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THE WESTERN CLARION

Published in the Interests of the Working Class Alone.

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OW LABOR GETS "SOMETHING NOW" BY WAY OF THE RALPH SMITH ROUTE

And the Sad-Eyed Tax-Payer Foots the Bill to the Great Glory of the Party in Power.

readers of the Clarion will re- er the Royal Commission of last which has been more aptly term- royal inquisition," inasmuch as rpose was undoubtedly to in- into the political convictions of orking people of this province, he object in view of thwarting olitical action as the workers be inclined to take, which would manner threaten the econo- premacy of the present ruling It has been openly charged overnment is distinctly a class ion, and that its every act is purpose of defending the in- of the particular economic h human society which may at e be in possession of it. As ling class becomes relatively maller in numbers than they hom its rule is exercised, and becomes of necessity more ar- and brutal, it is forced to deal usly with its retainers in order re their fealty in carrying out decent, impudent and dirty s by which alone can the eco- dominion of the present capi- lass be maintained. It is well that the present governments thout exception nurseries and s of graft. From top to bot- ey are just like that for which and. To correctly represent— a true expression of capitalist terest a government must per- e merely a business machine, just like any other capitalist . If an individual or capitalist has especially objectionable o do, such as might jar upon the finer conceptions of honor and manhood, it may easily become a matter of necessity that such finer feelings should be dulled by perhaps a generous application of that poultice which is too often effective in weakening the moral fibre: the poultice of cash payment. It is no accident that governments are a prolific field for graft. The work they have to perform, that of holding a ruled class in subjection oftentimes calls for work of such a nature as to be actually revolting to manhood, and therefore to be refused. To overcome any scruples entertained by those who are lacking in strength of moral fibre it becomes necessary to offer up. The cunning ones among the purchasable soon "get wise" and perchance become positively exorbitant in their demands. Knowing that the great majority of men are prone to shun that which is tainted with dishonor, these cunning ones take advantage of the situation by getting in on the graft. However distasteful it may be to the ruling class to pay "through the nose" for getting their dirty work done, they cannot well get out of it. It is imperative that it be done, and there are not many duly qualified, so in spite of themselves, outside of the humble grade of government employees the price rules high. Among the humbler grade the contrary is true. These can be at any time dispensed with, and the interest of the ruling class be in no way jeopardized. The average worker may in a dim way realize what he gets out of "royal inquisitions" or other capitalist creations, but the average taxpayer seldom ascertains what such indulgences cost him. He may be a Liberal and accuse the Conseravtive party of extravagance, or vice versa. In order to throw some little light upon the manner in which public (?) funds are disposed of in the ordinary course of capitalist government, we submit the following, taken from the report of the auditor-general of Canada, being the cost to the taxpayer of the aforesaid "royal inquisition" of 1893.

Chief Justice Hunter, 67 days at $40	$2,680 00
Chief Justice Hunter, traveling expenses	6 00
Rev. Elliot S. Rowe, 67 days at $35	2,345 00
Rev. Elliot S. Rowe, traveling expenses	14 70
W. L. Mackenzie King, secretary, 83 days at $5	415 00
W. L. Mackenzie King, traveling expenses	621.85
F. W. Giddens, stenographer, 83 days at $5	415 00
F. W. Giddens, traveling expenses	547 10
Use of D. G. S. Quadra, board wine, cigars, etc.	358 00
Telegrams and copies	102 04
Stationery	91 70
Postage stamps	7 00
Janitors	30 00
Rents	84 00
Advertising	26 30
Typewriting	30 00
Serving Subpoenas	23 25
Witness fees	95 75
Papers	7 25
Constables (what for?)	80 25
Transporting baggage, livery and "small outlay"	100 00
Gifts to train hands	9 00
Leather case	14 00
Leather trunk	25 50
Grand Total	$8,128 09

Chief Justice Hunter drew his usual salary of $5,000 per year, also $1,691.75 for travelling and living expenses, making a grand total for the year of $9,377.75. Of such a record the most ravenous taxeater might be justly proud.

As the onerous duty of sitting on the commission seems not to have interfered with the equally onerous pulpit practice of his reverence, the Rev. Elliot S. Rowe should have been in a position at the end of the 67 days to have contributed something to the foreign missionary fund for the purpose of converting the heathen to the idea of wearing Manchester Cotton and drinking Scotch whiskey. Presumably he put his $2,345.00 to some equally holy use.

Mackenzie King puts in 83 days at $5 per, but it does not seem to interfere with his duties as Deputy Minister of Labor, for he drew down his regular yearly salary of $3,200.00. The insignificant amount of $621.85 for Mr. King's traveling expenses may be accounted for by the fact that he, as Deputy Minister of Labor, pays no railway fares in Canada. Otherwise this ridiculously small sum would have been considerably larger. The rumor that Mr. King went each day to Ottawa for lunch is not true.

Mr. Giddens, the stenographer, drew $415 for 83 days, at the same time his regular salary from the Department of Labor. That his traveling expenses fell short of Mr. King's is probably due to his having walked a portion of the way.

That "board, wine, cigars, etc," on board the D. G. S. Quadra is a most interesting item. It opens before us a vast field for reflection that would take much time to properly cultivate. It would be interesting to know the relative amounts of board, wine and cigars used, and what particular bearing each had upon the eminently wise conclusions eventually arrived at by the "inquisition." Was there more "board" than "wine and cigars?" Was there more "cigars" than "board and wine?" Was there more "wine" than "cigars and board?" How much of the wine went down each respective neck; more especially that of the Victoria preacher?

Just what the $80.25 worth of constables was for does not seem clear unless it was to keep watch of the wine, and see that the Quadra's crew did not steal it, and thus seriously interfere with at least one function of the "inquisition." The transporting of baggage, livery and "small outlay" accounts for an even $100. Merely an expenditure on travelling account that had previously escaped notice. Only a trifle any way. Gifts to train hands presumably means "tips" given. As "tips" are given for menial service, presumably the commission had its shoes blacked, coat dusted, or back scratched. Inquiry at Ottawa develops the fact that the "leather case" and "leather trunk" costing $29.50 have not been sent in to the department. Any one knowing their whereabouts please forward information to this office.

As the creation of this commission was largely the work of the one-time famous, but now nearly forgotten, Ralph Smith, the good results to labor arrived at through the commission's work might be referred to as the "something now" which labor gets via the Ralph Smith route.

As the result of this nose-poking inquiry into the political convictions of working men seems to be that the solution of the labor problem still remains for the future, and the condition of labor is continually growing worse, the value of the Smith services, in acting as father to the commission, is to say the least doubtful. Just what value may accrue to the Liberal government of the Dominion as a result of the "inquisition" is a matter of conjecture. Whatever it may be they are welcome to it. What the taxpayers gained by it may be ascertained from the expense account given. What the individuals of the "inquisition" gained is quite properly known only to themselves, except in so far as set forth by the information already received from Ottawa.

ODERN LEG-IRON CIVILIZATION

A Return to Sixteenth Century Methods.

—bitter, unrelenting war—was d on the tramp nuisance this g by Magistrate Williams in lice court. Three of the fra- occupied the dock and had to to the charge of vagrancy. All were caught sleeping in a box- the C. P. R. last evening, and ad any visible means of sup-

worship remarked that he was regarding the best method ld adopt to abate the tramp e, and decided, after a little on, that six months' imprison- with hard labor, in each case, is the maximum penalty for cy, would be about the best giving these gentlemen of the understand that Vancouver e wrong place for them. His was assisted in forming his ination by the fact that the olice have information that a army of tramps is bound for y in small detachments, now d along the C. P. R. and other

this tramp evil has reached g proportions in Vancouver, the waters of the Pacific pre- e further progress of the pro- al walkers, has been amply in the police court of late, more than half the cases, out- the regular crop of drunks, are rancy. The jail is now full of . There is no room for more jail wall, plenty of unwilling ing already on hand to finish cellent concrete structure, and amply evident that sterner es are required to prevent this becoming the mecca of the

only are these people an ex- nuisance, but they are also a to the safety of life and pro- ere. Tramps have been proved committed numbers of crimes city and numbers of others ndoubtedly been the work of professional idlers.

further discourage these wan- from approaching the gates of y, the vagrants who are com- will in future be double-iron- has been the custom to put n single irons only, but by way eterrent, double irons will be on their ankles in future by Miller.

first case called was a vagrancy against a yougth who gave his s Blyth. He pleaded guilty to arge, and in answer to ques- rom his worship, said he came om Canmore, N.W.T. He slept xcar because he had not money to get a bed. His worship ed himself puzzled to know stop this tramp nuisance and that increased severity of ment was the only means of tion. Chief North said that his ment had information that were making their way to uver from all along the line of the C. P. R. Chief McLeod, of the C. P. R., said they were a great nuisance to his company on account of their habit of sleeping in boxcars. Finally Magistrate Williams decided that six months with hard labor would be calculated to discourage any tramps who might be heading this way, and passed sentence accordingly. Two more vagrancy cases were disposed of in the same way, and the court got down to the drunks on the list, who were quickly got rid of.

The foregoing clipped from the Vancouver Daily World of August 27, should be brought to the attention of every working man throughout the Dominion. The conscienceless and brutal ruling class whose accursed system of human enslavement and exploitation demands a resort to such inhuman and unscrupulous treatment of its helpless victims, will soon make appeal, through its various political parties, for a continued lease of power, to exact its "pound of flesh" from the quivering body of an enslaved working class. This appeal will be made to the members of that working class upon which with the most unfeeling concern it practices its fiendish cruelties, of which those recorded above are but a feeble sample. The men elected to place of power in government for the purpose of protecting and defending the economic interests of the present master class, even to the extent of outraging every principle of common decency, can be elected only by successfully appealing for working class votes.

That the next appeal make may fall upon deaf ears, every member of that class to whom these unfortunate victims of capitalist ferocity in Vancouver belong should leave no stone unturned to spread this acount broadcast and point out the significance of it. The sooner every working man knows just what his class is up against, and what an unscrupulous and unprincipled foe it has to contend with, the better for the race and its further progress towards the attainment of at least a civilization worthy of the name.

The cold-blooded ferocity and coarse vulgarity of capitalist class rule could be no more faithfully typified and set forth than in the above clipping. The World is to be commended for its frankness, though this is probably due to its stupidity rather than its wisdom. If there be a working man in Vancouver who after reading a few such exposes as the above, of the capitalist method of dealing with such surplus labor as there may be in the market, and which it for the moment can skin no profit out of, and still go to the polls and vote for a continuance of the capitalist system under the guidance of Liberal, Conservative, or any other party, he surely has a stomach that is "gag" proof.

J. C. WATTERS.

Comrade J. C. Watters, of Victoria, has been nominated by the Socialist Party of that city, as its candidate for a seat in the Dominion House at the forthcoming election.

Comrade Watters was the candidate at the Provincial election last fall and polled a surprisingly large vote, when the peculiarly conservative character of the Victoria constituency is taken into consideration along with the further fact that the Socialist movement in that city was of recent birth, he being the first candidate to be put up at that point.

Comrade Watters is a level-headed, close and careful reasoner, and thoroughly well versed upon every phase of the labor movement. Upon the platform he is logical, clear and to the point, and being a wage earner himself is doubly qualified to do credit to the workers as their representative in the Dominion or any other House, should he be elected.

Though it be against all tradition to even assume that workers should be anything but "hewers of wood and drawers of water," the Clarion makes bold to say that the workers of the world should henceforth commission only men of their own class to the halls of legislation to safeguard working class interests. If the Victoria workers be wise "Jim" Watters will carry their mandate to the next Dominion House.

The tramp is a "nuisance" to be of course abated just like any other nuisance. A nuisance to who? Why, to the ruling class, which for the moment can see no way to skin a profit out of him. If he could be given employment by some capitalist concern and a nice juicy profit extracted from his sweat, he would no longer be a "nuisance," but on the contrary, especially along about election time, would be the bone and sinew of the country.

In the days of that conscienceless old she-ruffian spoken of by sycophantic and apologetic historians as "good Queen Bess," the "vagrant," who by the way was merely what the tramp is today, that is a working man for whom there was no place at the time in industry, was oftentimes branded upon the forehead with the letter "V," and during her "glorious reign" 75,000 of them were hung upon the scaffold for the offence of vagrancy. And yet these vagrants were victims of circumstances over which they had no control. The workers had been driven off of the land upon which they had formerly lived, in order that the same might be turned into sheep pastures, by the ruthless robbers who had seized possession, and maintained it by force. It might be well to mention right here that the choice collection of aristocratic bric-a-brac possessed by England today is descended from the vulgar and unscrupulous robbers who plundered the English workers of their land and turned them into vagrants. From double leg irons and six months at hard labor to a brand upon the forehead, or to the gallows, is not a far cry, especially when it is recognized that the same spirit of ferocity lurks behind capitalist property, as lurked behind that of feudal or landlord property of the olden time. A "beak" so devoid of conscience, of honor, or of even common decency and humanity as to sentence a man to be branded or hanged, for no other offence than being unable to find employment, would be well qualified to deal out double leg irons and six months at hard labor for no greater offence.

The three men receiving such harsh sentences were guilty of the heinous offence of sleeping in a boxcar of the C. P. R. As though the discomfort of having to sleep in such a place was not sufficient punishment for being out of work and out of funds, the result of nineteen centuries' teachings of Christian civilization prompts the administering of six months at hard labor to fill to overflowing the cup of misery of these unfortunate members of the only useful class that exists in human society.

Such callous indifference to even the promptings of common decency should bring the blush of shame to the cheek of a savage. The youth Blyth, when questioned, stated that he slept in the boxcar because he did not have the price of a bed. Nothing appears to have been offered in any manner contradicting his statement, or going to show him possessed of criminal tendencies. Upon whom should the blame rest if his six months experience under this brutal sentence should result in arousing within him that feeling of hatred and revenge that is almost sure to follow in the wake of injustice and oppression, and that would urge him on to a criminal career?

According to McLeod these tramps are a "great nuisance to his company on account of their habit of sleeping in boxcars." This may be true, but honors are even on that score, for "his company" and all other capitalist concerns are a nuisance to the working class, inasmuch as they stand between the working class and its "daily bread." Just as the land thieves of old England stood between the workers and the land which at that time was the sole means of their subsistence, so do the capitalists of today stand between the workers and the means of subsistence (resources of the earth ,and machinery of production) and they have gained this position by equally honorable means.

