measure looking to the some of the most merciless- ited wage slaves of the pro-

Smelter Eight-Hour Bill.

ectation of the debate on the eading of Mr. Hawthorn- Eight-Hour Bill for Smel- re was a large crowd in the and a breathless expectan- d as the member for Nanai- to introduce his Bill.

Hawthornthwaite said he sk them in discussing the before them, which was so t to the laborers of British , to set aside all prejudices te the measure on its mer- would like to point out that no desire on his part, nor e desire of his party to stir trial strife in the province. contrary, one of the many for bringing in this Bill was about a period of peace. It rted the day before that he sufficient justification for g the Bill, in amendment oal Mines Act, as there was al demand for it. If that this was certainly not the regard to the eight-hour smelters. A year ago a re- d come to him from the min- Greenwood, saying that s, under the present system ers, men had to work 12 day, and the conditions un- h they labored were such as roductive of disease, they re- him to introduce into the n Eight-Hour Bill for smel- British Columbia." He had ived requests from other or- ions at the same time, and pledged his word to them would introduce such a bill. rd to the question of raising al strife, he said that he had a telegram from the secre- the Greenwood Miners' Lo- ving that to all intents and s, if the Eight-Hour Bill was it would avert a strike which minent there. He also read a on from the Trades and La- uncil of Nelson, asserting that owners af smelters had taken against the Eight-Hour Bill e using all possible means to e members to oppose this , the delegates, officers and s of all branches of organized nounced the statements made smelter men that they were to the Eight-Hour Law, and ey were in sympathy with eature of the Bill. They ask- members of the British Co- Legislature to use their in- to secure its passage.

t Influenced By American Competitors.

was another matter which he to make plain. Statements en circulated around the lob- the House by representatives smelter men that he had in- d the Bill at the instance of an smelter agents for their age. He denied this emphatically. It was a matter that had been entered into heartily long ago, and he could assure the Assembly that it was not introduced at the instance of any one on the other side of the line. Last year the same statements were used in regard to the Eight-Hour Coal Mine Bill. He thought he could safely say that his worst opponent on the floor of the House would endorse this statement as far as he was concerned, and would say that he had been entirely consistent in his efforts on behalf of the workingmen since he entered the House.

The Socialists and Industries.

Another statement had been made on the floor of the House that it was the desire of himself and the party he represented to destroy the industries of the province, or at least take them over and convert them into Socialistic property. On the other hand they desired to build up the industries of this and every other country in the world; possibly, he would frankly admit, with a view of ultimately taking them over for the benefit of the masses who needed them. The gentleman who made the assertion had no need to be alarmed because until the people of the province, and, in fact, of the whole continent, were assured of the necessity of the measures they would not be put into force; but the day might not be so far distant as some hon. gentlemen seemed to think.

Conditions of Labor in Smelters.

In smelters men worked under arduous conditions—conditions such that in the case of the Northport smelter the operators had been obliged to pay the farmers round about compensation for the destruction of crops and trees. If such was the result upon vegitation from the unhealthy gases emanating from the smelters, how much worse would it be in the case of human life? That would be the case, too, even if the men were working only moderate hours. In that unhealthy occupation they were employed for the longest hours in force anywhere in the province—in short, the longest hours that capitalists can force men to work they do. It had been stated that the average life of men in smelters was 15 years, owing to the long hours and arduous nature of the occupation. In this, as in some other occupations, a man had to go into the open market and sell the only asset he had with which to secure a living—his labor power. This he sold to the smelter men, but he expected that he would not be taken undue advantage of. In smelters, the men were not working eight hours, but 10, 11 and 12 hours; that meant that the capitalists of the province expected a man to work four additional hours per day above the ordinary working day. This meant 24 extra hours a week, or 144 days per year above the time that they should work. It meant that instead of 365 days, they had to work 509 days. Under these circumstances, was it any wonder that the average life of the men employed in smelters was only 15 years?

Reply to Mr. McInnes.

The member for Alberni yesterday made the statement that the corporate industries of this province wished heartily that this kind of legislation would not crop up so often as it does. "I can quite understand," said Mr. Hawthornthwaite, "that they would not like this body to meet even every fifteen years, if there was any chance of their inhuman exploitation of men being stopped. But, on the other hand, if they desired bonuses or grants for railways, they would be pleased to have it meet every month."

Mr. McInnes Explains.

Mr. McInnes rose at this point and said that he did not make the statement that the corporate industries of the province wished that the House would meet only once in two years. He did say, however, that all men interested in the industries of the province would be relieved if the House should meet only once in two years. and by this he intended to include workingmen as well as owners.

Strikes Condemned.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite replied that he accepted this explanation. For himself he represented the workingmen alone, and he wanted to point out that it was absolutely impossible for these men to obtain redress by methods which the House could not endorse—he meant by trade union methods or strikes. He was utterly opposed to any such methods. He believed the day of trades unionism was gone, and that the trades unions were utterly ineffective to do anything but to raise up strife. He believed the House was the proper place to deal with such questions as the one on hand. If capitalists exploited men to a merciless extent, it was the duty of the House to step in and say that it should not be so. If the capitalists could work men 23 hours out of the 24, they would do so. What must follow from these long hours? The degradation and destruction of the race of which all were so proud. In Great Britain it was found that in cases where men were required for carrying war into another country (the Boer war), it was found that they could not get enough workingmen capable of going into that country to fight the battles of the capitalist class. It was found by a commission appointed to inquire into the difficulty that owing to the long hours of labor and inferior food, the workingmen of Great Britain were rapidly deteriorating. Such a condition of affairs could only be stopped by legislative bodies taking action in the matter.

Labor Legislation Was Not Responsible.

It was said that if the measure before the House were put into operation, it would drive capital out of the country. It had been said that an eight-hour law in regard to quartz mines had been the means of frightening capital from British Columbia. He was satisfied that this was not the case. The reason was not one of law, but was almost entirely owing to the fact that the stock of the mines was grossly inflated, and people investing in it could not possibly hope to obtain fair returns from it. It was said even today that, if the proposed law came into force, capital would go out and capitalists would close down their plants.

Mr. Dunsmuir's Threats.

Mr. James Dunsmuir had said that if the Bill were passed it would result in closing down his mines. He had sent this message both to the introducer and to the Ladysmith board of trade, instructing the latter to take what action it thought best. The board of trade had sent down a delegation to bombard him with resolutions and try to induce him to withdraw the measure. But he did not propose to be bulldozed by Mr. Dunsmuir or any one else. He did not believe that the mines would be closed down. Business would go on just the same, and men would be relieved from merciless and deadly exploitation.

Threat to Clear the Galleries.

Amid loud applause from the galleries, Mr. Hawthornthwaite resumed his seat. The Speaker called for order, and threatened that if the applause were repeated he would have strangers cleared from the House.

The amendment to the Coal Mines Regulation Act introduced by Comrade J. H. Hawthornthwaite into the Provincial House met its quietus at the hands of Labor's friends in the shape of capitalist politicians, by a vote of 17 to 13. The Act was amended at last session providing for an eight-hour day in the mines, a provision it is almost needless to say was observed by the coal barons only when they felt so inclined. The amendment imposed a penalty of not more than one hundred, or less than twenty-five dollars, and in default of payment to a term of imprisonment not exceeding two months, upon both employer and employee for a violation of the Act.

As stated by Hawthornthwaite, the Act passed the house last year without opposition either from the coal barons or their representatives. This doubtless occurred because they had no intention of observing its requirements, which after events proved. When the amendment came along, however, with a proposed penalty attached to a non-observance of the provisions of the act, matters became serious. and both coal barons and their retainers "got busy" to defeat it.

Presumably a good portion of the 13 votes cast in favor of the amendment were thrown in to make good measure and to prevent the matter from appearing too one-sided. By some it might be termed "casting an anchor to windward" for support at future elections. the News-Advertiser of this city reports Hawthornthwaite speaking in support of the amendment as follows:

Mr. Hawthornthwaite Explains Bill.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite said the member for Delta was not quite correct. He had stated previously, in introducing this Bill, that it had been the custom at Nanaimo to work eight hours in the mine cut, but now instead of working eight hours they were working nine hours from bank to bank. This was also the condition of affairs at Fernie. He said that since the member for Delta had introduced it in that way, it would be necessary for him to re-open the whole subject. He pointed out that in the old country, in Northumberland and Durham, the miners only worked seven hours from bank to bank, and yet he did not hear any great outcry that production was hampered to any great extent. It had been the intention in England for some time past to introduce an eight-hour bill, and when it went through, he was sure it would be found that they would have an eight-hour day from bank to bank. The hon. member for Delta did not understand coal mining evidently. If they made it from the top of the shaft, instead of from bank to bank, they would need to appoint an inspector to go from place to place to enforce the law. He would remind the House of the outcry that took place when he introduced the Workmen's Compensation Act a few years ago. Delegations of mine owners and coal barons poured down upon the House in shoals, and they assured every member of the House that if the Bill were passed, industry would be paralysed, and mines and works would be closed down. One man in his district told him that if the Bill were passed his works would be closed down the next day, but the Bill was passed and the works did not stop, and were going today.

Shorter Hours Don't Decrease Production.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite then went on to quote instances to show that the lessening of the hours of labor did not decrease the amount of production. The eight-hour experiment had been tried in some of the great iron works of the old country, and it was found that both in contract and day labor men produced as much in eight hours as they had formerly done in 11. He pointed out that in Northumberland and Durham, in England, men working seven hours per day produced 790 tons of coal per annum. In Forfarshire, under an eight hour system, they produced 465 tons per annum. and in the west of Scotland. where hours were longer, they produced 368 tons per annum. They would find that wherever hours were longer, men produced less, because men lost their agility and ability to work when confined too long underground. It was the same with accidents. They did not increase where men worked shorter hours. as some of the coal barons stated. In the north of England, where the short-hour system prevailed, the accidents were only 1.08 to 1000 men, and it was found in every case that where men worked shorter hours, production increased and accidents decreased.

When this matter was under discussion in Great Britain some time ago it was announced that some £34,000,000 had been earned in one year above the actual cost of production, which meant that this enormous amount had been fairly ground out of the lives of these people working underground Under these conditions, it was the sole aim and object of the capitalists to extend the hours of labor as long as they could. The worker had to work a certain length of time to pay his own wages and every moment he worked beyond that he was working for that surplus value for the capitalist class, for which their greed was so notorious.

In the old country where men were supposed to be so oppressed, they did not work eight hours a day; but here in British Columbia, where civilization was so advanced, they would be satisfied if they only had to work eight hours from bank to bank. In smelters men were working 11 hours a day, but until different legislation was introduced, dealing with this class of work, nothing could be accomplished. He pointed out, however, that since the eight-hour law had been introduced for metalliferous mines. they had had peace. When the trouble arose at Fernie some years ago, it was from the fact that men were driven to desperation by working long hours. Men working short hours would submit to greater exactions than under any other conditions. The capitalist in this respect was absolutely merciless. If he could work men 19 hours a day he would do so. They need not fear their threats of closing their mines. As long as there was a dollar to be burned out in the hides of the workingmen of this province, the capitalists would not flee.

Miners Should Be Protected.

On behalf of coal miners he asked that they, above all other men, should be protected, for their calling was a most difficult and dangerous one. and they should be protected to the limit. He referred to a statement of the Premier that afternoon that the percentage of accidents in the coal mines in this province was very great. The coal mine was no pleasant place to work. The air was noxious and unwholesome, and they deserved protection, if any one did. This Bill could do no harm whatever. The capitalist would simply insist on the intensification of labor, and if the hours were shorter a man would have to work the harder, or the owner would introduce labor-saving devices, and perhaps some of the men would be dismissed. He pointed that out to them, but whatever happened they would have to stand it. These same regulations he asked for had been introduced in Great Britain, and had met with the same kind of predictions from the coal barons there, but they were enforced, and had in no degree interfered with the position of Great Britain as one of the greatest producing countries of the world. Employer after Employer had been dragged into court there for refusing to obey the rules and some of the arguments they used were a disgrace to civilization.

Further Measures Promised.

"I tell you, gentlemen," concluded Mr. Hawthornthwaite, "you will have to go a great deal farther than this before you are through with this matter. You may look upon this as a Socialist measure, because it is introduced by Socialist members of the House, but in reality it is no part of our program, which certainly goes a great deal further than this. I hope before this session closes to put before the House a full list of what are the real demands of the workingmen of this province. I think it will be found that they include questions far more serious, both to the capitalists in this province and the world at large." (Applause.)

PRISONERS AND LABORERS

ormer Treated Kindly, the Lat- ee Driven to Starvation.

e upwards of thirty thousand n war prisoners now in Japan. he pride of Japan to say that prisoners are treated very . Japan is making war t the Russian government, but enmity towards Russian peo- individuals. Why then should t treat kindly those poor pris- who are our brothers and ors? But it is very strange hile these poor foreigners are d so kindly, there are innumer- alf-starved laborers in this y, who are more closely our rs and neighbors, and for protection, it is said, the t war is being waged.—The gen.

Chokugen is the organ of the ese Socialists, as successor of eimin Shimbun, recently forced existence. The same indomi- spirit prevails among the Ja- comrades as exists among of all other countries where vement has taken root. The ly consideration of the cap- Russian soldiers, expressed in ove clipping, is extremely commendible upon the part of our revolutionary comrades in far-away Japan.

The rigors of jail life in Sebastopol, Russia, are considerably toned down by having the beds which are placed several yards above the floor, provided with mechanism which enables the jailers to turn them upside down, throwing the prisoners heavily upon the floor. The humor derived from these little pleasantries quite naturally tends to relieve the ordinary tedium of imprisonment.

---

116 coal miners were entombed by an explosion in the Virginia mine near Birmingham, Alabama, on Feb. 20. 90 bodies were recovered by Feb. 22, when it was found to be impossible to reach the remaining 26 until the water was pumped out of the mine. By extreme good fortune the owners of the mine escaped unhurt.

The world "do move," as Uncle Jasper would say. The Nebraska Legislature has passed a law making it a crime to work a monkey in connection with a hand organ for more than eight hours a day." May the good work go on until similar provisions are made for the balance of our tribe.

SILLY LIBERAL PRESS.

Its Phantasms Appear to Have the "Wry Neck."

There is something decidedly awry with that Socialist-Conservative coalition in the Provincial House that has been conjured up by the sickly Liberal press of Victoria and Vancouver. We note that McBride and Macdonald, the respective leaders of the Conservative and Liberal highbinders of capitalism, both spoke against the Eight-Hour Smelter Bill introduced by Hawthornthwaite. The former voted against it, while the latter, for reasons best known to himself and everybody else who knew all about it, refrained from voting. Silly people might suspicion an understanding between them; those possessing a grain of sense would know that no understanding would be necessary. Their respective parties stand for the same thing, and however much they may snarl at each other over the division of the loaves and fishes, could not help but be drawn together at the first scent of danger to the interests from which they spring. The moment capitalist privileges were threatened by the bill in question, the erstwhile yawp of the Liberal press about a Socialist-Conservative coalition resolved itself into the old cry of "stop thief."

BEHIND ALL THE FACTS.

No man can be really free while another man controls his job. We cannot be a truly free people, nor can we have lasting peace and harmony so long as a part of the people are dependent on the will of others for permission to work. No matter what laws and constitutions may say, no matter what pleasant phrases about liberty and equality and unalienable rights we may hear on the fourth of July, this hard fact remains, that back of all political questions is the economic question, the bread-and-butter question, the question of getting a living; and if some men under the forms of legal freedom and equality, have actual power to prevent others from getting a living or to dictate the conditions under which they may be allowed to work, they wield a power of oppression as great as that of feudal lords or holders of chattel slaves.—The Vanguard

---

Capital neither makes, nor assists in making wealth. It only makes trouble for the wealth producers, the workers.

ANOTHER MINE EXPLOSION.

Capital Runs All Risk, But Workers Lose Their Lives.

A terrific explosion occurred in the United States Coal and Coke Company's mine near Wilcoe, West Virginia, on Feb. 26. While it is barely possible that some of the miners may be taken out alive, it is fully expected that the entire 23 at work at the time have been killed. At this writing, 15 bodies have been taken out. The dispatches state that the "dead miners are all Italians and Hungarians." This by no means lessens the horror of the calamity of which they were the victims, however.

The mines belonged to the U. S. Steel Corporation, the operating company being an adjunct thereto. "The cause of the explosion has not yet been determined," and "may never be known." It was, of course, not due to any negligence of the company. Such affairs never are, as capitalist concerns are proverbially more zealous in providing for the safety of employes than in making profit.

A most striking indication of increasing prosperity in and around the city of Vancouver, is afforded in the encouraging increase in the volume of the city's business. Chief North reports that "the chain-gang has grown so large that another wagon is required to convey the crowd to work." An increase in the city's business necessitating such an important addition to its industrial plant is flattering indeed, and may be considered as a cheering sign of the times. Liberal appropriations should be made by the city fathers for this eminently worthy purpose, thus materially aiding in firmly placing upon its feet an industry of great value to the tax payers.

There is one reason why I have never been able to feel that detestation for Shylock which Shakespeare evidently intended to inspire; why I have never felt any strong indignation against swindlers like Hooley or Wright; why, even the burglar appears to me to be rather an object of sympathy than of reprobation, and that is because all of these prey and have preyed, not upon my class, but upon those who prey upon my class.—Tattler in London Justice.

A good man may run a bad system a little better than a bad man, but if the system is hopelessly wrong the only sensible and righteous thing to do is to change the system.—Ex.

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

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.

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

SATURDAY ... ... March 4, 1905

QUAGMIRES BUBBLES, DREAMS.

Make no mistake: The organization of the working class must be both economic and political. The capitalist class is organized upon both lines You must attack it on both. —Exchange.