This nuisance of capitalist ownership and rule can be abated only at the hand of an intelligent working class, consciously exercising its political powers for that purpose. The sooner it is done the sooner will the danger of wearing "leg irons," or worse, be removed.

The tramp is one of the logical fruits of the present system of property which is based upon the enslavement of labor. He is but a part of the daily grist of the capitalist mill, and will continue so long as industry is capitalized, and profit remains the motive which prompts its wheels to turn.

It is too much to expect of the capitalist press, that it will ever teach or point out anything which would tend to uplift the race. Rarely, if ever, does a ray of light find its way into its prostituted intellect. It is higt time, however, that legislators and courts learned the lesson, that it is impossible to make men good by legislative enactment or judicial decree. So long as conditions remain such as to prevent men from obtaining sleeping accommodations befitting a human being, they will avail themselves of such other as they may be able to obtain. So long as conditions remain as they are today, under which it is an utter impossibility for all who depend upon wages to obtain employment, there will be idle men; men without money with which to pay for beds; men who, according to the statesmen and judges of these days of Christian civilization, will be vagarnts. These modern statesmen and judges are beyond question no less wise than were those of the days of Elizabeth or James I. That is the best that could be said for them.

STRENUOUS LIFE IN COLORADO

"Law-and-order" Element Still Busy.

The following from the Miners' Magazine is offered as a striking illustration of the joys of the "strenuous" life in Colorado at the present time under the wise domination of the "better classes" who always prate loudly of "law and order." The leading figures in this affair were no less personages than A. E. Carlton, president of the First National Bank of Cripple Creek; Cashier Newman, of the same bank; Nelson Franklin, former mayor of Cripple Creek, and other shining lights in the firmament of local respectability. Though local officials were included among the "deportees," and even the deputy sheriff who was supposed to be in charge of that office during his chief's absence from the city, was placed under practical arrest and his authority ignored, while this wrecking of property, and other violence was going on, it would be unseemly to declare the affair an outrage, for surely the solid business element of Cripple Creek could do no wrong. All of the wrongful acts committed in Colorado must of course be placed to the credit of the Western Federation of Miners, which according to capitalist authorities, has been organized for no other purpose.

Cripple Creek, Colo., Aug. 20.—A wholesale deportation of union sympathizers, closing of the union store in this city and the final wrecking of it and authorities powerless to do anything toward restoring order was what happened between 5 o'clock this afternoon and 8 o'clock this evening, when a mob of fully 1,000 or 1,500 armed men took possession of the store and the authorities. All afternoon men began to congregate on the streets of this city, princfipally Bennett avenue.

A little after 4 o'clock the various

(Continued on page 3)

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PROPERTY.

A conception of property that is quite common is, that, at least in many instances, it is something that once created is handed down from genration to generation. This may in a sense be true, but a careful scrutiny of the case will show the value supposed to be attached to property in natural resources, and machinery of production, to be located in quite a different place, and these forms of property being merely the means of obtaining control or possession of it.

Landed property may be handed down from generation to generation. Land, however, of itself, possesse no exchange vzlue, no matter how richly stored with natural resources. It is the presence of a working population that gives to land its exchange value. The exchange value of land, taken as a general proposition, is determined by the amount of surplus value the owner may be able to extract from the workers, who carry on industry by converting its resources into usable or at least saleable things. Land, therefore, without exchange value itself, becomes an instrument by means of which the owner is enabled to transfer the exchange values produced by working people into his own possession, without giving anything in return. Land which the owner sets aside for individual use does not so figure, because it is not a part of the means of production in the capitalist sense while so used. Capitalist property in the instruments of wealth production, factories, mills, railways, etc., is purely the product of labor. It is continually undergoing the process of reproduction, even the more durable portion of it being entirely replaced by new at least every few years. The lifetime of the more durable parts of it is only prolonged even these few years at the expense of new labor expended upon it continually in the shape of repairs.

The vast property in the shape of food, clothing, etc., the things of daily consumption, is produced and reproduced each year, and much of it several times during that period.

Capitalist property is purely an instrument for the purpose of controlling labor, the only force that creates wealth from the earth's resources, and transferring the wealth so created into the possession of capitalists without cost to them. The value or capitalization of any capitalist concern is determined by the amount of labor it can command, and the magnitude of the surplus value it can pilfer from it.

The bonds, stocks, title deeds and other evidences or certificates of capitalist property that are transferred from hand to hand, or passed down from generation to generation, are merely the title deeds to Labor. In the factories, mills and sweatshops of the capitalist inferno these deeds are put upon record in the sweat and blood of slaves.

Once capitalist property is stripped of all sham and pretense, and its hideous nakedness exposed to the working people, its victims, their superstitious reverence for it will of necessity speedily vanish. They will be only too willing to abolish it, and substitute the Socialist system of property under which Labor shall be free. Then will property become what is should be, a means of securing the comfort and protection of those who create it.

The function of capitalist governments is to defend the present system of property regardless of its terrible consequences to mankind. In so doing they act without scruple and without conscience. In fact, scruple and conscience are not attributes of material interests. Let no one be disturbed over the question of whether it be right or wrong for the present system to continue, or another take its place. It is purely a question of power, egged on by material class interest. So long as the capitalist class interest can marshal to its support the control of the legislative, executive and judicial powers of government, it will demonstrate its system of property to be right, against all who may dispute the claim.

When the working class, aroused to its material interest, shall through the exercise of its politcal rights, have marshaled these powers in its behalf, it will, in equally convincing manner, demonstrate the capitalist system of property to be wrong, and relegate it to that ablivion which it is so eminently qualified to adorn.

BIG CANOE.

The steamship Minnesota, first of the "Great Northern" lines which are to run between Seattle and the Orient, is now loading at New York, for her trip around the Horn to her run upon the Pacific. Her huge dimensions can scarce be realized from the description given in the daily press, as follows: Length, 630 feet; beam, 73 feet 6 in.; depth, 56 feet; keel to bridge, 88 feet; keel to masthead, 177 feet ;number of decks, 9; water-tight compartments, 13; displacement, 21,000 tons; cargo capacity, 30,000 tons; indicated horse-power, 10,000; diameter of propellors, 20 feet; weight of rudder, 40 tons; speed, 14 knots; horse-power of steering engines, 500.

This monster represents the achievement of the race along the line of water transportation since the time when our forebears transported themselves and their few belongings across stream or lake by means of perhaps a floating log, or a rude dug-out. That the very foundations of marine transport, as of all other branches of human activity, were laid in a savage antiquity thousands of years ago is certain. A history of the originating, developing and bringing to its present high state of efficiency, all that goes to make up the modern machinery of industry and commerce, would comprise a complete history of man. In fact the only way his history could be written would be in industrial terms. From the dug-out to the Minnesota is a long journey indeed, the intervening period covering the invention of the oar, the rudder, the sail, the learing how to mine and smelt ores, and fashion the things of iron, steel, brass, copper, etc.., which so largely enter into present day marine construction, the invention of the steam engine, and its application to transportation, and all of the thousand and one things that enter into, and are involved in the makeup and operation of the modern means of industry and commerce. The operations of the ancient savage with his dug-out were of necessity confined to circumscribed limits. He was continually beset with danger, because of as yet limited knowledge of nature's forces, and his limited command over them. As a result of the accumulated knowledge of all the generations that have lived before, the modern savage with "big canoe" goes forth upon the water, with full knowledge of every current, tide, rock, reef or shore, upon the face of the earth, and with mechanical powers at his command to enable him to overcome all obstacles, and ward off all dangers, with which he may be confronted. The ancient savage built his dug-out or canoe for use. He used it as a means of transporting himself and his belongings from place to place as his needs required. It was therefore a useful thing to him, no doubt adding much to his comfort and pleasure. The modern "big canoe" like the Minnesota is neither built nor used for any such purpose. In the first place it is not even built by the owner, nor operated by him. It is neither built nor operated for the purpose of adding to the comfort or pleasure of they who operate or use it, but solely for the comfort and pleasure of the owner, a comfort and pleasure that is measured by the word profit, the most conscienceless, unscrupulous, and blood-thirsty word in the English language.

The greater portion, however great it may be, of the value of the Minnesota has been taken as a profit out of the sweat of the workers who builded her. Out of the hide of the workers who man and operate her, profits galore will be wrung and without mercy. The men who builded her are slaves whose rations have been issued to them in the form of wages. Her crew, from bridge to stoke-hole, are likewise slaves and will receive their rations by the same token. Instead of a means of pleasure and comfort to them, outside of the officers the Minnesota will be just what the modern ship in all cases is, a torture chamber for the crew. But her operation will undoubtedly bring profit to the coffers of Jim Hill and his type of modern savages, known as capitalists. The Minnesota will go to the Orient loaded with 30,000 tons of rich plunder stolen from the farmers and other workers of the United States, and will return with equally rich plunder taken from the workers of the Orient. The capitalist pirates on either side of the water will profit by this interchange of plunder. The deluded and plundered fools will pay the bill. Some of them will actually be so foolish as to consider Mr. Hill as doing them a favor by providing a means to expeditiously dispose of the plunder.

The ancient dug-out or canoe belonged to he who made and used it. That was why it was a means of ad ding to his comfort and pleasure. The modern canoe does not belong to they who make and operate it, the workers. That is the reason it becomes a torture chamber for they who operate it. The torture comes not because of any characteristic of the "canoe" itself, but because of its being capital. The function of capital is to rob labor out of its products. All of the great means of wealth production are today capital. They are not instruments for use, but instruments for plunder.

STRAIN AT A GNAT.

Some of our Vancouver people who are occasionally, and the press which is always, good, have been thrown into quite a fit because a young girl has been recently brought to the city for the purpose of being placed in some Dupont street house of ill-repute. One would think to listen to them that it was quite an unusual occurrence. The only unusual thing about it is that the police caught on, and stopped it. This may perchance be due solely to bungling work upon the part of those who had the unfortunate girl in charge, and who expected to turn an honest penny by the transaction.

Just why a fuss should be made, over this one instance of deliberate traffic in the virtue of womankind, by those who uphold the present system of property, the corner stone of which is not only a traffic in the virtue of woman, but a traffic in human life and everything good, bad and indifferent, that may be implied therein. is not easily understood.

The social evil is unknown except in connection with the age of trade and commerce. That which forces men and women to sell their life force in the market for wages in order to exist, will likewise compel the marketing of every virtue and worthy human attribute. Every merchant on earth today is trafficking in human life in some form or other. The goods upon the shelves are composed of human life force crystallized into commodity form. Could these commodities speak "they could a tale unfold," that would be replete with the misery, poverty, vice, crime and shame that follows as a natural consequence in the wake of a system that is based upon the enslavement of labor by capital.

There is nothing in the category of crime to which the world of trade and commerce will not stoop in its quest of lucre. That which the vile pair of wretches were attempting with the young girl from Tacoma, is practiced and accomplished wholesale by the capitalist system. Thousands upon thousands of the very flower of woman-kind are annually forced into lives of shame by the terrible economic pressure of a perpetually overstocked labor market. Once hurled over the abyss they can rarely ever reclaim themselves. Dupont street in this city is full of these unfortunate victims of circumstances over which they have no control. The pharisees and hypocrites of Vancouver find no time to do other than point the finger of scorn at them, except to occasionally attempt to drive them to other localities in the interest of some real estate speculation or swindle. The most sanctimonious hypocrite among the merchant fraternity, however, will welcome the custom of these unfortunate outcasts, and as the dollars brought to him through such channels merrily plunk into his till, his suing visage takes on a beatific smile as though anointed with the "oil of gladness."

Let the hypocrites hold up their hands in horror, and lugubriously wail over these occasional happenings which come to light, while they support the system that breeds them by the wholesale.

In doing so they merely "strain at a gnat," while swallowing "a camel."

A NEW PHILANTROPHY.

It appears, according to the New York Tribune, that two girls—one 18 the other 20—were recently discharged from the Bridewell prison, each having served one week. An investigation showed them to be "working girls who had been thrown out of work during the dull season, and that both had tried to find work and had adopted a life of disrepute only after it seemed there was no other means of keeping from starving." The girls were released through the philanthropic action of a certain Mrs. Fabyan who has set aside a sum of money out of which the fines imposed upon such unfortunate girls, in order that justice might be satisfied,might be paid provided the promise were made that such fine be repaid to the fund at the rate of $1.00 per week.

To these unfortunate girls this Fabyan woman should be a veritable patron saint. Their fines paid they can go forth from the prison gates with the assurance that failing to find honest work they must again resort to lives of shame, and if lucky enough to escape the eye of the police, may in time be able to repay the amount of their fine. In this manner will morality be conserved, justice satisfied, christian civilization vindicated, and the name of Fabyan indelibly written upon the scroll of fame as the originator of the new philanthropy.

The example of Fabyan might well be copied by local philanthropists in many a city or town that could be mentioned. Care should be taken by those so inclined, to avoid any and all moves looking towards the wiping out of a system of property and industry that inevitably breeds the conditions that drive women into lives of shame.

The teamsters of Chicago who have been on strike for several weeks in the effort to aid the striking meat workers have given up the struggle and return- to work. They refuse to give any further asistance to the strike.

The Clarion remarked last week that the meat workers were whipped from the moment they went out, and still holds to the same opinion. There is nothing to warrant the expectation of winning a strike at the present stage of capitalist development. Capital is too thoroughly organized and massed, and the labor market too completely over-stocked.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF B. C. PLATFORM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use in lieu 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 interest 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 oposed to it.

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

Socialist Directory

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

Socialist Party of British Columbia. Headquarters, Vancouver, B. C. Provincial executive committee: A. R. Stebbings, John Dubberly, L. T. English, R. P. Pettipiece, E. T. Kingsley, Vancouver; O. Lee Charlton, Victoria; E. S. Embree, Greenwood. Ernest Burns, treasurer; B. Merrill-Burns, secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

Local Vancouver, S. P. of B. C., No. 1. Business meetings every Wednesday evening at 8 p. m. at headquarters, Ingleside Block (room 1, 2nd floor) 313 Cambie street. Educational meetings every Sunday evening in Oddfellows' hall (3rd floor), Sullivan block, Cordova street. Secretary: O. P. Mills, box 836, Vancouver..

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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.

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.. Meets every second and fourth Wednesday in Union hall, Room 2. President, Lumner O'Brien; recording secretary, Urban Chaplin, 2820 Manitoba street. Delegates to Building Trades Council: P. McMurdo, and Taylor, alternate, Greenwell and Rafner. Delegates to T. & L. Council: G. D. Dobbin, J. McLaren, L. C. DeWolfe, G. F. Adams and A. E. Coffin.

Greenwood Miners' Union, No. 32, 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.

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HISTORICAL EVOLUTION.

A Sketch by Frederick Engels.

1. Mediaeval Society. — Individual production on a small scale. Means of production adapted for individual use, hence primitive, ungainly, petty, dwarfed in action. Production for immediate consumption, either of the producer himself or of his feudal lord. Only where an excess of production over this consumption occurs is such excess offered for sale, enters into exchange. Production of commodities, therefore, only in its infancy. But already it contains within itself, in embryo, anarchy in the production of society at large.

2.—Capitalist Revolution. — Transformation of industry, at first by means of simple co-operation and manufacture. Concentration of the means of production, hitherto scattered, into great workshops. As a consequence, their transformation from individual to social means of production—a transformation which does not in the whole, affect the form of exchange. The old forms of appropriation remain in force. The capitalist appears. In his capacity as owner of the means of production, he also appropriates the products and turns them into commodities. Production has become a social act. Exchange and appropriation continue to be individual acts, the acts of individuals. The social product is appropriated by the individual capitalist. Fundamental contradiction, whence arise all the contradictions in which our present day society moves, and which modern industry brings to light.

A.—Severance of the producer from the means of production. Condemnation of the worker to wage-labor for life. Antagonism between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie.

B.—Growing predominance and increasing effectiveness of the laws governing the production of commodities. Unbridled competition. Contradiction between socialized organization in the individual factory and social anarchy in production as a whole.

C.—On the one hand, perfection of machinery, made by competition compulsory for each individual manufacturer, and complemented by a constantly growing displacement of laborers. Industrial reserve army. On the other hand, unlimited extension of production ,also compulsory under competition, for every manufacturer. On both sides, unheard of development of productive forces, excess of supply over demand, over-production, glutting of the markets, crises in every ten years, the vicious circle excess here, of means of production and products of excess there, of laborers, without employment and without means of existence. But these two levers of production and of social well-being are able to work together, because the capitalist form of production prevents the productive forces from working and the products from circulating, unless they are first turned into capital, which their very superabundance prevents. The contradiction has grown to an absurdity. The mode of production rises in rebellion against the form of exchange. The bourgeoisie convicted of incapacity further to manage their own social productive forces.

D.—Partial recognition of the social character of the productive forces forced upon the capitalists themselves.. Taking over of the great institutions for production and communication, first by joint-stock companies, later on by trusts, then by the state. The bourgeoisie demonstrated to be a superfluous class. All its social functions are now performed by salaried employees.

3. Proletarian Revolution. — Solution of the contradictions. The proletariat seizes the public power, and by means of this transforms the socialized means of production, slipping from the hands of the bourgeoisie, into public property. By this act, the proletariat frees the means of production from the character of capital they have thus far borne, and gives their socialized character complete freedom to work itself out. Socialized production upon a predetermined plan becomes henceforth possible. The development of production makes the existence of different classes of society thenceforth an anachronism. In proportion as anarchy in social production vanishes, the political authority of the state dies out. Man, at last the master of his own form of social organization, becomes at the same time the lord over nature, his own master—free.

To accomplish this act of universal emancipation is the historical mission of the modern proletariat. To thoroughly comprehend the historical conditions and thus the very nature of this act, to impart to the now oppressed proletarian class a full knowledge of the conditions and of the meaning of the momentous act it is called upon to accomplish, this is the task of the theoretical expression of the proletarian movement, scientific Socialism.

We have a limited number of three months' subscription cards to the "Comrade," the famous New York Socialist periodical. Beginning with September 1st, and until the supply exhausted, we will give one of these three months subscriptions to each person sending in one dollar for a year's subscription to the Western Clarion. Send in your dollar at once, as the supply will soon be exhausted.

A profound silence regarding the next Dominion election is distinctly audible. Wonder what's up?

JOBLESS AND LANDLESS.

In Trying to Steer Clear of Scylla They Fall Into Charybdis.

"When I came to Texas eight years ago, I travelled all over the State in search of employment. Everywhere could be seen vast unoccupied tracts of land, where the cattle roamed at will the whole year around. Whenever the cattle were wanted by the owners, the cowboys were sent out to find them and bring them to the markets. Now all is changed. The land is being fenced in as the private property of some corporation. I saw one fence eighten miles long in a straight line."

In these rapid changes it has so come to pass that the industrial worker, thrown out of employment by the equally rapid development of machinery, seeks in vain some unoccupied spot of land where to eke out a living by tilling the soil. He is shut out everywhere, a jobless, landless outcast of society.

The above quotation and comment is taken from the Weekly People of Aug. 6.

The condition pointed out is not peculiar to Texas alone.. The same is in evidence in British Columbia. Two of our comrades, victims of the late machinists strike in Vancouver, recently took an extensive trip through the Similkameen Valley for the purpose of locating some spot upon which they might be able to eke out a living, and thus escape the vicissitudes of a merciless labor market. They were rewarded by the comforting discovery that vast stretches of valuable land were held by individuals. In fact every foot of land possessed of the requisites for successful agricultural, horticultural or pastoral purposes had long since been grabbed up into vast holdings by the beneficiaries of the capitalist system of loot and plunder. These refugees trying to escape their former captivity had their labor for their pains, and were forced to return footsore and weary, to the miserable confines of the labor market, and again take up the ennobling pursuit of a job.

Yea, verily is the industrial worker "a jobless, landless outcast of society," to be raised to the seventh heaven of beautitude only when fortune smiles upon him in the shape of some employer of labor who condescends to allow him the poor privilege of wearing, even temporarily, the degrading shackless of wage servitude.

JOHN COLLINS ARRESTED.

John Collins, candidate of the Socialist Party, for Governor of Illinois, was placed under arrest at Springfield, the capital of the State, on August 15.

Mr. Collins had been addressing a street crowd, and upon closing his address proceeded to sell some literature to those present. He was arrested upon the flimsy pretext of selling without a license, but was soon released as the selling of literature without a license was no offense under the law. As he left the jail he was loudly and heartily cheered by the large crowd which had gathered in consequence of the arrest. Halting on the sidewalk he said to the crowd "stop boys," and proceeded to announce his meeting for the following night. He was again seized by a policeman, roughly handled, and epithets too vile for print were copiously applied by the blue coated guardian (?) of the law. Mr. Collins was bailed out, to appear the following day at 2 p. m. Upon his appearance in court the usual juggling was gone through with for the purpose of delaying trial, the flimsy pretext being offered that the prosecution required a very important witness who was up in Kankakee. This proving of no avail, the bluff of calling for a warrant upon a different charge was tried but it wouldn't go, and Collins was finally discharged, and the bail money returned.

The impudent, and meddlesome proclivities o fthe genus police is always in evidence wherever the breed may be found.

On recent occasions the Vancouver contingent has manifested the same morbid propensity by interfering, though in somewhat of a mild way, with quiet and orderly street meetings held by Socialists. Just what is expected to be accomplished by such unwarranted meddling is not clear, but even the police ought to have discovered from past experience that it is one of the most effective means that can be resorted to for the rapid and effective spread of the Socialist propaganda.

For the purpose of furthering the movement by calling attention of many whose notice it might otherwise escape, let the police of Springfield, and incidently Vancouver and other places ,push on the good work by impudent meddling at every opportunity.

Speaking of the Fall River strike of textile workers, the Journal of Commerce says: "The situation was a hard one for the mill owners, as well as their workmen. They did not wish to reduce wages, but they were subject to the inexorable conditions of the market for their material and the market for their product."

Certainly they were. And these inexorable conditions of the market rule at all times as with an iron hand, both buyer and seller of merchandise. No combination of either employers or workmen has ever yet proven powerful enough to more than temporarily disturb the free working out of these iron laws of the market. It becomes daily more hopeless for the workers to attempt it.

STRENUOUS LIFE IN COLORADO

(Continued from page 1.)

shifts of men came into town and took places at the corner of Second and Bennett avenues. Every one seemed to be in the dark concerning their purpose. All were armed and it was easy to surmise what was about to happen, although hardly a word was spoken.

At 5 o'clock a crowd swept up Bennett avenue, like a great wave, toward the union store, that was just a half block away. No attempt was made to stop the rush of men on the union store, which the mob soon reached. The leader yelled that the time had come for a final clean-up of the Cripple Creek district. That was their determination, and they carried it through.

When they completed their work, the unionists were not only deported, but every vestige of the store strewn around and the stock was not worth 30 cents. The leaders of the mob that started from Bennett and Second avenues were armed. They dashed into the store from the front and rear, ordering the employees to throw up their hands. The command was obeyed quickly, and within a very few minutes the employees of the store, together with General Eugene Engley, were led out, surrounded by a mob.

No masks were worn by any of the members of the crowd. As they approached the store a couple of those inside attempted to escape by running up the stairs of an adjoining building, but they were soon caught.

Mr. Heinerdinger, the manager of the store, was in the sheriff's office, a few doors above, but on the other side of the street, at the time, and told Under Sheriff Parsons the store was to be raided. Under Sheriff L. F. Parsons immediately left the office and went over to the store. He was quickly seized. Two guns were thrown down on him and he was not permitted to go in. The under sheriff did not even have time to address the crowd, as was his intention. He was taken up the street about 100 feet, where he was detained. His guards then took him down the street at the corner of Second. There he was left and immediately retired to his office, where he found Frank J. Hangs, attorney for the Western Federation of Miners in this district, who asked him for protection. At this time Mr. Parsons was told that he was wanted in the rear office.

No sooner had he entered the rear office than he was seized by a couple of masked men, who took him into the private office in the rear, where he was held a prisoner for over an hour. During the time the under sheriff was held prisoner the crowd began the work of searching for all the men marked for deportation. Committees were sent hither and thither to locate them. The men taken out of the union store were marched up Bennett avenue toward the county jail, where 17 men are confined for complicity in the riot in Victor, June 6th. In the middle of the block they were halted, and the crowd was ordered to fall back. Other searching parties began to return with other prisoners, and it did not take long to decide upon which road the men were to be taken out of the disdistrict.

A photographer stood opposite the county jail and attempted to take pictures, but was prevented.

Michael O'Neill, the deputy county clerk and recorder, was one of the men sent for ,and he, with others, was deported.

That all, however, is not plain sailing for the "better element" in its commendable efforts to maintain law and order, may be seen from the following account of an uncomfortable happening that occurred at Cripple Creek on August 15th:

It was learned here today from a reliable source that two well-known residents of the gold camp were dangerously wounded in the midnight attack on the home of George Seitz, former president of Cripple Creek Union, No .40, Western Federation of Miners, in Cripple Creek last Wednesday night, as a result of which two men are in a precarious condition, and it is feared they cannot recover. They were members of the mysterious eleven, who for two weeks terrorized the district and whose night assaults ended with the shooting at the Seitz home on West Bennett avenue.

The wounded men, whose names are withheld, are prominent and influential citizens, and are confined to their respective homes, where they have been constantly attended by surgeons since last Thursday. Today it is said their condition is causing some alarm.

During the absence of Sheriff Bell in Wyoming the mysterious eleven took matters in their own hands, and were whitecapping and deporting all persons who had in any way incurred their displeasure. Leaders of the whitecappers broke into the Seitz home and ordered him to leave, but he opened fire on them, which was returned, and in a ten minutes' battle the little home was reduced to a veritable sieve, and the raiders were compelled to withdraw. At the time it was reported that no one was wounded.

It is probable that developments of a startling nature will come to light within the next few days.

Although military rule was called off in Teller county some time since, it appears that high-handed outrages are of almost daily occurrence, at the hands of the Citizens' Alliance and Mine Owners' Association thugs.

Miners who have ben peacefully working, but have refused to take out Miners' Association cards, are still being driven from the district. Citizens, some of whom are prominent merchants, are visited by mobs and either warned to leave, or forcibly driven from the country, and subjected to all sorts of brutality during the process.

The sheriff of the county is making efforts to protect such citizens against the Citizens' Alliance thugs. From here it appears that such efforts are put forth with a genuine desire to put an end to mob rule and restore the district to at least a normal condition of peace and order.

It is pleasing to note that a Methodist preacher, the Rev. Leland, has positively refused to leave the district until he gets ready to do so, although warned by a "committee" to get out. He is said to be a determined man, and has intimated to all concenned that if any attempt is made to remove him by force from his home some killing will quite likely occur. As his residence is guarded by members of his congregation and deputy sheriffs, something of this sort might reasonably be expected to happen were such attempt made. The resentment against the reverend gentleman appears to have been aroused because of a strong labor sermon he preached to his congregation on a recent Sunday. It is to be hoped that the preacher's example will be followed by others, and the genuineness of the determination to remain where they have a legal right, be emphasized by prompt and effective action in case of any attempt to interfere with such right. A few speedy removals of persons engaged in midnight raids upan law-abiding citizens would have a healthy effect, and do much towards clearing the atmosphere, and bringing to an end the deplorable state of affairs so long prevailing in Colorado.

From St. Louis "Labor" we learn that the last union man left Joseph Leiter's model mining town of Ziegler, Illinois, on July 30. The 14-foot oaken stockade is finished, the searchlight on the Tipple House is being erected, and the platform on the smokestack, where rapid fire guns will be placed, is being put up.

This reads like a chapter from old feudal days, when the robber baron found it often necessary to retire within the walls of his castle to protect himself against the onslaught of his enemies. Although all necessary preparations are in this instance being made to defend Baron Leiter's property, unlike his predecessor of old this modern baron is not on hand to assist in the defence. He is reported to be safely esconsced at Bar Harbor, Maine's fashionable seaport. His happy discretion in thus getting his precious carcass outside the danger zone is especially characteristic of the cowardly capitalist class to which he belongs.

The preparations made at the Ziegler coal mines should point out to the most unthinking the keynote to all of the industrial unrest and disturbance on earth to-day. To keep the workers from access to the means of life until the terms of the masters have been complied with, is the object of the preparations in question, as well as that of all governments and military establishments.

The continued luxurious living, the idle, worthless, vapid and loafing existence of the capitalist tribe could be perpetuated in no other manner.

All that the workers of the world need to enable them to live at least lives of comfort, if not luxury, is access to the means of living without making terms with, or paying tribute to capitalist or other reckless robbers, of the Leiter or any other type..

Just how many of them are seeing thepoint and adapting themselves to the way of bringing it about, will be shown by the Socialist vote at the coming November elections in the United States.