It is sometimes safe to jump to a conclusion, and again it is not. If a person's feet were suddenly knocked from under him he might safely conclude that he would speedily hit the ground is quite an unpleasant manner. In thus jumping to a conclusion he could not be far out in his reckoning, because the facts relative to the phenomena known as the law of gravitation are so simple, so self-evident, that no amount of reasoning however sophistical could lead to any other conclusion. When Columbus proposed by sailing out into the western ocean to eventually arrive at the eastern edge of the then known world, upon the theory that the earth was round, the wiseacres of his time jumped to the conclusion that even were his theory correct, once he sailed down the watery hill he would be unable to sail up again. But there were many things relating to the structure and habit of terrestrial bodies that were unknown to the wiseacres, and though they laughed him to scorn, the daring navagator's theory was proven to be a truth. In hastily jumping to a conclusion the wiseacres only succeeded in floundering in the quagmire of their own ignorance. Too often is this the case with mortal man, even unto this day, in dealing with matters that appear at first glance quite as simple and self-evident, as did the theory that the earth was flat, to the people of Columbus' time. It would be far better for all concerned were a little reasoning expended in learning how to avoid a quagmire, than to expend volumes of energy in floundering through it.

Now as to the economic organization of the capitalist and the conclusion jumped at, that a counter organization of workers must be set up for the purpose of fighting it. The economic organization of the capitalist expresses itself in the form of modern corporations, and which in turn are often bound together through agreement or by virtue of the fact that ownership is vested largely in the same individual capitalists. The petty economic power of the one-time individual capitalist has been merged into the combined economic power of many. This concentration of capital has been made in obedience to the requirements of the ever-increasing magnitude and power of the machinery of production. As the machine has become more gigantic, complicated and powerful it has forced the massing of greater capital and the organization of a larger army of workers under one management, in order that it might be economically operated and the owners thus be enabled to obtain the greatest possible benefits from its operation. It is only by such huge combinations of capital that the gigantic machinery of production could be handled under the present system of ownership, and the owners be in a position to withstand the assaults of other capitalists. In the struggle going on in the "economic field" among capitalists, the victory lies with those capitalists who control the largest masses of capital As gigantic capital implies a large and efficiently organized army of laborers, it still further implies a corresponding cheapening of the cost of production below which smaller capital cannot go. The smaller capitalists succumb in the competitive struggle, and in the hands of the larger there mobilizes a correspondingly greater economic power. The huge economic organizations of capitalists, therefore, represent the orderly, efficient and economical operation of the gigantic machinery of modern industry, so that the owners may realize the best possible results from it.

The struggle for existence in the field of production and distribution has been as fierce among capitalists as could be desired. The stronger have survived; the weaker have been crushed. The relative strength has been determined by their relative power to produce cheaply. The success of any capitalist concern depends upon its ability to place its products upon the market at a lower price than its competitors. There in lies the power of the economic organizations of capital.

While it is, no doubt, true that in some instances the action of workers may have hastened the building-up of such economic organizations of capitalists, and agreements have been made whereby capitalist concerns have stood together for the purpose of withstanding the workers in their demands, as a general rule these huge concerns have grown up out of the struggle among capitalists for the control of economic power, and quite independently of the working class, or its action. That they have been purposely created as a huge conspiracy against labor is rather an erronous idea, although such appears to be entertained by many well-meaning persons.

If those who jump to the conclusion that it is necessary for the workers who have no economic power to form economic organizations just because the capitalists do, would only tell us how it is possible to do so under the circumstances, or what to do with it once we form it, we would feel grateful indeed. Shall we utilize as do the capitalists in regard to their commodities for the purpose of reducing the cost of the production of our commodity (labor power) to the lowest possible point so as to be able to undersell our competitors and put them out of business?

To be sure such a proposition would cause a howl of protest from the camp of Labor, but it is an indisputable fact that it is the only method the capitalists were ever able to devise that could solve the problem of fitting a large number of capitalists into a limited number of jobs as labor skinners. They have occasionally tried to solve it by burning down or blowing up each other's factories, but were always compelled to fall back upon the old, time-tried method of competing each other out of business. Just how the workers are to fit a large number of labor "skinnees" into a limited number of places in which to be skinned —jobs— by any other process has not yet been adequately explained.

The massing of economic power under the control of gigantic corporations effects the desired purpose of eliminating waste by sloughing superfluous capitalists into the ranks of wage earners, thus ending their capitalistic career. But the same method of proceedure does not bring about the same result when the attempt is made by the working people to adopt it. Superfluous workers cannot so easily be disposed of There is no lower economic strata into which they can be forced, and they quite stubbornly refuse to be sloughed out of existence.

The marvelously effective industrial power of capitalist concerns comes into their hands as a logical result of the growth and development of the tools and methods of production and the more perfect organization of industry thus not only made possible but necessary. Capitalist industries are engaged in producing commodities, out of the production and sale of which a surplus value or profit may be realized. Hence when a sufficient volume of economic power has been massed under one management to enable it to crush its competitors, the price of its commodities becomes normal and steady, thus allowing the maximum stream of revenue to flow into its coffers. The aping of capitalist methods in the matter of economic organization by the workers, must eventually lead to disaster for several reasons. In the first place they have no power over wealth production, therefore nothing to organize along such lines, that can be of any lasting effect against the enormous economic power of the capitalists.

Superfluous workers cannot be competed out of existence by the stronger ones without the latter at the same time practically destroying themselves by losing all of the advantages they had hoped to gain. And even could the superfluous labor power be disposed of by being conjured out of existence, they would still be in subjection to the total mass of economic power controlled by the capitalists. They would still be involuntarily producing a commodity (labor power) over the production of which they had no control, and which they would still be forced to turn over to the not over-tender mercies of the labor market. They would still be economic bond slaves of capital.

Government is the instrument used by the masters of economic power to hold the workers in wage bondage. Its mission is to justify with the stamp of legality the right of capitalists to own the means of wealth production, thus securing to them sole control of the economic power. That the present system of property in the means of wealth production should continue, all capitalists are agreed, no matter how fierce the struggle may be between them for points of vantage under it.

The economic organization of capitalists is a necessary part of the process of bringing the industrial efficiency of labor to the highest standard, thereby making it possible to produce a maximum of wealth with a minimum of effort. It is, therefore in line with human progress and should under no circumstances be fought. That the working class to redeem itself from its kresent wage bondage must first obtain mastery over the means of wealth production is beyond question. That to obtain this entails successful political warfare by the workers, against their present economic rulers, the capital-class, for the purpose of stripping them of the power to longer legalize and defend their control of the means of wealth production, is equally true.

The conquest of the public powers by the working class is a task demanding the undivided attention and most earnest efforts of every member of that class.

Energy expended in trying to convert impossible economic dreams into available assets, or to batter down the walls of capitalist Jericho by the blowing of economic "soap bubbles," is wasted to Labor's cause, and only tends to prolong the hour of its agony by delaying the time of its deliverance from the thraldom of capitalist exploitation.

By the exercise of our reasoning faculties we should be able to avoid floundering into quagmires, dreaming impossible dreams, or blowing useless bubbles.

TERRIFIED COCKROACHES.

A most terrible state of affairs seems to have developed in the state of Kansas, "bleeding Kansas." It has come to light that the Standard Oil Company has had the audacity to actually become the owner of all the pipe lines in the state as well as the oil refineries, and holds a practical monopoly of the entire oil field as a consequence. It has been "squeezing the producers" by charging them "what it pleased" for transporting their oil. It has also had the unmitigated gall to "fix the price" at which they should sell their product. Needless to say this has caused the "producers" exceeding pain, causing them to howl most woefully. They have been almost driven to the necessity of "selling out the oil field to the Standard at its own price," the only alternative being to "sell oil below cost." All of which is very sad indeed.

These producers are merely little "cockroaches" in the capitalist world who, not possessing sufficient capital to enable them to equip themselves with the great enginery of oil production such as pipe lines, refineries, railways, etc., find themselves at the mercy of the big fellows who can do so.

"Cockroach" capitalists are as merciless as any in their dealings with working people. They skin them as neatly in the matter of wages as do the big ones. To hear them squeal when pinched out of their fleecings by the big ones of the Standard Oil type, hath a not unpleasant sound to the tympanum trained to understand the reason of the squeal.

The Kansas legislature out of sympathy for their lugubrious wailings now comes to the rescue with a bill providing for the establishment by the state of "an oil refinery of 1000 barrels per day capacity, to be operated by convict labor." Whether the bill provides for a half-inch pipe line to go with it or not, is not stated, but it should be done, otherwise the "cockroaches" will still be at the mercy of the masters of transportation, both by pipe line and rail. Perchance they are going to transport their oil by hand, in which case a neck-yoke and couple of buckets could be used instead of a half-inch pipe. It would answer about as well and be in closer conformity with the proposed refinery as to capacity.

The dull monotony of life must be delightfully broken for the Standard Oil people by an occasional opportunity of putting little "cockroaches" and their petty schemes out of business.

One Kansas paper, the Topeka Capital, supports the proposition of the state building a refinery and entering into competition with the Standard, and alludes to the step as a "species of Socialism." An industrial establishment owned by the state and operated by convict labor is a specimen of the most novel and unique "species of Socialism" yet evolved from the prolific grey matter of capitalism's editorial nincompoops. The Kansas City Journal dubs the project as "rankly Socialistic." and "clearly impractical." Wiser than its Topeka contemporary, it declares that "the attempt might as well be made to bail out Lake Superior with a hand scoop as to try to handle the Kansas oil yield with a little two-by-four state refinery."