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If you have tried medicine without results, your symptoms cannot be the results of disease. This proves conclusively one of two things: That your trouble is either caused from your eyes, or that there is nothing in the science of medicine.

It is a well known fact among eye specialists that eye strain produces nervous exhaustion, and as our life depends upon our nerve supply, you will see what effect nerve leakage will have upon our health. Take nerve tonics to build up your nerves? But how is that possible if the nerve exhaustion is in excess of your restorative? It is no criterion if you have consented and had glasses from twenty oculists and opticians without results. Optometry is a young profession, and few men in Canada have had the experience and training that our specialists have had. We are teachers of the highest branch of optometry, we can diagnose your case, describe your symptoms from an examination of your eyes without asking you a question or obtaining a history of your case.

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Dr. Jordan will continue in charge of the Clinical Department, where all complicated cases will receive his personal attention.

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DR. JORDAN, President DR. J. G. URE, Secretary

The military department at Ottawa is busily engaged in taking the necessary steps to establish new rifle ranges all over the Dominion, provision for the same having been made during the recent session of parliament.. The daily press merely remarks that "Sir Frederick Borden has both sides of the House with him in his efforts to promote rifle practice." Of course he has. Both sides of the House may be trusted to be on the same side of anything that tends to foster the military spirit upon which in the last analysis the capitalist as well as all previous robber systems depends.

Far better for the people of Canada and the world if the fostering of practice in the arts of peaceful industry was given proper attention, by both sides of the House, and everything tending military-ward was left to the lumber room of a barbaric past. That which makes for the uplift of the race can be effected without the aid of rifle practice. If the workers of Canada be wise they will at the polls clean out both sides of a House that spends its time in fostering the military spirit, and building up military armaments. Once more we affirm that the Socialist movement is the only force in the world today that makes for peace.

The Miners' Magazine refers to William Jennings Bryan as "the dethroned and self-disgraced statesman of Nebraska," and avers that he "has been crucified on his cross of gold, and Democracy has been raped by Wall street." Our contemporary is in error. It requires something more than a loud voice and unmitigated gall to constitute statesmanship. The distinguished gent has crucified himself upon the cross of his own profound ignorance of econimic development. If by "Democracy" is meant the Democratic Party of the United States, the rape charge could not be made to stick in any court upon behalf of such a skinny and worn-out old prostitute.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

The following from a correspondent in the Okanagan valley is good, as throwing a little side light upon capitalist prosperity, and the capitalist confirmed habit of always skinning as close to the quick as possible, by cutting wages or or speeding up the machinery.

Editor Clarion,—Like a good many Socialists in this province, I took great pleasure in seeing the Clarion revived, but am "blooming" slow in "coughing up" some of the wherewith for the paper's maintenance, a fact that should be deplored, as it is the only voice for Labor this ide of the "Voice" at Winnipeg. The gang that spoiled ballots at Enderby last fall is pretty well scattered, having had to get out and sell their labor power and skill to other masters.

The capitalist gang that took possession of the mill and timber limits in this country came here to make money, and the wage bill was the first thing attacked, as if the $2 per and eat yourself was too high. After a stiff contest they decided that changing men every day did not pay, and restored the wages to their usual stage, and now the "husks" are fairly good. But board is $5 per month higher, and the mill cuts double last summer's capacity, with improved machinery. The wage slave's condition is thus worse in spite of a 25-cent increase.

You perhaps notice that the glowing accounts of Okanagan prosperity in the coast papers have vanished. The dry season has played its part well and there are no crops at all either vegetable or grain, except in very favorable localities. Just how the average farmer will fare, 8, 10 or 12 per cent. on payments, is more than I can tell. In fact, I may be in the swim myself, having quit the wage master in the mills to face the troubles on a capitalistic farm with a "blister" against it.

Ernest Mills needs just to rake them up the back good and hard when he starts in, and I think he will get a big vote in this valley, as there is a general kick against the conditions of the gang that live on rent, interest and profit, and do no useful work, but always wear white duck pants in hot weather.

Our correspondent sent along the money for two subscriptions to the Western Clarion, one year each, which is hereby acknowledged.

Editor Western Clarion:

After the most important matter to come before the consideration of our local at the regular business meeting held on Tuesday evening of this week, was dispatched, it adjourned into a convention for the purpose of nominating a candidate to contest Victoria in the Dominion elections now close at hand.

Comrade J. C. Watters, who was nominated by Com. Harper, seconded by Com. Marcon, was the unanimous choice of the convention.

So we are still in the ring and will be ready to meet the enemy whenever they say. The capitalistic attempt to disfranchise the workers by insisting upon a deposit of $200.00 before a candidate is put up to the contrary notwithstanding.

So get husky boys, all along the line. Keep your powder dry and don't let the enemy find you napping, but be up and doing, and insist that "there shall be no Alps."

The result will be then that all deposits will be saved, and those of the working class not yet class conscious receive such an eye-opener that will cause them to never vote a capitalist ticket again, but always cast a solid plumper for the international, revolutionary working class principles, as defined in the platform of the Socialist party.

Comrade J. W. Yarrow was the speaker last Sunday evening. His subject was "Civilization," in which the present system came in for a good round of scoring. Comrade Marmo, our Italian comrade, also addressed the audience, touching upon the material conception of history, and maintaining that the material interests of the working class had priority over any assumption or argument that a right or wrong motive predominated. The glaring need of economic freedom was evidence enough, without discussing what was the right thing to do in the case. He ruthlessly brushed ethics aside, and stood on a pure and simple materialistic plane.

Fraternally yours,
HAROLD BURNETT.
Victoria, B. C., Aug. 24, 1904.

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NANAIMO AFFAIRS.

On Monday last the Dominion minister of Marine and Fisheries visited Nanaimo, and with one accord Grit and Tory kow-towed and humbly petitioned that august individual to recognize that Nanaimo was on the map, to let us stay there, and that if there was going to be anything left after Senator Cox, of the Toronto Globe-Crow's Nest Coal Company and Grand Trunk Pacific got through—Why—remember us, oh, mighty one. The mighty one looked wise and said we would consider the matter; he also said that Nanaimo herring were all right (a fact already known in Japan and Australia), and that we were getting good weather.

An amusing part of the proceedings was the way in which Mr. Ralph Smith, M. P., buzzed around the visitor like a bluebottle fly around five cents worth of treacle, and apparently much to the latter's annoyance.

A temporary activity has been created in the local labor market by a number of workers being drawn off to fight bush fires in the neighborhood.

James Haddow, a miner well known in the Island coal fields, was killed at Extension on the 18th. He leaves a wife and one child. Another miner received serious injuries the same day.

The Nanaimo Farmers' Market has moved to opposite the City Hall, on Bastion street, and is well worthy a call from householders.

The whole-souled manner in which a bunch of Grits and Tories are scrapping for a certain job in the provincial civil service is somewhat out of keeping with their objections to a plan of government by which we could all secure a government job. A government job for all of us would, so they say, destroy incentive, individuality, the home, religion and everything else. The question then is, are these old party gentlemen made of a superior clay one that would not be so affected, or are they a bunch of grafters so completely gone to the devil that their desertion of the institutions and traits of character referred to would tend towards their conservation? Will some old party voter kindly explain.

LOCALS TAKE NOTICE.

The address delivered, before Locals Vancouver and Victoria, by Comrade Mrs. B. M. Burns and published in last two issues of the Clarion under caption "The Woman in the Case," is still in type. Request has been made that it be run off in leaflet or pamphlet form for general distribution.

It has been decided to run same in pamphlet form, 6 inch page, without cover, at the price of $1.00 per hundred copies.

The article will be held in type until September 10, and if sufficient orders to warrant publication reach this office by that date the pamphlet will be issued.

It will make an effective propaganda pamphlet for general distribution, more especially among the women folk, as it sets forth in a clear and concise manner the relation of woman to the Socialist movement, and from a woman's point of view.

All orders must be accompanied by cash. Should publication not occur because of lack of sufficient orders the money will be returned.

To insure this office against loss the orders should at least reach the 2,000 mark.

Locals and individuals please take notice, and act promptly.

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

TAKE NOTICE.

George Hannay, of Ladysmith, B. C., is the duly authorized agent of the Western Clarion at that point. He will be pleased to receive subscriptions, furnish information as to advertising space, and make estimates on all kinds of job printing. See him, or drop him a line and he will call on you.

From a letter written to La Petite Republique, by S. Y. Katayama, we clip the following: "At Tokio there are 200 Socialists, and there are also many in the provinces; but Soclaiist organization is defective, being more in the nature of a club. There are many sympathisers, who, however, for various reasons, are afraid of openly declaring their opinions. Officially Socialism was suppressed four years ago, but it is not dead. There is no Socialist representative in Parliament; the suffrage only includes landowners and taxpayers of direct taxation, thus excluding many workers. A few members of parliament have Socialist proclivities, but they are afraid of joining our party. There is some sympathy from the public; our ideas spread in the community by means of the reports in the papers. The police try to suppress us, but up to now the capitalists have not tried to crush us. Socialist ideas are penetrating among the more intelligent classes, and there is a course of lectures on Socialism given at the University of Tokio."

Mulock's Alien Labor bill was put out of business by the senate. Valuable senate.

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The fact of labor being merchandise in the market, and its owners forced by their necessities to find sale for it in order to maintain their existence, affords the opportunity for practising innumerable impositions upon the workers, out of which those who practice them reap more or less of a harvest. The employment agency is a case in point which has been called to our atention recently. A firm in Vancouver which has an office in the centre of the city, is engaged in prosecuting some work just a few miles outside of town. On this work are being used quite a number of workmen, and presumably these workmen come and go as is usually the case where the conditions of labor are not of the best and the pay none too large. To obtain a supply of labor the company acts through the agency of the employment offices. These latter put out a sign reading, men wanted, at so much per day, etc. Each applicant upon payment of one dollar is given, not a job, but a recommendation for one, which he is directed to take to the office of the employing company a few blocks distant. If he is willing to take the sort of work offered he is sent out to the job. In case he does not get the job 75 cents is returnable to him by the employment office from which he purchased the recommendation. In this case the employment office gets 25 cents for its recommendation, which proved to be no good.

That this petty imposition could not be practical without the connivance of employers goes without saying, and it is a well known fact that employers seldom connive unless there is something in it for them.

The lot of the worker is already hard enough without being forced to give up a dollar or any other sum in order to get a job. While labor remains merchandise it is no doubt a convenience to both buyer and seller that something in shape of an employment office be maintained. Many cities have long since established public markets for the sale of potatoes, onions, cabbage and other farm and garden truck, thus enabling the sellers to avoid many impositions and inconvienences from which they formerly suffered. It is high time that every city of consequence had a public slave market so that the seller of labor power might avoid at least some of the impositions now practised upon him. The next session of the provincial windmill at Victoria might make the necessary provisions without serious danger to the foundations of the British Empire. At any rate it would be less harmful than much that has been done in the past.

QUEEN ANNIE.

Miss Annie Carey, of this city, has been elected as queen of the Labor Carnival, to be held in Seattle during the next three weeks.

Just why it becomes necessary to ape royalty in these matters we do not know, but Queen Annie at least comes to her throne with no presumptious claim of divine right, but by the suffrage of her people. Added satisfaction may arise from the fact that her blood is undoubtedly red, there being no reasonable suspicion of any taint which would tend to give it the peculiar blue tinge usually attributed to that of the ordinary royalty. Prior to her elevation to the throne Queen Annie fulfilled the somewhat plebian role of waitress in a local restaurant, where she served the succulent steak, and the gaudy "ham and," with an easy grace that showed her well qualified to do credit to those court functions over which she was destined to preside later on. She thus enjoys the peculiar distinction of having at least performed some useful service during her lifetime, something almost unheard of in the history of Queens before.

We feel sure her reign will be a gentle one, unmarked by a single act of cruelty towards her subjects of the male persuasion. It would of course be too much to expect such gentle rule to extend to the femininity of her kingdom. It will distinctly be within her prerogative to deal as harshly with her female subjects as the opportunity may warrant. Being a woman, she will no doubt take advantage of her opportunity, knowing full well that with the end of her reign and return to plebian life it will never come again. May she return to Vancouver at the end of her reign, and resume her usual avocation with the every-day queenly airs and graces of those of her calling in nowise exaggerated, or enlarged upon. Even as it is when we sneak into a hash emporium and are confronted by one of her sex, of whom we meekly and modestly demand "coffee and sinkers," we feel ourselves to be exceedingly diminutive "spuds."

Whenever it becomes necesary to have a Queen, let such be, as in this case, chosen from among the women of the working class. Long live the queen so chosen.

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From London Justice we learn that the Sanitary Inspector of Glasgow, at the recent Sanitary Congress, reported having examined a large number of beds such as used by the "respectable poor" and found them to be stuffed with what is termed "common flock," a compound made of "cast-off clothing obtained from all ranks of the population." The disease breeding qualities of such vile truck may be easily realized. As some of the cast-off clothing quite likely comes from Glasgow's blue-blooded fraternity, and the filthy habits, and loathsome diseases which mark its conduct and give its blood the peculiarly blue tinge are well known, it should be a standing warning to the poor, either respectable or otherwise, to aviod sleeping on anything stuffed with their cast-off duds. Better to sleep hanging on a hook.

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THE WESTERN CLARION

Published in the Interests of the Working Class Alone.

...IN 19 ...MBER 302. VANCOUVER, B. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1904. Subscription Price PER YEAR $1.00

...ncidents of the Labor Day Celebration at the Provincial Capital

...ARADE OF COMMODITIES DISPLAY OF TOADYISM

...bor Day was celebrated in Vic...on Monday, September 5th, with ...sual street parade of trade and ... organizations interspersed with ...s" intended to advertise not only ...ent commodities and firms doing ...ess, but also different kinds of ... for sale in the great labor ...et. Among the legends inscribed ...e various floats were "Labor ...a Vincit" and "We Respect Our ...oyers as We Respect Ourselves," ...e legend which astonished the ...r of this the most was one car... by the Journeymen Barbers, ...t We Have We'll Hold." From ...xperience of the average "hold... of barbers and other members ...e working tribe, we venture to ...t that this bold stand will not be ...ly attacked. A program of ...s and contests was carried out ...e afternoon and pronounced a ... success. At 1.15 a

Reception.