To watch the gyrations and cavortings of "little cockroaches" in their mad efforts to do away with what they term monopoly by conjuring up and regalvanizing with new life the now practically defunct competition from which it came, is about as instructive and even more amusing than to watch a dog busily engaged in chasing his own tail.

Ottawa. Feb. 23.—(Special.)—In the Railway committee this morning Mr. A. E. Lancaster's bill requiring railways to maintain gates and watchmen at all level crossings in the thickly populated districts of cities, towns and villages throughout Qanada, or else to reduce the speed of trains to ten miles an hour, was killed today upon a vote of 23 to 61. The same bill was before the house last session.

The argument of the majority was that the Railway commission was vested with all necessary authority to enforce whatever protection was needed in each individual case, or deal with the problem as it saw fit by general regulations, and that the Railway commission was a more competent tribunal to deal with the matter than parliament.

The railways submitted that the passage of Mr. Lancaster's bill would have cost them $2,000,000.—Daily press.

The reckless extravagance of compelling the railroad companies to sacrifice their hard-earned dollars for the sake of saving a few measly human lives not worth as many coppers was very properly frowned down qy the committee. It is to be hoped that no more such impudent attempts will be made to interfere with the "sacred rights of property." The Dominion government is no paternal institution designed to protect silly folk who know no better than to get run over by railway trains. If they do not want to get hurt let them keep off the track.

NOT TO BE DELUDED.

From an editorial in London Justice of Feb. 11., under caption "The Dawn of the Social Revolution," written by M H Hindman, it appears that gentleman is not to be led away with the idea that Britain's rulers will be any more merciful, or less likely to resort to brutality, once their property rights are threatened, than the Russian aristocrats. That others may not be deluded into so believing, Mr. Hindman aptly says:

But Great Britain? Here, surely, nothing can come! Sir John Gorst says everything can be gained through the ballot box, therefore bloodshed is impossible. That sounds very reassuring. But I belong to the same class as Sir John Gorst. I know its history and its members just as well as he does, and I do not believe a bit of it. The governing classes of this country, when once scared about their precious property, will be just as cowardly and just as butcherly as the Czar himself. Of that I feel quite certain however the votes may go. They have not had the slightest cause for fear during two whole generations. Remember that. For just sixty years the workers of Great Britain have been nothing more than sheep for the shearer, bleating out lower middle-class ideas in perfect peace. They were content to remain in this state of life—as comfortably sweated wage earners—into which it had "pleased God to call them," and their own apathy to keep them. Why, then, should the dominant minority slaughter them? There was no need for it. Yet, even so, wherever there was the slightest movement among the people in Great Britain whether north or south of the Tweed, troops have been called out and wholesale murder has been threatened, Asquith showing to actual demonstration at Featherstone that lawyers, now as ever throughout their history, are delighted to lead in the massacre of the men who keep them. All the time, too, in Ireland, we have had standing evidence that force in the opinion of our rulers is the best of possible remedies. Now, does any one honestly believe that if our Socialist propaganda continues to gain ground among the mass of our fellow citizens as it is today, and, after this long period of somnolence, England at last wakes up, our bourgeoisie will hesitate to act as it did from 1835 to 1842? "You English, like the Romans in many things, are most like them in ignorance of your own hisory." Depend upon it should the working classes of this island act up to their economic development and political opportunities, that history would give us the indisputable criterion of middle-class magnimity and philanthropy.

Therefore, whilst we should lose no chance of making the most of the powers our fathers obtained for us in a peaceful and orderly fashion, do not let us be under any delusion that, as class antagonism gets more acute and social revolution becomes inevitable, the minority will accept the decision of the majority without a fight. Nor let us take it for granted that, with the great and growing dangers around us, time will be given to allow the apathetic toilers of this country to use their votes with effect. For this reason, as well as other reasons, it is our duty to neglect no opportunity, now that we have a neucleus of Social-Democrats in almost every town, of adjuring our troops not under any circumstances whatever to fire upon their relatives. That seems to me the most important lesson for us to be learnt from the Czar's hideous butchery of a fortnight or so ago. Nobody expected that ghastly incident, remember, and it is the unexpected which always happens in revolutionary times.

The introduction of measures into a house of parliament designed to improve the lot of the worker, causes as violent a flutter among capitalists and their political time-servers as a "hawk in a barnyard." In proof of this it is but necessary to note the squawking and flapping which took place at Victoria over Hawthornthwaite's Eight-Hour Smelter Bill. The cackling in the political barnyard of capitalism will be something fierce later on when much more drastic measures are introduced into parliaments by delegations of working-class representatives numerically strong enough to push them to a conclusion.

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, W. H. Flowers, C. Peters, Alf. Leah, A. J. Wilkinson, treasurer; R. P. Pettipiece, secretary, 25 Tenth ave., Vancouver, B. C.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, No. 1, S. P. of B. C. Business meetings every Wednesday evening in the headquarters, Inglesihe block (room 1, second floor), 313 Cambie street. Educational meetings every Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in the Le Petite theatre, Cordova street. D. P. Mills, secretary, box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

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 haud.

2456 Westminster Ave. Mount Pleasant.

J. EDWARD BIRD. A. C. BRYDON-JACK GEO. E. MCCROSSAN.

BIRD, BRYDON-JACK & McCROSSAN

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.

Railway Block Tel. 829. P.O. Box 932.

324 Hastings Street - Vancouver, B. C.

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.

Greenwood Miners' Union, No. 96, W. F. M. Meets every Saturday evening in Union hall. J. R. Ritchie, president; Ernest Mills, secretary-treasurer.

Phoenix Trades and Labor Council. Meets every alternate Monday. John Riordan, president; Edward Brown, vice-president; P. H. Lacasse sergeant-at-arms; W. H. Bambury, secretary-treasurer, 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. Wm. Barnett, president; John Riordan, secretary.

Nanaimo Miners' Union, No. 177, W. F. M. meets every third Saturday from July 2. Alfred Andrews, president; Jonathan Isherwood, P. O. Box 259, Nanaimo, B. C., recording secretary.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.—Local No 213. Meets second and fourth Thursdays at I. B. E. W. Hall, Room 3 Ingleside Block. President, J. Dillabough; recording secretary, Geo. P. Farr; financial secretary, A. H. Sellar. Address all communications to the hall. All sojourning brethren cordially invited.

WANTED.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN in this and adjoining territories to represent and advertise the Wholesale and Educational Departments of an old established house af solid financial standing. Salary $3.50 per day, with expenses advanced each Monday by check direct from headquarters. Horse and buggy furnished when necessary; position permanent. Address, Blew Bros. & Co., Dept. 6, Monon Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

ESTABLISHED 1894

The VOICE

The Oldest Labor Paper in Canada

Always a fearlesss 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 Publishing Co., Limited
WINNIPEG, MAN.

—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.

—Visit—

The Vancouver Chop House

36 Water St. (Basement)

For the Best and Cheapest Meals in the City. One visit assures us your trade.

Meals 15c. and up. Tickets $3.00.

CHARLEY NEP, Prop.
Open Day and Night.

IN the selection of the Tobacco that we use in our Cigars we exercise the greatest care, only buying the very best Tobacco that is grown. Our

Kurtz's Own
Kurtz's Pioneers
Spanish Blossoms
Cigars

Are made of the very best clear Havana Fillers and Sumatra Wrappers and are made by expert Union workmen.

United Hatters of North America

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 sometimes 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.

SOCIALISM is inevitable. That means our economic and social development will some day make it clear even to the dullest mind that a solution of our industrial problems is possible only by industrial co-operation. But are we to look on passively and wait until the mind more dull and dense than our own, has at last reasoned it out all by itself? Certainly not. We want to get there sooner. And we will get there in the near future if we set to work and educate the man who is still groping in the dark. We know things will make him see the light some day, but we want him to see it now. Therefore our incessant propaganda and agitation. To do good work you need good tools. Select your propaganda material carefully and you will see results. Two books well tried as means of Socialist propaganda are

MODERN SOCIALISM. *5th Edition; 180 Pages; Paper 25c, Cloth 75c.*
PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISM. *4th Edition; 238 Pages; Paper 35c, Cloth $1.00*

both written by the REV. CHAS. H. VAIL. They have made thousands of Socialists by their simple and convincing presentation of the principles of Socialism. To Shareholders of the Comrade Co-operative Co. they are sold at a discount of 40 per cent. Any Socialist may acquire by monthly payments of 50 cents a $5.00 share in our Co-operative Publishing House and thereby enjoy special rates for "The Comrade" and other Socialist Literature. Don't stand aloof. Hitch your wagon to the

COMRADE CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY, 11 Cooper Square, New York.