...tendered Lord and Lady Minto ...e armory, where for a brief ...d the common herd could gape ...is great man. Not more than ... minutes after the appointed ... the rattle and clank of the mili... drawn up on the outside and the ...ng into statuesque stiffness of ...ard along the aisle and entrance ...e inside of the hall, gave notice ...e approach of their excellencies, ...hen the band struck up that ...tful antiquity "God Save the ..." we knew that the momentous ...had come. In another instant ... ordinary looking man with a ...ly good looking woman ap..., accompanied by two other ... and made for the high seats, ... a noble array of non-producers ...persed with sky-pilots and be...awed officers were already en...hed, so we assumed that this was ... Our ears were then regaled with ... Maple Leaf" by a brass band, ...eir excellencies got into position ...hat was evidently intended for ...rone. Then two sleek, well-fed ...entatives of the bourgeoisie ap...d and read an address alleged ...e from the people of Victoria, ...h after reciting a yard of titles, ...n with "May it please Your Ex...ncy," and accompanied it with a ...k, a bow and gesture that truly ...esented the historic characteris... of that class. While the oily flow ...oneyed sycophantic flattery con...d in the address was being ...ed out, somebody whispered that ... person delivering it was the ...or of Victoria, and after its deli... and His Excellency was pleased ...reply our impression was con...ed by His Excellency addressing ...elf to the other fellow as "Your ...ship." His Excellency said in ...t how glad he was that Cana...s would still stand for this sort ...hing. Then a child dumped a ...et of flowers in front of Her Ex...ncy and received a kiss, after ...h the companion of "His Wor..." called for three cheers for ...eir Excellencies," which was res...ded to by three of the weakest ... squeaks it was ever our pleasure ...isten to, and the reception so far as concerned the common herd, was over. A luncheon in honor of Their Excellencies was afterwards served, but we were not invited.

The Trades Council also tendered a luncheon to visitors and guests, at which about 200 sat down and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

In the Evening.

The mass meeting in the City hall in the evening was the only feature of the day worthy of serious consideration by workingmen, and unfortunately the place where it was to be held was badly confused, being advertised in several different places, so that many did not get to it who otherwise would. However, the somewhat limited capacity of the hall was taxed to accommodate the many who came to hear the addresses relative to the labor problem.

Mr. G. A. Coldwell, president of Victoria Trades and Labor Council, occupied the chair, and the following gentlemen were on the platform to speak: Joseph Martin and E. T. Kingsley, Vancouver; J. D. McNiven, M.L.A., Victoria, and J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M.L.A., Nanaimo. Mr George Downey, Vancouver, also occupied a seat on the platform. The chairman in a somewhat lengthy address, expressed himself as being well pleased with the successful celebration which organized labor in Victoria had that day participated in, and was at some pains to express his thankfulness and the thankfulness of organized labor to the business men who had so kindly granted this holiday to labor and had even helped celebrate it. He wished that organized labor would become better acquainted with the business world to the end that a better understanding and better relations might come about between organized labor and the business world. He then introduced Mr. Joseph Martin, who would deliver an address on "Labor Litigation."

Mr. Jos. Martin.

Mr. Martin complimented organized labor on its showing and expressed himself pleased to be able to speak to them on the subject he had in view. During the last few years there had been most important cases, especially in England, dealing with labor brought before the courts. A great deal of divergent opinion had been raised among learned men in connection with these. The first in importance was Allen vs. Flood. This was in connection with shipbuilding. In this case two carpenters had done in another yard some work usually done by iron workers. When they came to the new yard the subject of whether or not they should allow these men to work on the strength of their previous record arose. The employers were finally given warning by Flood, the London delegate, that there would be trouble if these men were employed. The employers therefore refused the two men work. Action was then taken against Flood. The case was appealed even to the highest tribunal in England, the judicial committee of the house of lords. In this case the opinion of judges was asked to be submitted. There was a great difference of opinion. The decision though not unanimous, was that Flood had not done a legal wrong in giving the opinion to the iron company that there would be trouble if these two men were employed. It was held by Lord Watson that if the men themselves and not the London delegate had gone and threatened a strike that a wrong would have been done. The principle was established that no labor men shall have the power to go and work a legal wrong against any man.

The next case alluded to was one which had its application to all. This was the Mogul case, in which the Mogul Ship Company opposed McGregor. The agents of the Mogul company were instructed to act for the combination only in the hope of securing the trade. Another rule was that shippers who sent all their freight by the line should get a rebate of 5 per cent. from regular rates. It was manifestly intended that the combination was endeavoring to secure all the trade. It was held, however, that the combination was doing nothing except to advance its own interests. The law lords held that the combination was not doing an illegal act although the acts were clearly intended to injure other shippers. This was a case which was always cited in labor circles.

Another case, Quinn vs. Letham, was usually regarded as against labor men, but he thought this construction should not be put on it. As soon as labor men or any class asked for privileges to do something to advance their own cause against other classes the cause failed. This was a case in which some man who worked for a flesher had made himself obnoxious. The fellow-employers went to Quinn, the flesher, and threatened if this man was not discharged Quinn would be put on an unfair list or something. Quinn refused to do this and the union men went to a retail dealer who had been accustomed to purchase from Quinn and threatened not to buy from him if he dealt with Quinn. The case was also carried to the house of lords, who declared in favor of Quinn, holding that no combination of men could legally deprive a man of his means of livelihood. This, after all, was a fair decision if workingmen did not seek to get privileges not enjoyed by other portions of the community.

The last case was that of the Tascott Railway Company vs. The Amalgamated Societies. In this the principle of taking action aganst an incorporated labor union was established.

Labor unions had been organized to get redress from class privileges. If labor men sought to get privileges not accorded to others then they would become obnoxious.

In the case of Giblin vs. the National Union of Labor of Ireland, the officers of a union were held to be responsible for the acts of the union. In this particular case a man was not only expelled from the union, but practically declared not to be allowed to earn a living on the earth. It was decided against this course, the courts holding that the union had gone too far.

The Glenmorgan Coal Company vs. South Wales Miners' Federation was also cited.

Referring to two late cases in British Columbia courts, he held that their yet being before the courts he would not go into them to the same extent. These were the cases of the Centre Star vs. Rossland Miners' Union, and Mitchell vs. Wood. In the latter it was held the case of Quinn vs. Latham applied, and so he had argued in his presentation of the cause. It differed only in that it was urged that employers combined to work injury to a workman by means of a black list.

In concluding, he pointed out that the way for labor men to advance their interests was not to form another party but to throw their weight into one party when they believed this party would advance their interests. But the labor men should be just as ready to throw their influence with the other party when they deemed they could profit by it. Labor representatives were elected to parliament, but they did not remain as such. The workingmen should take a lesson from the farmers. They had found it impossible to get what they wanted by electing Patrons of Industry. Now the farmers swung their influence with individual men. In Canada there was a great bulk of nullities. What was the use of a man who was always a Grit or always a Tory? These men went up to vote like sheep. A small independent band of men who voted either Liberal or Conservative just as they thought was the better for the time being, thus controlled the election. That was the way the labor men would best serve their interests—by going back on the party which went back on them, until they got a party which would give them what they wanted.

E. T. Kingsley.

E. T. Kingsley, of Vancouver, was the next speaker. He wished that the workingmen understood all the schemes worked upon them by the business world. It was the toil and sweat of the workingman which gave the business men all they had. They did not need to thank the business men for any presents. They could not give back to labor all they got from it.

He acknowledged that the laws and the decisions quoted by the last speaker were good according to the law. But these decisions were given from the standpoint of property. That was the only thing considered. The workingman must be considered as an owner of property. The property of workingmen was labor power. The capitalists did not sell labor power but bought it. They sold the products of the labor power and derived a profit; all that a workingman made above a living wage went to swell the coffers of the capitalist. The capitalists controlled the reins of government,, and as long as they did the laws were made to give them the control of the instruments of industry. How long would it take for the wage earning class to get satisfaction by swerving from one party to another, both of whom stood for the perpetuation of capitalist property? They would never get satisfaction in that way. The only way was the overthrow of the capitalist system.

Profit was the motive power of industry today. As soon as profit ceased industry ceased. Profit was something got for nothing, and was theft. Wage slaves were robbed every day of the products of their toil.

Labor Day was given by the governing classes. It was not like the First of May in the Old Land, where the workingmen without asking permission, got out, gathered about their leaders and speakers and listened to the doctrines of emancipation, and walked the streets as **MEN** who asked

PROMINENT SPEAKERS DISCUSS LABOR ISSUES

no one for the privilege, and not as commodities advertising themselves for sale.

Within these same 24 hours while a splendid banquet was spread for the wage earners, was another spread of rich viands, and the class which sat down to it never did a useful thing in all their lives. At the banquet which he attended given by Victoria workingmen he noticed that all present were desirous to see that everyone else enjoyed themselves, and shared in all the good things provided. He did not notice any workingman present who manifested any disposition to hog all the good things to himself. This was an object lesson to the working class in general, who created all the good things in this world to work and act together to the end that labor alone shared in what was produced and when that time came they could truthfully hold up their heads as became a nation of free men.

J. D. McNiven.

J. D. McNiven, M.L.A., read an address saying he had confidence in the good judgment of the labor people. He had every confidence that that good judgment would lead to better things. As years went by there was shown a marked improvement in the cementing together of the workingmen. Labor Day parades were intended to awaken respect by all. The past year had been an important one for organized labor. It had made advances during the year. Opposition had naturally been met, but this was disappearing. Labor men had each a duty to perform. As he commanded the respect of his employer he advanced the interests of organized labor. Members of trades unions should not feel secure in the support of the union in doing wrong. It should be remembered that others have rights and that only in being right was there security. There should be more sound judgment and fewer lockouts and strikes. An advance was being made in this. Capital was also organized. With both sides thoroughly organized the results would be better. Strikes and blacklists would then become too terrible to deal with. He believed that labor men should take part in politics. He was a labor man and a Liberal. He believed the Liberal party would do the best for the Labor party. There were others who might believe the Conservative party would do better for the cause of labor. If so get into that party and endeavor to make it what you think it should be. The labor men should make themselves felt in whichever party they became attached to. They should come to the front.

He had nothing to do with the Socialists, but if the Socialists in the house brought forth a measure in the interests of workingmen he would support it.

Reading the platform of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress he held that the workingmen had good principles in that for which to fight.

There was too much shadow chasing among labor men. They should get into politics. Be citizens of the country. Nothing was gained by selfishness and class legislation. Class legislation may be got one session only to be nullified at the next session.

Making allusion to Socialism, he said that he was sorry that this had risen just at the time when trades unionism was at its zenith. There was danger of disruption, which Socialists had for their object.

J. H. Hawthornthwaite.

J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M.L.A., said that the parade on the streets was one of humiliation, showing as it did the control which the capitalist class had over the working classes. The time had come when workingmen were manifesting a disposition to think and act for themselves and the meeting here was a happy augury of that fact. He was glad to be able to do what he could to awaken the working class to their position in society. Speaking of labor legislation he could truthfully say that no man in Canada had succeeded in putting more or such important labor legislation through the houses of legislation, and yet he could not see where the condition of workingmen had been materially bettered. The whole root of the poverty of the working people lay in the fact that labor was a commodity subject to the laws of supply and demand in the labor market, and as long as labor was held as a commodity in the market only men bent on deceiving would hold out any hope in the way of palliative legislation. I know a man here in the local house who voted against an eight-hour law for engineers in coal mines, and gave as his excuse that while he favored an eight-hour day he didn't like that way of going about it. (A voice, "That's McNiven"). He was satisfied that anything he could do or any bunch of individuals could do could not disturb the ironclad exactions of the labor market. While trades unions may have increased the wages to some extent of those who were in them he was satisfied that such increase was offset by worse conditions for the rest of the working class. The condition of labor was not ever growing better as asserted; on the contrary was ever getting worse, and it was only a matter of time when the wage market in British Columbia would be in the same condition as that of the more thickly populated and highly capitalized communities of the east.

The remedy lay in the united political action of workingmen along the lines of their class interests, which demanded the abolition of the labor market and the instruments and tools of production, which are now capital, to be made working class property.

The meeting all through loudly applauded the Socialist speakers, the cold comfort for the trade union proposition contained in Joseph Martin's address and the miserable showing made by their proclaimed advocate, J. D. McNiven, no doubt tending to swing the sentiment in favor of stronger and more intelligent action for workingmen than the trade union movemet could possibly hold out.

VIGILANT POLICEMEN.

...r Tender Solicitude for Traffic Is Highly Commendable.

...he Vancouver police are earning ...e as the great conservators of ...fic. Their tender solicitude for ... traffic that flows in tumultous ...me past the corner of Cordova ... Carrall streets is touching in the ...reme, and shows them far from ...g the hard hearted wretches that ... disposed persons have painted ...m. This is the particular corner ...n which the "Salvation Army" ...vers rude jolts to his satanic ...esty by means of the big drum ... other loud noise producers, and ... mild eyed Socialist "chases ...dows," and indulges in "dreams ... comfort his despair."

...he traffic during the evening ...rs when such ceremonies are being ...formed, consists principally of ...estrians passing to and from, ...g nowhere in particular, and be...se they have nowhere else to go, ... going there for no other purpose ...ause they have no other pur...e in going. It does not take much ...interrupt such traffic, so it often...es becomes congested around the ...y's "big drum," or the Socialists' ...p-box." To illustrate the almost ...llible weakness of the easily in...rupted traffic, it is only necessary ...note that those engaged in carry... it on never complain at its inter...tion. In the light of such helplessness the tender and almost maternal solicitude of the police is commendable in the extreme. It has been alleged that persons are in the habit of standing around those corners and decorating the sidewalks with landscape and other pictures in accordance with the tenets of the noble art of copious expectoration. This spitting upon the sidewalk is a most disgusting and filthy practice, and in the interest of ordinary decency should not be indulged in. The intent of the city ordinance prohibiting it is good, and should meet with the approval of every cleanly disposed person. Although no city ordinance prohibits spitting upon editors or policemen, those who are slaves to the expectorating habit, or are professional expectorators, should not be encouraged in using those worthy persons as a substitute for the sidewalk, however strong might be their inclination to do so. These sidewalk decorators as yet appear to be entirely of the male persuasion. This is at least one industry not yet invaded by woman.

The frequency of holdups in that city has led the Chief of Police at Portland, Ore., to advise all respectable citizens to arm themselves and shoot on sight. The other element, including the police, are quite in the habit of doing so without advices. These piping times of prosperity are doing much to develop the "strenuous life."

BEEF TRUST WINS HUNGRY MEN LOSE

From the very first the gigantic meat strike was a contest between the dollars of the beef trust and the stomachs of the laborers and their families. It took but six weeks to starve the workers into submission, and now, with their families clamoring for the necessaries of life the men are falling over each other to get back to work.