Wage-Labor and Capital

By KARL MARX.

increase of capital is attended increase in the amouot of labor and in the number of laborers; or, in other words, ominion of capital is spread large number of individuals. to give the most fortunate possible, with the increase of tive capital there is an in- in the demand for labor. And wages—the price of labor will

ouse may be large or small, s long as the surrounding are equally small, it satisfies cial expectations as a dwelling But let a palace arise by the f this small house, and it s from a house into a hut. mallness of the house now gives e understood that its occupant ther very small pretensions or t all; and however high it may up with the progress of civili- , if the neighboring palace up also in the same or in r proportion, the occupant of mparatively small house will find himself more uncomfort- more discontented, more con- within his four walls.

otable advance in the amount s wages brings about a rapid se of productive capital. The increase of productive capital forth just as rapid an increase lth, luxury, social wants, and comforts. Therefore, although mforts of the laborer have ris- e social satisfaction which they has fallen in comparison with augmented comforts of the cap- which are unattainable for borer, and in comparison with neral development of comforts. wants and their satisfaction their origin in society; we ore measure them in their rela- o society, and not in relation e objects which satisfy them. their nature is social, it is ore relative.

a rule, then, wages are not de- ed merely by the amount of odities for which they may be nged. They depend upon vari- elations.

t the laborer immediately re- for his labor is a certain am- f money. Are wages determin- rely by this money price?

the sixteenth century the gold ilver in circulation in Europe augmented in consequence of the very of America. The value of and silver fell, therefore, in ortion to other commodities. e laborers received for their labor ame amount of silver coin as The money price of their la- emained the same, and yet their had fallen for in ex- e for the same amount of they obtained a smaller quan- f other commodities. This was f the circumstances which fur- d the increase of capital and ise of the bourgeoisie in the nth century.

us take another case. In the r of 1847, in consequence of a e of crops, there was an impor- increase in the price of the in- nsable means of subsistence— meat, butter, cheese, etc. We suppose that the laborers still ed the same amount of money heir labor as before. Had not wages fallen then? Of course had. For the same amount of y they received in exchange less l. meat, etc.; and their wages fallen, not because the value of r had diminished, but because value of the means of subsistence increased

us finally suppose that the mo- price of labor remains the same in consequence of the employ- of new machinery, or on ac- t of a good season, or for some ar reason, there is a fall in the of all agricultural and manu- red goods. For the same amo- of money the laborers can now more commodities of all kinds. r wages have therefore risen, because their money price has changed.

e money price of labor, the no- l amount of wages, does not efore fall together with the real es, that is, with the amount of modities that may practically be ined in exchange for the wages. efore, if we speak of the rise fall of wages, the money price of r or the nominal wage is not only thing which we must keep iew.

t neither the nominal wages, t is the amount of money for ch the laborer sells himself to the oyer, nor yet the real wages, t is, the amount of commodities ch he can buy for this money, aust the relations which are com- hended in the term wages.

or the meaning of the word is fly determined by its relation to gain or profit of the employer— s a proportionate and relative ex- ssion.

he real wage expresses the price labor in relation to the price of er commodities; the relative wage, the contrary expresses the price the direct labor in relation to t of stored-up labor, the relative ue of wage-labor and capital, the portionate value of capitalist and orer.

eal wages may remain the same, they may rise, and yet the rela- e wages may none the less have len Let us assume, for example, t the price of all the means of bsistence has fallen by two-thirds, ile a day's wages have only fallen e-third, as for instance, from three llings to two. Although the la- rer has a larger amount of com- odities at his disposal for two shil- gs than he had before for three, t his wages are nevertheless dimi- shed in proportion to the capital- 's gain. The capitalist's profit— e manufacturer's for instance—has en augmented by a shilling, since for the smaller sum of exchange va- ue which he pays to the laborer, the laborer has to produce a larger sum of exchange value than he did before. The value of capital is raised in pro- portion to the value of labor. The division of social wealth between capital and labor has become more disproportionate. The capitalist commands a larger amount of labor with the same amount of capital. The power of the capitalist class over the laboring class is increased; the social position of the laborer has deteriorated, and is depressed another degree below that of the capitalist.

What then is the general law which determines the rise and fall of wages and profit in their reciprocal rela- tion?

They stand in inverse proportion to one another. Capital's exchange value, profit, rises in the same pro- portion in which the exchange value of labor, wages, sinks; and converse- ly. The rise in profit is exactly measured by the fall in wages, and the fall in profit by the rise in wages.

The objection may perhaps be made that the capitalist may have gained a profit by advantageous exchange of his products with other capital- ists, or by the rise in the demand for his goods whether in consequence of the opening of new markets, or of a greater demand in the old mar- kets; that the profit of the capitalist may thus increase by means of over- reaching another capitalist, inde- pendently of the rise and fall of wages and the exchange value of labor; or that the profit of the capi- talist may also rise through an im- provement in the implements of la- bor, a new application of natural forces, and so on.

But it must nevertheless be admit- ted that the result remains the same although it is brought about in a different way. The capitalist has acquired a larger amount of ex- change value with the same amount of labor, without having had to pay a higher price for the labor on that account; that is to say, a lower price has been paid for the labor in proportion to the net profit which it yields to the capitalist.

Besides, we must remember that in spite of the fluctuations in the price of commodities, the average price of each commodity—the proportion in which it exchanges for other commo- dities—is determined by its cost of production. The overreaching and tricks that go on within the capital- ist class therefore necessarily cancel one another. Improvements in ma- chinery and new applications of na- tural forces to the service of produc- tion enable them to turn out in a given time with the same amount of labor and capital a larger amount of products, but by no means a larger quantity of exchange value. If by the application of the spinning jinny I can turn out twice as much thread in an hour as I could before its in- vention; for instance, a hundred pounds instead of fifty, that is be- cause the cost of production has been halved, or because at the same cost I can turn out double the amount of products.

Finally, in whatsoever proportion the capitalist classes—the bourgeois- ie—whether of one country or of the market of the whole world—share among themselves the net products of production, the total amount of these net profits always consists merely of the amount by which, tak- ing all in all, direct labor has been increased by means of stored-up la- bor. The sum total increases, there- fore in the proportion in which pro- fit rises as compared with wages.

Thus we see that even if we confine ourselves to the relation between capital and wage-labor, the interests of capital are in direct antagonism to the interests of wage-labor.

A rapid increase in capital is equal to a rapid increase of profits. Pro- fits can only make a rapid increase if the exchange value of labor—the relative wage—makes an equally ra- pid decline.

The relative wage may decline, al- though the actual wage rises along with the nominal wage, or money price of labor; if only it does not rise in the same proportion as profit. For instance, if when trade is good, wages rise five per cent., and profits on the other hand thirty per cent., then the proportional or relative wage has not increased, but declined.

Thus if the receipts of the laborer increases with the rapid advance of capital, yet at the same time there is a widening of the social gulf which separates the laborer from the capi- talist, and also an increase in the power of capital over labor and in the dependence of labor upon capital.

The meaning of the statement that the laborer has an interest in the rapid increase of capital is merely this: the faster the laborer increases his master's dominion, the richer will be the crumbs that he will get from his table; and the greater the number of laborers that can be em- ployed and called into existence, the greater will be the number of slaves of which capital will be the owner.

We have thus seen that even the most fortunate event for the work- ing class, the speediest possible in- crease of capital, however much it may improve the material condition of the laborer, cannot abolish the opposition between his interests and those of the bourgeoisie or capitalist class. Profit and wages remain just as much as ever in inverse propor- tion.

When capital is increasing fast, wages may rise, but the profit of capital will rise much faster. The actual position of the laborer has improved, but it is at the expense of his social position. The social gulf which separates him from the capi. talist has widened.

Finally, the meaning of fortunate conditions for wage-labor, and of the quickest possible increase of produc- tive capital, is merely this: The fast- er the working classes enlarge and extend the hostile power that domi- nates over them, the better will be the conditions under which they will be allowed to labor for the further increase of bourgeois dominion and for the wider extension of the power of capital, and thus contentedly forge for them- selves the golden chains by which the bourgeoisie drags them in its train

But are the increase of productive capital and the rise of wages so in- dissolubly connected as the bourgeois economists assert? We can hardly believe that the fatter capital be- comes the more will its slave be pampered. The bourgeoisie is too much enlightened, and keeps its ac- counts much too carefully, to care for that privilege of the feudal no- bility, the ostentation of splendor in its retinue. The very conditions of bourgeois existence compel it to keep careful accounts.

(Concluded next week.)

DOG FIGHT ON THE GREEN.

To the Editor of Western Clarion:

As I am just now trying to peddle my labor power and there are few buyers, I have plenty of time on my hands and to spare. In order to spend it to at least some advan- tage I occasionally go over to the Provincial bear garden or wind fac- tory, which ever you please, to see what is going on and how the So- cialist members fare within its pre- cincts. Presuming some of your readers would like to know whether the growling of the bears would prove fierce enough to frighten the Socialist members up a tree, or the wind be so strong as to cause them to depart from their course or go on their "beam ends," I will endeavor to chronicle some of the happenings there as well as my memory will per- mit.