The union officials are endeavoring to secure some sort of terms with the packers, but the employers, seeing the wild clamor of the men for work, refuse absolutely to treat with the union officials. Meanwhile the scramble for places increases. It is thought the strike will be declared off and thus remove all restraint on the union men.

The above from the Saturday Blade of Chicago under date of Sept. 3, presumably throws some light upon the situation at Packing Town in connection with the meat workers strike. Whether the outlook is exactly as set forth matters but little, but it is beyond question that such a result must be speedily reached, if not already attained.

As the Clarion has already remarked in a previous issue these men were beaten from the moment they went out. Even a superficial glance at the labor market and its conditions should have been sufficient to point out to any sensible person the futility of striking.

The day of the strike and boycott as weapons of any efficiency whatsoever is passed, never to return. The time for the overthrow of the wage system through class action by the workers at the polls is at hand. Let the workers be no longer led into the bogs and quicksands of attempting to buck an overstocked labor market, but on to the solid rock of the class struggle for the abolition of the wage system.

As we go to press word comes that the strike has been declared off. Two months of stubborn resistance to the "merciless dictum" of an overstocked labor market has proven of no avail and the men are forced to acknowledge defeat. Whether they will be allowed to return to work at their old jobs or not will rest entirely with the packers. Their experience has been, and will continue a most bitter one. It is sincerely to be hoped they may have already learned from it enough of fact to preclude any further attempts to accomplish the impossible. May they become awakened to a realization of the class struggle, and become an active part of it to the end of, at the earliest possible moment, wiping out the capitalist system and its labor market that has dealt so harshly and brutally with them.

Those professed Socialists who delude themselves into the belief that trade unionism and Socialism are in some peculiar manner akin to each other, should be able to draw useful lessons from these disasters in the "economic field." In the light of these continued defeats they who are loud in their denunciation of the "too scientific," should "sing small." He who is not scientific, that is, equipped with the cold indisputable facts, is unqualified to promulgate the doctrine of working class emancipation. He will prove a shadow chaser, and a follower of will-o-'the-wisps. Knowledge, science, fact, is the only compass by which to steer true to the line of the class struggle.

The attitude of the Socialist Party of British Columbia has met with some criticism at the hands of those with trade union and other leanings. And yet the outcome of each successive conflict in the industrial field emphatically confirms its attitude to be the correct one, and therefore the only one that can successfully command the respect and confidence of organized and unorganized labor alike.

SHUT DOWN AT NANAIMO.

The Press Neglected to Chronicle Temporary Closing of Mine.

We learn that the mines of the Western Fuel Co., at Nanaimo, have been closed down temporarily. The shut-down is expected to cover a period of three or four weeks. The why and wherefore can best be determined when work is resumed. There is often found to be method in that which at first glance might be taken for madness upon the part of the modern capitalist concern. As the only excuse for Nanaimo's existence is owing to the mine, the matter of a shut-down even for a month is one of much importance to that enterprising burg. As we did not get our information from the columns of the Nanaimo papers, we are wondering how such an important news item could possibly have escaped those lynx-eyed moral engines, the Free Press and Herald. Can it be that their zeal in the matter of news gathering is expended only in gathering such as would in no way tend to "give the town a black eye"? Perish the thought.

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VANCOUVER, B. C., SEPTEMBER 10, 1904.

"SURFACE-SKIMMERS."

Under the present system, for the wagon that costs $15.00 to make the farmer pays $70.00. For the binder that costs $47.00 to make the farmer must pay $125.00; for the fork that costs 16 cents to make the farmer must pay $1.00. And so on. Because the private machinery trust must have profit. Under Socialism, all machinery would be manufactured and sold at cost. Therefore the farmer could get better machinery and more of it, and thus his labor be greatly lightened and its effectiveness greatly increased. * * * * * *

When a person makes purchase of anything it naturally occurs to him, that if he could purchase at a smaller price he would be to the good to the amount thus saved, as against a higher price which he had perchance been forced to pay. The matter is so extremely plain to him that he is more than likely to acquire the habit of considering himself swindled in the majority of cases in which he figures as a purchaser. Not being accustomed to examine, or inquire into, that which actually occurs in the matter of buying and selling, he merely skims the surface of things and quite easily falls into the notion that he has paid too much. Should the average person, busily engaged in the "hurly burly" of the competitive struggle for existence, fall into error because of such "surface skimming" propensity, it may well be excused, for the very intensity of the struggle affords but little time for the development of those reasoning faculties which are absolutely necessary to enable him to go deep down beneath the surface and master the hidden meaning lying underneath the transactions taking place between men, and in which he each day figures as a factor.

He who would point out to his fellows, any wrongs that may arise from an improper way of doing things, should avoid being a mere "surface skimmer" lest he fall into error, and furnish another instance of the "blind leading the blind" and both falling into the "ditch."

The clipping at the head of this article has been taken from "Why Farmers Should Be Socialists," by Carl D. Thompson, and published without comment in the Vanguard of August, 1904. The entire article is made up of equally valuable matter.

Mr. Thompson has, we believe, for some time taken a more or less prominent part in the Socialist movement in the United States, especially as a speaker.

If the farmer pays $70 for a wagon it by no means establishes the fact that he has been in any manner swindled in that particular transaction. Possibly he disposed of wheat in the market thus obtaining the $70 which he subsequently exchanged for the wagon. As Marx puts it: "The value of one commodity is to the value of any other, as the labor-time necessary for the production of the one is to that necessary for the production of the other." The exchange in this instance would then stand as follows: A given quantity of wheat equals $70, which in turn equals one wagon, because the labor-time necessary for the production of each of these three things was equal. It should be remembered that the labor-time referred to is socially necessary labor-time; that is labor-time expended by means of up-to-date appliances, and by up-to-date methods, and not individual labor-time, using out-of-date tools and following worn-out methods. Presuming then that one farmer raised the wheat by the labor of himself and family without employing outside labor, we find he thus supplied labor-time equivalent to that necessary to produce a wagon, and got the wagon in exchange for it. It is quite evident the farmer was not swindled in purchasing the wagon. As it is stated that the wagon cost $15 and sold for $70, this discrepancy of $55 must be in some way accounted for. As the sole cost of the wagon in the last analysis must be paid for labor which alone produced it, and such cost amounted to but $15, while the wagon sold for $70, the swindle if such there was must have been perpetrated upon they who made it, and not on he who purchased it, unless the $70 can be shown to be in excess of its true exchange value. Mr. Thompson makes no effort to show this to be the case, so it may be taken for granted that $70 is the every day price, which means the true or correct exchange value of the wagon.

When the wagon manufacturers proced to do business they purchase labor power in the open market, as a commodity. This particular commodity exchanges like all others according to the amount of labor-time required for its production. The owners of it cannot successfully demand a price in excess of its cost of production in the face of a market that is continually overstocked with it. The average wage, therefore, closely approximates to the average cost of the workers' keep. In other words the daily wage is the money equivalent for the amount of food, clothing, etc., necessary to generate a days labor power. In the case of the wagon it appears that $15 worth of food, etc., was sufficient to generate enough labor power to make a wagon. The fact of the wagon, however, has nothing to do with the worker. He sold his labor power to the employer receiving enough in return to enable him to reproduce it. Had 40 wagons resulted from its expenditure instead of one the result would have been the same to him. With his $15, he could restore the energy or labor power expended, and thus have a supply on hand for sale again next day. The productive power of labor armed with modern tools and methods is sufficiently great to enable the worker in one day to produce an amount of wealth greatly in excess of that required to keep him for the same length of time. As a commodity his labor power will sell in the market only at or around its cost of production. No mater how great the amount of wealth produced by labor in excess of its keep, it goes to the employers in the shape of surplus value, of which the $55 difference between cost and sale price of the wagon is an instance. The entire scheme of capitalist exploitation is based upon the plunder of producers. The wage slave is robbed as a producer under the wage trick, which conceals the swindle that is practised upon him.

The farmer does not sell his labor power, but turns it into other commodities in the shape of wheat, corn, and other farm products and sells them. Here he runs up against a competitive market as does the wage earner, and by some means not quite clear to him he finds himself at the end of the year in much the same fix as the latter, having worked himself and family like mules and all he has received in return is a living and often a hard one at that.

It matters little whether a man sells his labor power from day to day for a bare living, or whether he expends it in the production of other commodities and is forced to sell them for the same purpose. The wage earners and farmers are in much the same boat. They produce the world's wealth, out of which they are exceedingly fortunate to get a half-way decent living. Out of the enormous amount of wealth they produce the capitalist class and their henchmen, supporters and hangers-on live in comfort and luxury without doing a tap of useful work from the cradle to the grave.

Both farmer and wage earner are exploited as producers and not as consumers. Their exploitation is made possible by virtue of the fact that the productive power of labor is sufficiently great to enable the worker to produce, during a part of the working time, enough to keep him, and during the balance he can produce surplus values for the class that may have succeeded in placing itself in a position to command his services. Let them join hands to stop their exploitation as producers and their consumption of wealth will take care of itself.

The farmer meant is he who works his farm, and not he who depends upon wage earners to do it for him. The small farmer may employ hired labor at times but as a rule he is in a position where he will be forced to surrender the hide taken from such, to the big capitalists who have him by the throat because of their control of all the avenues of industry and exchange.

Happier would be the result of agitation and propaganda among both wage earners and farmers, were those who go forth to "preach the word" to first take the trouble to inform themselves. They should at least know something of what they are talking about.

An occasional one afflicted with mental laziness, or perhaps worse, sneers at he who insists upon fact, as being "too scientific." As science is only fact, it would be difficult to realize how any one could be too scientific. Many thing are not what they appear to be at first glance. Better to go down into them and find out what they really are, than to make ones self ridiculous because of not knowing.

There are too many "surface skimmers" in the field. It were better if they remained at home until conversant with at least the rudimentary facts before setting forth to teach the multitude.

GLORIOUS CIVILIZATION.

Just what beneficent results have been brought about through centuries of teaching of the principles of human brotherhood, "love your neighbor as yourself," "do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you," and like beautiful precepts, are strikingly illustrated in what is going on in Manchuria today. Some hundreds of thousands of men, actuated by a spirit of ferocity that would do credit to the most savage beast, are engaged in recklessly slaughtering each other with the most powerful and terrible weapons and explosives that human ingenuity has been able to devise. The pleasing spectacle is offered of a land drenched with human blood and covered with the bodies of dead and mangled men, enormous destruction of property, and a great flood of misery, suffering and heartbreak spreading out over a vast multitude of people who are not directly parties to the brutal conflict.

Who are the men thus flying at each other's throats in their mad efforts to kill and destroy? Who are these men whose dead bodies lie thickly strewn upon Manchurian soil? Whence come they who thus destroy, maim and slaughter? They are the very pick and flower of the working people, the so-called common people, of Russia and Japan. Have the working people of these countries ever in any manner wronged each other, or in any way conducted themselves each towards the other, as to give warrant or excuse for such inhuman and horrible slaughter? Most decidedly not. The first wrongful act upon the part of the workers of either country against the other was committed when those workers took arms in their hands for the purpose of engaging in this brutal war. In so doing they not only did a wrongful act, but, unconsciously perhaps, committed a crime against themselves and their class the world over. Wars of conquest are merely for the purpose of extending, or rendering more secure, the economic dominion of a ruling class over an enslaved class. The struggle between Japan and Russia arises from the desire of the capitalist rulers of each nation to extend their rule over other fields of exploitation. Each with an eye upon the same territory, a clash is bound to come. When the clash comes the rulers do no fighting but depend solely upon securing enough dupes to do it for them. By stirring up race prejudice, or prejudice of nationality, and by appeals to patriotism, and other hypocritical pretence, they succeed in arousing their dupes, the working people, to the necessary pitch of brutality and frenzy to go forth and kill or maim, while the cunning and cowardly rulers remain safe at home out of harm's way. No fouler crime could be committed by a working man than to take up arms in such a cause, for whether he knows it or not, the highest and best interests of the working class are destroyed by wars of conquest, and not furthered or conserved thereby. Every working man who enters the military or naval establishments of capitalism is a traitor to his class, and an enemy of freedom and progress. How stands the Press, the Pulpit and the Professor while this horrible slaughter is going on in the Orient? Just as they stand at all times, and that is with ears deaf to all appeals of humanity, but keenly attuned to the chink of coin that drops into their pockets in payment for services rendered to the ruling class in defending its swindling system of exploitation.

While the wholesale murder goes on the Press industriously gathers nickels, not by endeavoring to stem the tide of horror, but by turning its ghastly details into a profit by copiously enlarging upon them, with that lying unction peculiar to itself, and acquired as a result of long experience as a panderer and prostitute.

The Professor is discreetly silent for fear of interfering with the endowments.

No voice thunders from the Pulpit in condemnation of these holocausts of horror, nor dares unmask the thieving interests that lie behind them and egg them on. This leads to the conclusion that the professed disciples and followers of the Nazarene have either betrayed their master, or the story of that gentle soul that has been told to, and believed by millions, is a piece of useless fiction.

EMPIRE AND DUSTBIN.

Those who have read in "Merrie England" Blatchford's somewhat extended reference to the dustman, may have considered it to have been written with intent to be either humorous or sarcastic. That the dustman and the dustbin play a very important part in modern civilization is beyond question, and is altogether too serious a matter to be treated lightly. The very close relation existing between dustbin and empire is shown by the following, clipped from a recent issue of a London, Eng., paper:

"John Peterson, a poorly-clad man, was charged before the lord mayor at the Mansion-house police court yesterday with having stolen some bread and pieces of fat, value 2d., belonging to the Corporation of London. William Wright, foreman of the street cleaning committee, stated that on Saturday morning he saw the prisoner in Ludgate-hill raking over a dustbin. He saw him take from the receptacle some bread and pieces of fat. Having cautioned him before, he gave him into custody. The bread and the pieces of fat were the property of the corporation. Peterson said that he was hungry, and took the fat and bread to eat. The bread was clean. The lord mayor said that this sort of thing must be stopped in the city. It was not the value of the stuff taken, but the mischief which was caused by the disturbance of the dust receptacles in the city. He fined the prisoner 1s. or one day's imprisonment."