On Tuesday, February 21, Haw thornthwaite's amendment to the Coal Mines Regulation Act providing penalties for its infringement was on the boards. The way it excited the bears and set the wind to blowing was great. It was as interesting as a dog fight on the village green for a while, and I came to the conclu- sion that were it not for the Social- ist members the garden or factory would be as devoid of life as a morgue. The two members had let- ters and telegrams from "boards of trade" and other parts and parcels of the labor skinning fraternity from all over the country, objecting to the amendment. Dunsmuir tele- graphed that he would close his mines if it passed, and Manager Stockett of the Western Fuel Co., and others were on the ground to lobby against it. Hawthornthwaite said that while the Nanaimo mines under the old management had been operated practically upon the basis of an eight-hour day, changes had been introduced by the present smart American company with a view to sqeezing more profits out of the men. The Northumberland miners worked but 7½ hours from bank to bank, and those of Devonshire but 7, and yet the industry had not been ruined. When the Workmen's Compensation Act was introduced it was threaten- ed that all great works would shut down, which had not resulted. The Factory Acts of Great Britain had not interfered with production to any noticible extent. That this was not a Socialist measure as it in no way represented the Socialist de- mands. It was a measure of the trades unionist.

Mr. McInnes expressed great sym- pathy for the "workingman." It was easier for him to say "workingman" than Ralph Smith workingman. He thumped the table, looked wise and fierce, talked loud and long, and as usual said nothing—an occupation at which he has no equal in the House. He thought there was al- ready too much legislation, with which I quite agree. If he and his ilk would sit still on their seats, draw their salary and do nothing else, less legislative damage would be done. Besides this, a much bet- ter opinion of their talents and abi. lities as statesmen would be record- ed upon the annals of time to be read by posterity.

John Oliver, somehow or other, got hold of a platform of the Social- ist Party of British Columbia and was horrified to learn that the work- ers actually proposed to as soon as possible lay claim to the wealth they produce. Hawthornthwaite raised a point of order, claiming that Oliver was not only talking of something that was not before the House, but of something of which he possessed no knowledge, as well. He did not so strongly object to Oliver knowing nothing of Socialism, as he did to his using the time of the House to prove it.

Parker Williams contended that the Socialists at this stage of the game could nor would not introduce Socialist legislation into the House, but must content themselves with a campaign of education. When the people of the province became con- verted to Socialism the work of gov- ernment would be altered to that. Until that time the Socialists had to adapt themselves to present con- ditions.

When reference was made to the in- tense anxiety of the Liberals to get next to the treasury benches, even if it were necessary to form any old sort of a coalition to do so, a merry row ensued in which Oliver, honest John Oliver, member for Delta, came in for some hard knocks at Haw- thornthwaite's hands. I have quite an admiration for the Conservatives. They are working for their class and do not deny it. But the Liberals are the most pitiful aggregation of pretended friends of Labor I ever saw. I do not know whether to dub them "wolves in sheep's clothing" or "asses in lion's skins."

It needs but a half-dozen more class-conscious members elected along with Hawthornthwaite and Williams to so shake the dry bones of capitalist politics as to develop the mild growling of the bears into a deafening roar, and the gentle sough of the wind into a howling gale. I hope to see not less than that number returned to the House at the next election.

Although things were lively on Tuesday, they were even more so on Wednesday, when the Eight-Hour Smelter Bill was up for discussion. All of the members were in their places and the gallery was well filled. I have heard Hawthornthwaite often, but on this occasion he fairly outdid himself. When he sat down the applause was great and long- continued all over the House. So pronounced was this in the gallery that the speaker was forced to threaten to have it cleared if it were not stopped.

Let the good work go on. All hail to our Socialist members!

Yours fraternally,

A Spectator.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 23, 1905.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

PLATFORM

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to and support of the prin- ciples and program of the internation- al revolutionary working class.

Labor produces all wealth, and to labor it should justly belong.. To the owners of the means of wealth pro- duction 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 pro- perty 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 deg- radation.

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 ac- complish this necessitates the trans- formation of capitalist property in the means of wealth production into collective or working-class property.

The irrepressible conflict of inter- ests 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 ob- ject of conquering the public powers for the purpose of setting up and en- forcing 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 (na- tural resources, factories, mills, rail- ways, etc.,) into the collective prop- erty of the working class.

2. Thorough and democratic or- ganization and management of indus- try by the workers.

3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use in- stead 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 con- duct all the public affairs placed in its hands in such a manner as to pro- mote the interests of the working class alone.

- Our Victoria Advertisers -

Patronize Them and Tell Them Why.

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 EXAMINER AND AMERICAN
PENNSYLVANIA GRIT
P. O. Box 444 VICTORIA, B. C.

SCOTT & PEDEN
3, 5 and 7 STORE STREET
Importers and Dealers in
FLOUR, FEED HAY AND GRAIN
Hams, Bacon, Butter, Eggs, Vegetables
Telephone 296 VICTORIA, B. C.
Mail Orders Promptly Attended To.

CHARLIE BO MERCHANT TAILOR
Clothing Made to Order.
Fit Guaranteed.
27 Store Street Victoria, B. C.

COMRADES, strike at the ballot box on Election day, and be sure to strike the
Rock Bay Hotel
When in Victoria.
ARNASON BROS., Proprietors

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.

ALL WORKINGMEN
Appreciate the Benefits of
TOMATO BRACER
CLAM COCKTAILS
K. P. C. WINE
"THREE HOT DRINKS."
HYGIENE KOLA WINE CO.

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

PAYING HIGH PRICES BECOMES MONOTONOUS
Try **HASTIES' FAIR** For a Change
73 Government Street, Victoria, B. C.

—SMOKE—
THE PRIDE OF VICTORIA.
Sold Everywhere. Union Made.
69 Pandora St. Victoria, B. C.

Patronize Clarion Advertisers.
5 yearly sub. cards for $3.75.
Bundles of 25 or more copies to one address at the rate of one cent

Chattel slavery was only a per- fected stage of cannibalism, just as wage slavery represents a perfected stage of chattel slavery. It is the old story of the hen furnishing gol- den eggs over again. It is more economical and refined to eat up other people's muscles, bones, sin- ews blood and marrow incorporat- ed in human labor, than to eat flesh in the literal meaning of the word. —Isador Ladoff.

And now comes the Goldfields La- bor Council, of West Australia, with a resolution favoring a six-hour working day. If this thing continues long enough the workers, just like the capitalists, won't work at all. This tendency to reduce everybody to a "dead level" is deplorable in- deed.

COMRADES
Strike at the ballot box on elec- tion day but be sure to strike the
LIGHTHOUSE RESTAURANT
336 Cordova St.
any day you are hungry. Just around the corner from the Social- ist headquarters.
T CHRISTENSEN, Prop.

CITY LOAN OFFICE
225 Abbott Street
A Few Doors North of Cordova St.
Highest prices paid for gold and silver and cast-off clothing. Watches and diamonds bought, and sold at lowest figures.

Needed in Every Home
Always Up to Date
WEBSTER'S INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY
A Dictionary of ENGLISH, Biography, Geography, Fiction, etc.
The New and Enlarged Edition Contains
25,000 New Words
New Gazetteer of the World with more than 25,000 titles, based on the latest census returns.
New Biographical Dictionary containing names of over 10,000 noteworthy persons, with nationality, occupation, date of reigns, date of birth, death, etc.
Edited by W. T. HARRIS, Ph.D., LL.D. United States Commissioner of Education.
New Plates 2380 Quarto Pages
Rich Bindings 5000 Illustrations
We also publish
Webster's Collegiate Dictionary with Glossary of Scottish Words and Phrases. 1100 Pages. 1400 Illustrations. Size 7x10x2 5-8 inches. "First-class in quality, second-class in size."
LET US SEND YOU FREE "A Test in Pronunciation" which affords a pleasant and instructive evening's entertainment. Illustrated pamphlet also free.
G. & C. MERRIAM COMPANY, Publishers, Springfield, Mass.

All The Working Men
Buy Their
CLOTHING
—AT—
The Belfast Store
243-245 CARRALL STREET.
L. Richmond
37 Hastings Street, East.
Next Door to Mason's.

THE wheels of production were never more artistically occu- pied than in the Job Depart- ment of the Western Clarion. We have all the mechanical devices of that branch of modern industry known as the Typographical trade. We can print anything from a bread ticket to a circus poster, and do it right. Until the profit system is abolished we intend to make the best of the present circumstances by doing the finest work at prices com- mensurate with good work. No job too small and none too large. If you need printing you might as well get it from us as from anyone else. Anything in the way of Letterheads, Billheads, Envelopes, Cards, Posters or such like is right in our line. Send us your printing and tell your friends about us.

The Western Clarion
165 HASTINGS STREET
P. O. BOX 836 VANCOUVER, B. C.

An Opportune Time for Reading

Drop in and see our splendid assortment of reading matter. Try our book exchange. Return two old books and receive one new one.