There seems to be a sort of general tendency towards a disregard of established property rights. This is of course, most deplorable. While we had been for some time aware that such tendency existed upon this side of the water, we were in hopes the malady would not spread to the other parts of the empire. That we were doomed to disappointment is made clear, by this ruthless and evidently premeditated assault upon vested rights in property, right in the heart of the empire. It is most horrible to think that a British subject could be so devoid of patriotism and so unmindful of the crown and its peace and dignity, as to wilfully and maliciously lay violent hands upon 2d. worth of bread and fat which was peacefully reposing within the pleasing confines of a dustbin. To add to the heniousness of the offence, the title to bread, fat and dustbin was clearly vested in the Corporation of London. Well might the Lord Mayor declare that this "sort of thing must be stopped." Should it be allowed to go on unchecked until the habit of assaulting the dustbin had been acquired by all the "poorly dressed" people, the very foundations of empire might have been undermined and civilization lapsed into a night of black despair, unillumined by a brilliant galaxy of majesties, imperial highnesses, lord mayors, lordships, worships, excellencies and other remittance people.

The penalty of 1s. was too light. The villain should have been compelled to "cough up" both bread and fat, and wear a Canadian mail carrier's uniform for the rest of his life as penance for his wrong doing, and as a warning to others that no dastard hand would be allowed to profane the dustbin.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF B. C. PLATFORM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use in lieu 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 interest of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will the Socialist Party is for it; if it will not the Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

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

Socialist Directory

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

Socialist Party of British Columbia. Headquarters, Vancouver, B. C. Provincial executive committee: A. R. Stebbings, John Dubberly, L. T. English, R. P. Pettipiece, E. T. Kingsley, Vancouver; O. Lee Charlton, Victoria; E. S. Embree, Greenwood. Ernest Burns, treasurer; B. Merrill-Burns, secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

Local Vancouver, S. P. of B. C., No. 1. Business meetings every Wednesday evening at 8 p. m. at headquarters, Ingleside Block (room 1, 2nd floor) 313 Cambie street. Educational meetings every Sunday evening in Oddfellows' hall (3rd floor), Sullivan block, Cordova street. Secretary: O. P. Mills, box 836, Vancouver..

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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.

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. Meets every second and fourth Wednesday in Union hall, Room 2. President, Lumner O'Brien; recording secretary, Urban Chaplin, 2820 Manitoba street. Delegates to Building Trades Council: P. McMurdo, and Taylor, alternate, Greenwell and Rafner. Delegates to T. & L. Council: G. D. Dobbin, J. McLaren, L. C. DeWolfe, G. F. Adams and A. E. Coffin.

Greenwood Miners' Union, No. 32, 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.

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Socialist Party of B. C.

From Executive Headquarters

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

he Provincial Executive Committ- met at headquarters on the even- of August 23rd; A. R. Stebbings, T. English, R. P. Pettipiece, E. ns, E. T. Kingsley and the Secre- were present. A. R. Stebbings upied the chair and the usual order business was observed.

orrespondence was received from al Victoria and from Washington te Secretary in regard to dates for anizer Goebel of the U. S. S. P. anaimo and Ladysmith Locals ing failed to assent to the propo- n of an engagement for Comrade bel, it was decided to engage him Vancouver on Monday (29th) and Victoria on Tuesday; and the sec- ry was instructed to communicate the Locals at these places to effect.

was estimated that the cost of e meetings would be $15.00 to Local.

he Committee on B. C. Party But- reported progress and exhibited sign submitted by a Chicago e which could be provided in gold at the rate of 15 cents each. As ing less than a $75.00 order would ccepted by this firm, it was con- ed too costly an expenditure in present state of the Party's finan- Locals will therefore continue urchase buttons from our com- s across the line.

e Committee on Organization at Westminster reported progress. discussion arose over the phe- nal growth of Phoenix Local and as moved by L. T. English, nded by E. T. Kingsley, that the cial records of this Local be pro- d at the next meeting. Carried. oved by R. P. Pettipiece, second- y E. Burns, that the correspond- that passed through the secre- s hands in the spring, in regard nding an organizer through the country be also produced at the meeting, with a view to renew- our endeavors in that direction. ed.

B. M. Burns, Sec.

the evening of August 30th, the incial Executive Committee again ened, with a full attendance of all resident members. R. P. Petti- ocupied the chair.

orrespondence was received from er Thomas Mills, announcing his ility to fill more than one date in h Columbia and offering in ful- nt of an old promise, to lecture ncouver on October 1st at the of $10.00 and expenses. On mo- he letter was handed over to the tary of Vancouver Local.

n Anda, Ladysmith and Fernie vote on place of convention, dues eports.

s for letterheads, ($5.00) and ad- ing in Western Clarion ($4.00) ordered paid.

der unfinished business the sec- produced the monthly report hoenix Local, which showed a y growth from the beginning of ear, until the July membership ed sixty-seven members, with a dues of $20.00 paid to headquar- during the year.

animated discussion arose over howing of these reports, and a ittee, consisting of E. T. King- and R. P. Pettipiece were ap- ed to act with the secretary in tigating the reports of Phoenix , E. Burns and the secretary vot- gainst the appointment of said ittee.

production of a bulky roll of spondence in regard to former vor of the Executive Committee nd out an organizer, brought a protest from those members did not wish to go over old d at so late an hour, and it was d and carried that the corres- nce be handed over to Comrade Pettipiece for reperusal, he to report on same at next meeting.

J. E .Dubberly was added to the committee on organization at New Westminster.

E. T. Kingsley and the secretary were appointed a committee to draft a letter of instruction to be published in the Clarion re the proper use of report blanks and other matters necessary to the successful co-operation of Locals and Executive Committee.

Moved by E. T. Kingsley, seconded by E. Burns that any returns of the vote for convention bearing the post mark of September 1st be accepted as a bona fide vote by the committee. Carried.

The treasurer reported $14.50 receipts since last meeting.

Adjourned. B. M. Burns, Sec.

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NOTES.

"While we have met many fine comrades elsewhere, we are frank to say that the movement in British Columbia is clearer and more revolutionary than in many of the States." So writes Comrades Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Osborne, from their headquarters in Oakland, California, where they have returned after a prolonged tour through the Northwest Pacific country. We want to be modest, but that's just what we think ourselves, Comrades J. B. and Amy.

* * * *

Goebel is a whirlwind. He can say more words to the minute than any other mere man I've heard. Words worth saying, too, with the entire Socialist philosophy back of their pith and humor and slang. It is now revealed what the old prohibition party has existed for—to train up workers and speakers for the Socialist movement. Walter Thomas Mills is another.

* * * *

It is just possible that Goebel will make a few dates in the upper country before he leaves the vicinity. Thought it might be possible when he was leaving Vancouver.

* * * *

Phoenix wants Walter Thomas Mills Unfortunately Comrade Mills has announced that he will only be able to give one lecture in B. C., and that in Vancouver.

* * * *

"In case no Socialist candidate is put up at an election is it allowable for a member to vote for another party?" asks a member. Not under the B. C. constitution. What's the use anyway? If the old capitalist system, with its hellish atrocities is to be perpetuated, shall it be by the hand of a class conscious victim of that system? Surely not.

A MISTAKEN ALDERMAN.

Thieving Is All Right If Done in the Approved Style.

The following clipped from a London paper of recent date may be taken as an indication of the felicitious circumstances surrounding a no inconsiderable portion of England's working people, especially in the larger cities:

Louisa Butcher, 54, a widow, living at Hatfield-street, Golden-lane, was charged, on remand, at Guildhall, with stealing seven boys' vests and three vests, value £2 10s., from premises at London-wall-avenue, the property of Isaac Genese, trading as Genese and Young, wholesale clothiers. The goods, which had been pawned, were recovered.— Prisoner, who pleaded guilty, said she was almost starved, adding, "I had to make 40 coats for 10s., and I can make a coat for you, sir, for threepence. (Sensation.) I got 3s. a dozen, and had to pay a girl something for pressing them. When I paid my rent I had scarcely anything left, and I was nearly driven to desperation. I am sorry." Accused broke down at this point.—A licensed victualler stated that she had employed defendant as cook. She was honest and hardworking. Witness would take her back into her service. — A good character was given her by others.—The Alderman said nothing justified theft. Accused, however, bore an excellent character; her son would assist her, she had other friends and there was a beneficient Act which enabled him to bind her over in her own recognizance of £5 to come up for judgment if called upon.—The decision was received with prolonged applause, which was suppressed with considerable difficulty.

Of course this woman should not have been guilty of being "almost starved" upon such magnificent wages as 3s. per dozen for making coats. She might more reasonably have been expected to have at least something of a savings bank account, had she been properly frugal in her expenditure. Whatever sad features may attach to the affair, however, are somewhat softened by the fact that the landlord was not defrauded of his rent. As the vests were recovered, and the culprit allowed to go under suspended sentence, the outcome of what might have been a tragedy, was a most happy one.

Doubtless that accounts for the applause.

"The Alderman said nothing justified theft." It is a wonder where this particular alderman has lived all his life, not to know that the daily theft of the products of labor by the capitalist class is justified by every law upon the statute books, and defended by every government on earth. As a result of this wholesale theft there follows those conditions that at times make it imperative that individuals resort to petty theft in order to escape starvation.

To avoid making similar bad breaks in the future "the Alderman,, should inform himself.

One of these days the workers will put a stop to the daily theft of the products of their labor, and the thieves will not be let off under suspended sentence.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editor Clarion: Last Tuesday evening we were accorded a rare treat by a visit from Comrade G.H. Goebel, a national organizer of the Socialist Party of the United States, who is now touring this section of the country. Comrade Goebel delivered a stirring lecture of fully two hours duration to a full house, and, judging from the close attention paid to his address must have left a deep impression behind him. His manner of delivery is quite pleasing and entertaining, and full of humor and good nature. His sound reasoning, clear exposition of the Socialist philosophy, sandwiched in with brillant witticisms, and interesting anecdotes, certainly carried his audience, and must bear fruit later on. The fact that a large amount of literature was sold that evening augurs well, and is a promising sign.

HAROLD BURNETT.

Victoria, B. C., Sept. 2, 1904.

LADYSMITH CITY COUNCIL.

Unfair Methods in the Awarding of City Printing.

Editor THE CLARION:

Ladysmith, B. C., Sept. 6.—At the council meeting tonight it was decided to give the city printing to the Ladysmith Recorder. Tenders were called for and the Western Clarion was the only paper that put in a tender, and the city council kept laying it over till next meeting just to give the other fellows time to have a sleep and put in their tenders, or let them see the Clarion's prices. I heard a sort of a buzz and I looked around to find that it was a motion thrown into a motor car, and rushed through at lightning speed to give the Recorder the contract; it did not even stay its speed to let us hear what he was going to be paid for doing the printing. I know it would break their hearts to give the city printing to a Socialist paper. They even appointed a committee to hunt these printers up and pray them to bid for the printing, for fear we got it. I honestly believe that they would have gone to New York to have the work done, rather than we should have it. When you get your Recorder next week just get out your big scraper and scrape off five or six feet of the advertisements and see if you can see anything left worth reading. I think that building where it is printed is very unlucky. The Ladysmith Leader died a natural death in it, and I see the undertaker is putting the finishing touches on the Recorder's coffin. Never mind, I suppose it is only for the remaining part of the year that he will do the work, then we will see if we can tickle the next council to give the work to some one more appropriate for the job.

A communication was read from Parker Williams, M.L.A., re the gvernment wharf for Ladysmith. He explained in his letter that he was doing all in his power to get a wharf for the city. He also said we would have to wait for help from Ottawa. Ald. Beveridge got up and said that Mr. Williams had begun the negotiation for a wharf and he now is trying to throw it on Ralph Smith. I would like to call Mr. Beveridge's attention to the communication Mr. Coburn received from Mr. Smith prior to the incorporating of Ladysmith. Mr. Smith said that he could promise Ladysmith neither wharf, post office, nor public buildings until it was incorporated. Now when that is achieved he is doing nothng towards it. Perhaps he is hunting up Hunter, Rev. E. S. Rowe, Mackenzie King and Giddens as a commission to investigate whether we need a wharf, or perhaps he will give somebody else a chance who wants $40 per day, board, wine, cigars, daily papers and lavish wants supplied, including leather cases and trunks.

That is the way the renowned Ralph Smith does his duty to the class, who sent him to Ottawa to represent them. We have one Socialist member in Victoria for this district, and as sure as I am now writing, we will put in another Socialist to represent us at Ottawa; we fooled them before and we shall do it again.

GEORGE HANNAY

James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway, is being urged by the Democratic leaders of Minnesota to declare himself as a candidate for the office of governor of the state. Should he receive the nomination there are plenty of workers in the state foolish enough to vote for him under the delusion that he can or would further the interests of themselves or their class. That which Hill and his tribe stand for is the continued enslavement of labor, and the wage slave who votes for such not only consents, but insists that the neck of labor continues to wear the yoke. Same is true of those who vote the Republican ticket.

"Many a man thinks that it is the goodness that keeps him from crime when it is only his full stomach. On half allowance he would be as ugly and knavish as anybody. Don't mistake potatoes for principle."—Carlyle.

The chief occupation of the members of the business world is doing each other up. The workers are done up to start with.

A TAME CAMPAIGN.

The campaign in the United States leading up to the coming November elections promises to be a tame one in so far as the two old parties are concerned. Between the announced policies of the Republican and Democratic parties there is not enough of difference to stir the rancor that springs from intense partisan warfare. As capitalist interests are equally safe in the hands of either Roosevelt or Parker, there is little to cause a loosening of the purse strings upon the part of the great corporations, for purposes of a campaign. The situation bids fair to resolve itself merely into a struggle between two factions for the purpose of controlling the offices in the interest of individual or party graft. There is little behind such a struggle to command large sums of money for campaign purposes. The one-time aspirations of a powerful class of small property owners as expressed in the free silver and similar movements, no longer command sufficient attention and respect to force themselves into the form of a political expression. They have been relegated to oblivion by the resistless forward march of triumphant big capital. No political party standing for the present system of property can escape the domination of big capital, or avoid giving support to its entire program. With the Socialist Party the most intense activity will be in evidence. With little means at its command in the way of funds. It will, nevertheless, carry on a vigorous campaign, by virtue of the fact that it is the expression of an economic interest whose conception of property is not only in line with human progress, but its application to the affairs of mankind absolutely necessary if further advancement is to be made. Being the expression of a live issue its activity will not depend upon cash payment to hired spokesmen, nor lavish expenditure for brass bands and booze.

Eugene V. Debs opens his campaign at Indianapolis, Ind., on September 1st, and from that date until the day of election there will be something doing, by an army of speakers, agitators and individual workers throughout Uncle Sam's domain.