E. GALLOWAY
VANCOUVER. B. C.
12 and 14 Arcade. 326 Abbott Street
Mail orders promptly attended to

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of Western Clarion:

On Sunday, Feb. 12, the Rev. B. H. West, pastor of the Jackson avenue avenue Baptist church of this city preached a sermon on what he called the "Truth and Error of Socialism." His sermon was a warning to beware of false prophets, and may be summed up as follows:

If a reform involves the elements of anti-christ it should be rejected. Labor is the chief factor in the production of wealth. The Socialist is a prophet of the age, who stands for the dignity of labor and who calls attention to child labor in factories and mines; long hours of toil; the unsanitary condition of workshops; to ignorance, crime, poverty and all other social wrongs that like the cankerworm are eating at the vitals of society, and all of which follow in the wake of injustice. We must admit the truthfulness of these charges against present society, a truism too self-evident to require any argument or demonstration. All of the great characters in the Bible came from the humble walks of life and jealously guarded the rights of labor. By their agitation they freed the masses who were the industrial slaves of the money-lending noblemen and rulers.

Paul was a great character who said, "if any man will not work, neither let him eat," and who declared that "money is the root of all evil," and in my opinion such a statement is only too true. I have more sympathy with the Socialist who contends for the dignity of labor than he who contends for its enslavement and degradation. All Christians must subscribe to this noble conception of truth, "peace on earth, good will to men." They that take the sword shall perish with the sword. The dream of the solidarity of the human race under a universal banner of peace has haunted the minds of priests, prophets and seers for thousands of years. The Socialists now proclaim this from the house tops of modern civilization. But the error of Socialism is its materialistic conception of history. It seeks to account for the ills of life from the influences of unfavorable environments, which no doubt has much to do with the destiny of man. But such unfavorable environment is caused by man being a law breaker, for which disobedience he was sin cursed, and thrust out from Eden, away from Paradise and God. That he is now dissatisfied is evidence that he is looking for something that is lost, and that there is a desire in his heart to get back to Eden. I fail to find in the literature of the Socialist propaganda a clear and definite recognition of the bible as the word of God. This is a mistake and savors of atheism. Those who have founded philanthropic societies took much truths from the bible.

Where the bible has the fullest circulation socialism has the greatest response. No one looks to India, China or Turkey, for the evangel of labor, but to such countries as Germany, England, New Zealand and the United States. Socialists make a mistake by ignoring or rejecting the book that is regarded by Christians as God's revelation to mankind. Millions of people would identify themselves with Socialism if the Socialists would but acknowledge Christ as the God-sent emancipator of the race. Lack of such acknowledgment caused the failure of the Paris Commune of 1871. I part company with all enterprises that fail to acknowledge the Lamb of God who alone can remit the sin of the world."

That the "Province," a capitalist daily, should devote about two and a half columns to Mr. West's sermon is in itself evidence that it contains nothing that would be of benefit to the wage slaves of capitalism. Indeed, there is nothing new in Mr. West's sermon. It is very much like what usually comes from that particular fraternity.

That Mr. West should admit that labor is the chief factor in the production of wealth, and that Socialism stands for the dignity of Labor and then to declare he must part company with it simply because it does not conform itself to his particular religion, is proof of his loyalty to his profession.

Mr. West's chief objection to Socialism is its "materialistic conception of history." As Ferri says, "Socialism is, in its fundamental conception, only the logical application of the scientific theory of natural evolution, to economic phenomena." Engels says: "The materialistic conception of history starts from the proposition that the production of wealth, and next to production, the exchange of the things produced, are the basis of all social structure, and of every society in history. The manner in which wealth is produced, and society divided into classes, depends upon what is produced, and how such produce is exchanged. From this point of view the causes of all social changes are to be sought, not in man's mind or his insight into eternal truths and justice, but in the mode of production and exchange of each different epoch. The means whereby the people supply their natural wants, are known as the economic or industrial institutions, and are the basis of all other institutions. In other words the economic institutions of any given time carry with them natural economic laws that are the chief factors in determining man's action and in shaping or forming the moral, religious, educational, political and all other social institutions of that time. This conception of history shows us that at an early social stage, when but little progress has been made in agriculture, and sufficient food is obtained with difficulty, the people are cannibals. Later on when agriculture is more highly developed and the individual can produce more than will sustain himself, the victors of war, the most cunning, put their captives to work as slaves. Cannibalism then became immoral and illegal; slavery both moral and legal. From that time to the present slavery has existed in some form, the different forms merely conforming to the different modes of production and exchange. Slavery in any form simply means that the master owns or controls the means whereby the slave must live. It then follows that the political institutions of any given time are the political expression of the economic interests of the ruling or master class of that time. The educational institutions of any given time are the educational expression of the economic interest of the ruling or master class of that time. The religious institutions of any given time are likewise the religious expression of the economic interest of the ruling or master class of that time, and to be of more benefit to the ruling class than any other of its social organizations. True for Mr. West, "the minds of priests, prophets and seers have been always haunted by dreams of peace," but what kind of peace? Why! the peace of a submissive and docile slavery.

Mr. West tells us that the ancient prophets were the cause of labor being emancipated. Yes; from one form of slavery to some other, more in keeping with the advanced means of production and exchange. The government, or political institution is the most useful of all to the master class at the present time, except in Italy, Belgium and such countries, where the church is still the dominant political power and therefore controls the government.

In the days of Christ's agitation He was a carpenter out of work. With some of his half brothers, their cousin John the Baptist, and a few more of the down-trodden, he was carrying on an agitation against the ruling class. The religious institutions of the ruling class of that time beheaded John and crucified Christ. This caused the working slaves of those parts who knew them to resolve to carry out the wishes of their martyred brothers. It is natural to expect that this agitation was more or less tinctured with religion of some kind, and those who continued to carry it on no doubt kept adding the religious taint to it.

When Rome had conquered the then known world in order to rule it, it became necessary to have one uniform religion. By this time the agitation started by Christ and John had many followers among the down-trodden masses. The cunning priests prophets and seers got their heads together, drew the "red herring" across the trail of this working class agitation, modified it to suit their purpose, and adopted it as the national religion. They compiled the old and new testament, including many books that have since been thrown out, by the Protestants. This compiling of the bible occurred 365 years after Christ's death, and the Roman Catholic Church held a monopoly as the only Christian church until the Protestant reformation early in the fifteenth century.

The Reformation was the religious expression of a new economic class which had developed within the feudal system. This was the present capitalist class in its infancy. Its economic ideas were incompatible with those of feudalism. The stronghold of feudalism was the Catholic Church. In spite of internal wars it had all of Catholic Western Europe in one huge political system. It owned more than two-thirds of the soil of the Catholic world, and was, therefore, the greatest Feudal Lord of the system.

In order to successfully attack feudalism it was necessary for the rising bourgeoisie to take on a religious disguise and attack this its sacred centre, the Catholic Church. This was done and Martin Luther became the first spokesman of the religious expression of the new economic class, the Bourgeoisie. I quote one of his sayings, "No mercy, no toleration is due to the peasants. On them should fall the wrath of God and man—they should be treated as mad dogs." Again I say, religion of any kind is but an expression of the economic interests of the ruling class.

During the civil war in the United States, and while the agitation leading up to it was going on, the clergy of the South preached lengthy sermons, and quoted freely both the old and new testaments to show that chattel slavery was a Divine institution, while the clergy of the North stood but for freedom (wage slavery) as chattel slavery was too expensive for the northern manufacturers.

In the same issue of the "Province that gives so much space to Mr. West's sermon, I find the following:

BELLS TOLL IN MOSCOW.

Requiem Mass Being Said for the Soul of Sergius.

Moscow, Feb. 18.—The bells of Moscow's five hundred churches are tolling today, requiem masses are being celebrated, and before many shrines priests are constantly chanting prayers for the repose of the soul of murdered Grand Duke Sergius. His remains still rest in the Choudofa Monastery, whither they were removed yesterday.

Let it be remembered that Grand Duke Sergius had murdered his thousands. Only a couple of weeks since innocent, well-meaning, unarmed, unpolitical religious working men, women and children, praying to God and carrying their religious ikons, were brutally butchered in the streets of St Petersburg, for no other offence than wanting to meet the ruler of the country and explain to him that their condition had become unbearable. To use their own words, "Stifled by destitution and injustice, we are perishing." These innocent people who were killed did not even get a decent burial. No thousand church bells tolled; no requiem masses were said; there was no chanting of prayers by many priests before the shrines. Their leader, Father Gopon, was immediately excommunicated from the church.

Many instances of a similar nature might be cited, not in Russia alone, but in every country under Christendom.

Like Mr. West the clergy of all denominations seek to pacify the poor by reminding them that their poverty, degradation and suffering has been caused by the eating of that apple in the garden of Eden. They all say, "Peace on earth, good will to men," was the motto of He who came to emancipate the race, and then they follow with, "the poor ye shall always have with you." It is easier for a camel," etc. Mr. West is perfectly correct in saying that many fake prophets have gone out into the world. If he truly sees in the discontent of the modern slave a desire to return to Eden, it is proof that Christian teaching has not been wholly in vain. The slaves evidently believe that Adam and Eve did not eat all the fruit.

He should not be disturbed because he does not find in Socialist literature any recognition of the "bible as the Word of God," etc. Even the professions of theological dogma cannot agree upon these matters, as the 1300 different denominations under the Christian religion testifies. The Catholic Church asserts that many books were inspired by Jehovah, that the Protestants have thrown out as written by some "worm of the dust" on his own account. It would be interesting to know Jehovah's opinion of the Catholics if they were not inspired, or of the Protestants if they were. With all of this confusion among the elect, the Socialist "poor worm of the dust," cannot reasonably be expected to decide, but must take chances until matters are decided by more competent authority.

Let the reverend gentleman understand that the Socialist movement is the movement of the workers, both Christian and-non-Christian, to break the chains of bondage under which they now are held by the rulers of the world, either Christian or non-Christian.

C. M. O'BRIEN,
Box 321.

Vancouver, B.C., Feb. 21, 1405.

BURNS & Co.
Second Hand Dealers.

Largest and cheapest stock of Cook Stoves in the City.

Boom Chains, Augers, Loggers' Jackets, etc.

Must reduce stock in next sixty days.

Remember the place
181 Powell Street
'Phone 1879 Vancouver, B. C.

Best of Everything
In Gentlemen's Furnishings
You are Expected if You Want the Best

A purchase is not necessary when you come here. This is a store where all are free to come when they please, examine, question and admire, and go when they please.

KILROY, MORGAN CO., LTD.
Successors to the Palace Clothing House
110 Cordova Street

LOCAL MEETINGS.

R. P. Pettipiece will be the speaker at the regular propaganda meeting in Sullivan Hall, Cordova street, on Sunday evening, March 5.

These meetings are constantly growing both in interest and attendance, and are a no inconsiderable factor in spreading Socialist ideas among Vancouver's working people.

On Monday evening, March 6, Mrs. Irene Smith of Tacoma, Washington, will speak in the City Hall, her services having been secured through the Provincial Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Canada, which has arranged a short tour for the comrade taking in several points on Vancouver Island. Those who heard Mrs. Smith when here during the last provincial campaign will remember her as an able and earnest exponent of Socialist philosophy, able to give a good account of herself upon the public platform.

Every one is cordially invited to attend the meeting. There will be no charge for admission. A collection will be taken to assist in defraying expenses.

Do not forget the date. Monday evening at City Hall. Doors open at 7:30.

Depend upon it this rage for trade will destroy itself. You and I will not live to see it, but the time will come when there will be an end of it. Trade is like gambling. If a whole company are gamesters, play must cease, because there is nothing to be won. When all nations are traders there is nothing to be gained by trade, and it will stop where it has been brought to the highest perfection.—Dr. Johnson.

IT'S ALL IN THE CLOTHES
"No Charge for the Name, the Cost is all in the Clothes."

Most makers lay great stress on the name. We devote our attention to the Clothes. We realize that when we "deliver the goods" the name will take care of itself.

"Stilenfit" Ready-for-Service Suits, $12. and $15. up to $30.

Special line of Trousers for $3.00

J. DANAHER & CO. Corner Granville and Powell Streets
SOLE AGENTS FOR "STILENFIT" CLOTHES
Samples and blank measurements sent on application.

THE SOCIALIST WAY.

In accordance with resolution of the Provincial Executive Committee, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of passes from the following companies:

B. C. Telephone Company;
B. C. Electric Railway Company;
Canadian Pacific Railway;
Kettle Valley Railway;

And that I propose using the same as occasion demands.

Respectfully yours,
Parker Williams,
Newcastle.

Legislative Assembly, Victoria, March 1, 1905.

The Socialist party is the child of the class struggle. It was born of the necessity of the working class and is the party of that class as against the capitalist class.

The labor question is essentially a political question.

The capitalist class rule because they have control of government. The working class are preparing to profit by their example. Numerically they are an overwhelming majority. They have simply to unite and act together politically as a class to put themselves in control of government and emancipate themselves from wage slavery.

E. V. DEBS.

DON'T FAIL TO HEAR
Mrs. Irene Smith
The CITY HALL
Monday, March 6
SEATS RESERVED FOR LADIES
Admission Free. Discussion and Questions. Collection.

NOTES FROM ONTARIO.

The Socialist vote for the Ontario Legislature polled in West Elgin on January 25 was 880 votes, the candidate being John Burton. In 1902 the vote was 428 for Gaylord Wilshire, who ran a spectacular campaign as a "millionaire" Socialist. The "Moses" came and went and the only pity is that the St. Thomas Socialists cannot explain the decreased vote and are still looking for another "Moses" to lead them.

In Manitoulin the Socialist vote on January 25 was 161 for S. Jackson as against 241 in 1902 for John McMillan. There is no organized movement in Manitoulin and the movement is of a semi-Fabian Appeal to Reason character. The chief thing that can be said for Manitoulin—and the same statement applies to the St. Thomas comrades in West Elgin—is that there are an earnest bunch of men in each district who consider themselves Socialists, are willing to learn and willing to pay for the teaching, and are sufficiently class-conscious to put a candidate in the field at every opportunity and give them their votes. But in both districts the comrades are not sufficiently educated to see the necessity of a dues-paying organization with a pledge. There being no local in good standing in the Socialist party of Canada or the dormant Ontario Socialist party in West Elgin or Manitoulin, it is a dangerous proceeding for the cause for them to nominate "Socialist" candidates. Organization should always precede political action—and a militant organization at that.

Toronto local has instructed its representative on the Board of Education to oppose the proposition that teachers and janitors should be prevented from canvassing in municipal elections. Give them political liberty even if they haven't sense enough to use it. A committee is working with James Simpson, the elected comrade, to aid him in steering a straight course along revolutionary Socialist lines.

WESTON WRIGLEY,
Toronto.

"They who lie down with dogs, get up with fleas." When Gompers sits between Belmont and Easley and gets up with a headache, he must not blame the Socialists for it!—Ex.

In speaking of recent events relating to advancing the "cause of freedom in Russia," the New York Evening Mail plaintively wails that "that cause is too sacred a thing to profane with Nihilistic bombs." Certainly, certainly! The American brand used in the Philippines is much better.

An occasional ignorant ass or miserable tool, gets up on his hind legs and howls that Socialism advocates "free love." Even if it were true, which it is not, it would be an improvement over the present system, which makes of every human impulse merely an article of merchandise. Love, under capitalism, is no exception to this rule.

As a result of the silly attacks directed against it by the state of Kansas, the Standard Oil Company ordered the suspension of all its operations in that state. This compelled the "crude oil producers" to stop pumping oil and discharge their help, as the Standard owns all the pipe lines and refineries. These "producers" believe in the present system of property but squeal at its consequences. Their reasoning faculties are even more crude than their oil.

ARE YOU THINKING of all the things in the house furnishing goods line you would like to buy if you could spare the money? Why, bless your heart, it won't cost nearly what you think if you let us supply the articles. Our KITCHEN FURNITURE is the most complete in the city, and there is nothing in these lines you cannot find in our store. And please remember that though our prices are very low, our goods are the kind that last a long while and give satisfaction. We don't keep trash at any price.

McLachlan Bros., Ltd.
131 HASTINGS ST. WEST.

Socialism will make beautiful living possible. It will enable people to live in health, culture and happiness, as nature intended they should. —Ex.

An investigation made by the metropolitan police of Tokyo, Japan, shows that the hours of printers in that city range from 9 to 14 per day, and the wge from 13 to 29 sen. A sen is equal to one-half cent in American money.

SPECIAL NOTICE

To Those Who Are Not on the Voters' List.

At the request of Local Vancouver, S. P. of B. C., I have been appointed commissioner for taking affidavits in the Supreme court, under the Provincial Elections Act, in the Vancouver City Electoral District.

For the accommodation of those who have not yet placed their names upon the voters list I will be at the Socialist headquarters, 313 Cambie street, room 1, second floor, each week day between the hours of 6 and 7 p. m., for the purpose of taking affidavits to enable them to be placed upon the list.

R. P. PETTIPIECE.

Capital is the most terrible scourge of humanity. It fattens on the misery of the poor, the degradation of the worker and the brutalizing toil of his wife and children. Just as capital grows, so grows also pauperism, that millstone around the neck of civilization, the revolting cruelties of our factory system, the squalor of great cities, and the presence of deep poverty seated hard by the gate of enormous wealth.—Karl Marx.

For a Union Express Call on Heywood Bros. Telephone 1-3-5-4

WEBB & EVERETT
MAKERS OF
LOGGERS' & MINERS' SHOES ONLY
EVERY PAIR WARRANTED --- HAND MADE
UNION WORK NO SWEATING
155 Cordova St. West, Vancouver, B. C.

Vancouver Co-Operative Association
532 Westminster Avenue
Positively the Best Bread in the City
Telephone 1734 C. N. Lee, Marager
A Union Shop and Endorsed by Every Union in Vancouver

Do You Want the Best of Everything?
We Sell the Very Best in the Way of Light at Prices that cannot be Beaten
The Nernst Electric Lamp
Is the latest and greatest boon offered to the public both for cheapness and brilliancy. Call and see us about rates, etc.
B. C. Electric Railway Co. Corner Carrall and Hastings Streets Vancouver, B. C.