The forecast of the Socialist is in a fair way to be proven correct in the very near future. It is difficult to see at this time what possible excuse the old line parties can offer for a separate existence from now on. The Socialist has repeatedly predicted that the rising Socialist movement would eventually compel them to throw aside all pretense of enmity or difference of opinion and unite for the purpose of defending the capitalist citadel against the onslaught of an awakened working class. That the Socialist vote in the States this fall will reach to figures that will compel such action upon their part seems to be reasonably certain. Once the Socialist vote reaches the dimensions necessary to force such an alliance, the inauguration of the most bitter, fierce and uncompromising partisan warfare takes place, that this world has ever seen. But it will not be of long duration. With the hypocrisy of sham and pretense stripped from the Republican and Democratic parties so that the working men may look upon them in all of their naked reality, as merely the instruments of a conscienceless ruling class whereby it perpetuates its rule and robbery of Labor, they may be safely trusted to make short work of their repudiation. After centuries of enslavement the day of Labor's emancipation is dawning. The result of the November elections will furnish strong proof of it.

The Pennsylvania Railroad has made the most sweeping reduction in the time of the men employed at the Altoona shops, since the panic of 1893. Employees of the machine shops were notified that they would be divided into shifts, each shift to work every other day, eight hours to constitute a day's work. One shift will work Mondays and Wednesdays and the other Tuesdays and Thursdays. The remainder of the week the shops will be closed down entirely.

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Now, you are in error, as we can prove by the thousands of unsolicited testimonials received from all parts of Canada, and can prove this to you in your own case if you will give us a chance.

Most patients who come to us as a last resort have been cured by the removal of the cause, "eye strain."

You can also be cured if you will come. All we ask is a fair chance to prove what glasses will do when compounded by us. It is reasonable to suppose that when no organic disease exists there should be no dyspepsia, constipation, biliousness, dizziness or any other trouble, and there would be none if the eyes were normal and able to perform their functions of seeing without strain.

If you have tried medicine without results, your symptoms cannot be the results of disease. This proves conclusively one of two things: That your trouble is either caused from your eyes, or that there is nothing in the science of medicine.

It is a well known fact among eye specialists that eye strain produces nervous exhaustion, and as our life depends upon our nerve supply, you will see what effect nerve leakage will have upon our health. Take nerve tonics to build up your nerves? But how is that possible if the nerve exhaustion is in excess of your restorative? It is no criterion if you have consented and had glasses from twenty oculists and opticians without results. Optometry is a young profession, and few men in Canada have had the experience and training that our specialists have had. We are teachers of the highest branch of optometry, we can diagnose your case, describe your symptoms from an examination of your eyes without asking you a question or obtaining a history of your case.

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The Great West Optical Co., Ltd.

334 Hastings Street, Vancouver, B. C.

DR. JORDAN, President DR. J. G. URE, Secretary

The Socialist consistently claims to be the only advocate of peace on earth to-day. It was only such a body as The International Socialist Congress, in recent session at Amsterdam, that could be expected to unanimously adopt the following resolution as proposed by a French delegate: "At this moment, when Tsarism is stricken by war, the Socialists here greet the Russian and Japanese proletariat, sacrificed and massacred by capitalism and governments, and rely upon Socialists everywhere to oppose by all means in their power the extension or continuation of the war."

To the 30,000 strikers and locked out workers in the building trades in New York city are to be added 25,000 stone cutters, derrickmen, engineers, painters, pipe and boiler fitters, house movers, etc. These additional men are expected to be at any moment called out. They have voted to lay down their tools when called upon by the committee in charge of the strike.

According to Labor Commissioner Ratchford, of Ohio, the average weekly earnings of the woman wage workers in the large cities of that state are $4.83 and their living expenses $5.23 per week. How it is made possible to exist upon such a miserable pittance and overcome this weekly deficit besides, is a story of degradation, misery and shame, which would require the pen of a Dickens, a Hugo, or a Zola to portray. Poverty, with its attendant evils, among the working class is the corner stone of our boasted modern civilization. Profit, the breath of life to capital, can be obtained at no less cost.

Judge Hardy of Boston, Judge Ludwig of Milwaukee and the Court of Appeals of Illinois, have rendered decisions that a contract made with a trade union to employ only members of unions is null and void upon the ground that such contracts tend to create a monopoly. Good bye; closed shop, good bye!

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CREDIT SHOULD BE GIVEN.

No One Should Steal the Products of Mr. Gompers' Genius.

There comes to hand a circular from the American Federationist, the official monthly magazine of the American Federation of Labor, replete with gems of "purest ray serene" garnered from the editorial droppings of Samuel Gompers, as well as choice "tit bits" from lesser lights in the firmament of "organized labor." The request is made in the circular that publications reproducing any of this matter "give credit for the same to the American Federationist." We listen to comply with the request by giving credit beforehand for the following specimens. In thus taking time by the forelock we do so for the purpose of self-protection. Not for a large sack of "simoleons" would we do anything, or leave anything undone, that might give grounds for suspicion that these specimens originated any nearer the Clarion office than the stone age or the sanctum of the Federationist.

* * *

SPECIMEN 1.

Just Sawing Wood.

Q. Mr. Gompers, do you think that the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt has been received or will be received enthusiastically in labor circles throughout the country?

Q. Do you believe that the promises of the "full-dinner pail" made by the Republicans four years ago have been fulfilled?

A. I prefer not to answer your questions. I am engaged in trying to organize the workingmen of the country for the purpose of protecting and promoting their industrial and their economic interests. The whole history of the labor movement demonstrates this fact; that the more closely we adhere to the policy of keeping the trade union movement free from partisan bias or influence, the more permanent and successful do we become. I shall, therefore, during this campagin, continue to devote my energies to the work outlined by our movement.

The success of the labor movement does not depend upon a political party or a political campaign. Its work is not confined to a brief period every four years, but is carried on day after day and year after year.

If the workingmen while exercising their political privileges and rights will free themselves from partisan domination and adhere more closely to the movement for the maintenance of the rights which they have achieved, and the attainment of further rights to which they are entitled, the better it will be for them and the country at large, and these can be the best secured by the American Federation of Labor, as such, abstaining from partisan political action.

* * *

The "I prefer" and "I am engaged" should leave no doubt in any person's mind as to who, at least in his own opinion, cuts some "ice" along about the present time, but just why the "I" should be changed to "we" when it comes to referring to the policy of keeping the trade union movement out of politics, and attaining permanency and success, is not altogether clear. The more successful "I" may be in accomplishing this, the more "permanent and successful" do "I" become. Permanent as a valued labor-lieutenant of capitalism, and successful in keeping my shins under the mahogany along with the high pirates of Mark Hanna's Civic Federation.

Just what those "further rights" are to which workingmen are entitled "I" fails to state. That none may fall into error the courts have been busily engaged for some time in defining the rights already "achieved," and the executive arm of government has been equally busy in giving emphasis to them. "I" could not have put his foot in it much worse had he answered the questions instead of fulminating. As a blower of his own "tuba" "I" is no novice, but in case it should escape the hearing of those in the outskirts, a capable assistant comes to the rescue in the shape of C. L. Baine, whose pronouncement is here given as

SPECIMEN 2.

No Labor Day reference to the progress of the American labor movement is complete which does not recognize the invaluable services of its president, whose fearless leadership, unimpeachable and rugged integrity, mark every step of its progress for the past twenty years, and whose life has been dedicated to righting the wrongs of the workers.

* * *

This blast will no doubt cause a vibration of the tympanum of the hard-of-hearings ones, that will compel them to give attention to the great "I" and acknowledge him to be par excellence as a righter of wrongs while the working class waits.

The fame of the mighty one thus made secure and heralded forth, along comes the advocate of a "higher harmony" in the person of Prof. John Bascom, who furnishes, as follows:

SPECIMEN 3.

"The satisfied workman is more generous of effort than the unsatisfied one. Workmen, as well as employers, need to grow into a higher harmony. If they do not, they cast doubt on the entire method pursued by them."

* * *

This is so decidedly short, sharp and to the point, that its meaning will be grasped by the most obtuse, and employers and employees will no doubt begin to grow into a "higher harmony," like weeds in a garden, as soon as they hear about it. It is to be hoped that Prof. John may establish colleges of the cult for the purpose of encouraging the growth.

To prevent any tendency towards pessimism one A. F. Liebig comes along with a most happy and consoling poultice in the shape of the following, which is offered as

SPECIMEN 4.

"Even though judges grant injunctions, even though a state is placed under military rule through the tyrannical combination of a governor and the mine owners, to prevent the passage of the eight-hour bill, and men are deported from their homes, yet the potency of organized labor is unimpaired."

Some doubt arises as to whether this was intended as a joke, or it has been made to appear as one because of a printer's mistake. Should it have read impotency instead of "potency"? If so it would have a serious meaning. Otherwise it is positively laughable.

Again we give credit to the Federationist. We should feel unfit to associate with honorable sheep thieves were we so lost to self-respect as to print such stuff without telling where we got it.

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IN SUNNY FRANCE.

Dastardly Outrage on the Working People Meets With Resentment.

At Keiz, France, the workmen in the various factories were on strike during the months of June and July. The cause of the strike was the discharge of seven men for agitation against the capitalist system of robbery of the workers. Quiet and good order was maintained by the strikers during the entire period of the strike. In the latter part of July some sort of settlement was made and the men were to return to work. A huge demonstration and parade was indulged in as a sort of jollification over the conclusion of the strike. The workmen carrying red flags marched through the streets, and while passing the largest factory in the city were suddenly fired upon from the factory windows. Three men were killed, and fifty wounded, including some women and children. This, of course, drove the workmen almost to a frenzy, and they proceeded to demolish and burn the factory and adjoining houses also belonging to the same concern. Troops were at once called and order restored. Four sons of factory proprietors were found in the basement of the factory, along with a large amount of ammunition. These men were promptly placed under arrest. One of the killed was but 18 years of age, and the only child of a widowed mother. The mother fell in a faint when informed of his death and afterwards became insane.

Demonstrations in Paris and elsewhere were attended by thousands of workmen, who voiced their protests against such brutal acts by resolution and otherwise.

That such brutalities will continue to be practised upon workmen so long as the present system of property ownership in the means of wealth production lasts goes without saying.

That the French workmen are rapidly awakening to the need of revolutionary action that will oust the capitalist class from control of their means of subsistence, is evident to he who takes any notice of events occurring in that country. Already the Socialist vote has assumed enormous proportions, and considerable numbers of men have been elected to the national parliament, and the movement of the workers along this line is becoming more intensely revolutionary each day. The French proletariat is within easy reach of the day when it will hoist the red flag of labor above the nation's capital and proclaim the Workers' Republic.

On September 7, the striking butchers at St. Louis decided to abandon the strike, by a vote of 1,760 to 511. The condition of the market was too much for them.

Labor Day was celebrated by 3,000 "Independent Workmen" at Cripple Creek, Colorado. They were ably assisted by army officials and the local militia.

A SUCCESSFUL MEETING.

Large Audience Greets George H. Goebel at City Hall.

Fully four hundred people gathered in City Hall, Vancouver, on Monday evening, August 29, to listen to Comrade Geo. H. Goebel of Newark, N.J. Comrade Goebel is one of the National Organizers of the Socialist Party of the United States, and is a ready and fluent speaker. He possesses a happy faculty of being able to intersperse his arguments with story and anecdote in such manner as to entertain his audience and hold its attention to the end.

The following account of the meeting we clip from the Vancouver World, of August 31:

The City Hall was well filled last night for the first political meeting of the season. The Socialist Party, while not yet having nominated a candidate to contest the approaching Dominion election, has commenced an educational and propaganda campaign that will keep its members busy for the next few months.

"Comrade" George H. Goebel, organizer and lecturer for the United States Socialist Party, was the speaker, and proved an entertaining and effective champion of the political faith he represents.

The chair was occupied by E. T. Kingsley, editor of the Western Clarion, while R. P. Pettipiece, T. Mathews, J. R. Johnson, Chas. Vincent, L. T. English and others occupied seats on the platform.

In opening his address the speaker arraigned the present industrial system on several charges, the first of which was that it had taken him when a child of nine, along with thousands more, from the school-room and placed him in the workshop, thus cutting him off from educational facilities that are provided for the more fortunate children of the land.

Another charge against "the system" was the division of the working class into warring factions, thereby blinding the eyes of its members to their real interest or to the real issues of the day. "The common interest of the working class is learned by crossing the line. There is no such thing as nationality in the final analysis of the working class movement," he declared.

Briefly and pungently he dealt successively with those opponents of Socialism, who he variously labelled "The can't-do-it fellows," "Socialism-is-anarchy idiots," and the "It's anti-religious crowd," showing the ignorance or misconception upon which each fallacy is based.

Coming down to the political issues of the hour, the lecturer stated that the Socialist Party did not promise to "do things" for the working class, because until that class was intelligent enough and brave enough to win its own freedom, it was not intelligent enough or brave enough to keep it when once it had won.

From the fact that the battle between Labor and Capital had never been so bitter, so fierce as today, he argued that the victory was in sight.

The method of producing wealth had been completely revolutionized; its method of distribution must be changed also in order to produce harmonious relations between man and man.

Labor-saving machinery, the trust, with its giant productive capacity, is not wrong, but right—not a menace to society, but a safeguard. Its only objection is not within itself, but its ownership. What men must use together in order to live, must be owned together. The preparatory work of Socialism was being accomplished by the trust. The industries that were centralized and concentrated need to become the property of the government, and the working class to gain control of that government and the trust would fulfill its mission of usefulness to mankind and become the liberator of the people.

"The corporations do not break the law," said Mr. Goebel. "On the contrary they hire the slickest lawyers to keep them within the law. If they find there is danger of encroachment they just move the law out a little to one side."

In passing the lecturer paid a high tribute to Prof. Walter Thomas Mills, who is the next speaker in this series of meetings, declaring it had been said that Prof. Mills was one of the five greatest orators in the world today. He did not mention the other four.

The company owning a certain mine in the States issued orders on July 2 "that all underground workers would be obliged to go stark naked between the change room and hoist, in going on and off shift." The men would not stand for it and went on strike. It is painful to note how arrogant and unreasonable these working men are getting any way. The militia should have been called out at once and these slaves taught to comply with such a manifestly reasonable request upon the part of their masters. When workers can have their bread and butter cut off for refusing to go naked it clearly establishes the fact of master and slave.

Things are reported dull at Greenwood. The Boundary Falls smelter is still idle.

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