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MODERN WEALTH PRODUCTION

The Result of Countless Centuries of Development.—As They Work So Must They Own If They Would Be Free.

HOW IT DRILLS WORKINGMEN TO WORK TOGETHER

Collective Production Cannot Work in Harmony With Capitalist Appropriation—The Lesson Taught by the Machine.

The method of wealth production n vogue at the present time is not nly a powerful one, but extremely omplicated as well. That it has not grung into existence in a day, but as grown up from the smallest of beinnings goes without saying. It epresents the total achievement of e race since man first made his apearance upon the earth. To fathom e secrets of nature and harness her rces to work his will has been the ccupation of mankind since its birth. lthough the task has been a progious one, and the journey long, brave start has been made and the lendid achievements so far attain-, great though they may appear, e but a promise of the still greater ings to come. Man is a social ani-l, and from his infancy has gathed in bands, groups, communities, c. It is foreign to his nature to uggle or to live alone. His amions, hopes, desires and pleasures n only be realized in conjunction th his felows. The motive that s forced him to wring from nature r secrets, and compel the surrender her treasures, must have sprung m the common good. As an inidual he could neither have conved, accomplished or enjoyed.

It is generally conceded by those o have given the matter much dy, that man has existed upon the th fuly 100,000 years, and for more n nine-tenths of that period he ed in a state of communism.

During that period he never knew vate property in the means of life we know it. Slavery, or the exitation of man by man was an known quantity to him. Whatever did in the way of finding or proding sustenance was practically ne by all, and for all members of e particular tribe or community.

There came the time when

Slavery

as to make its appearance upon the ge of history, and play it's part the great process. It would seem first glance that slavery could not for the common good. Outside the more servile ones the ave would declare it not good for m. As slavery has existed, however, r at least 5,000 years, it seems cerin it must be a necessary part of e working out of the ultimate comon good.

Prior to the advent of slavery sufcient advancement had been made in riculture and the domestication of imals, and the tools of production d been made powerful enough to able mankind to engage in those rger undertakings by which his furer advancement was to express itf, and the carrying out of which deanded that individual labor be transmed into collective or social labor. break down the traditions and bits of thousands of years could be easy task. Nature is at all times el in her processes, and the seemcruelty of slavery being the evit necessary means of transformthe haphazard and inefficient med of individual labor, into the ory and powerful method of social r, it might as well be looked ups for the best.

the transformation has been tically completed it is no longer r for the common good that sla should continue. Wealth proion is now carried on by

Social Labor.

o every article used in our daily s goes the labor power of the rld's industrial army. The result the labor of the individual can no ger be distinguished from that of . By the very nature of the tool wealth production, (machine), the orkers are forced to march together the industrial army. They are rced to fall in line at a given moent and keep step with each other ring the alloted time. The machine, d consequently machine-like meth, of industry is the band which olds them in the ranks, and discines them to march to its music. he individual wealth production of under which the worker, within e narrow confines of tribe or comunity were bound together by ties a common interest, has been transrmed into the social wealth proiction of the present under which e workers of the world are bound gether by the ties of a common misery. From the machine of industry they can not escape and live.

The so-called trust is the expression of modern big industry. It is the economical management of it upon a gigantic scale. The more highly developed and powerful it becomes, the greater the amount of capital nenecessary to its successful operation The trust, or

Consolidated

capital is, therefore, the garb required to enable the industrial machinery to reach its highest eficiency. It is strictly in line with the higher organization of economis forces, and the elimination of all needless expenditure of human energy. Briefly stated, it is strictly in line with human progress.

The machine dictates to the owners the method of production, which they wisely obey. It likewise points out to the workers, not what they ought to do, but what they must do if they are to avoid further miseries, in comparison with which those already suffered will appear like a summer's holiday, or a pleasant dream. The productive power of labor armed with the modern tools of industry is many times greater than in the days of hand tools. The benefit accruing as a consequence of this increased efficiency of labor, goes entirely to the owners of the resources of the earth and the tools of industry. Such wealth as may be produced of necessity belongs to such owners of the means whereby it is produced. It could not be otherwise. The present, or capitalist system of property converts the means of production into a lever in the hands of the owning class, whereby it holds the non-owners (workers) in servitude and squezes fabulous riches out of their toil. Under capitalist ownership the machine acts as

A Curse Upon Labor.

The more powerful it becomes the more emphatic the curse.

The turmoil and unrest existing in human society today arises from the impossibility of fitting the social machinery of production, to the common good under it's present form of ownership. From time to time the workers engage in acts of rebellion against conditions forced upon them by this form of property. Faction is arrayed against faction, not only in the ranks of labor, but in the ranks of capital, as individuals or groups struggle for favorable position, either around the machine, or the wealth produced. As store-houses become gorged with products industrial depression sets in, panics and crises ensue. Goods can not be sold, because the volume on hand is greater than the purchasing power of the workers. Every curtailment of production only aggravates the situation, as the purchasing power is still further lessened as workers are thrown out and their wage stops. Driven in desperation to resort to violent out-breaks, or placing themselves in a position where their action may be construed as a threat, the workers are met with the powers of repression, and clubbed or shot into respectful submission. In these and many other ways is demonstrated the impossibility of a system of social or collective industry working in harmony with capitalist appropriation and distribution of this product. If it be

Necessary for Workers

to use tools in producing the food, clothing and other necessary things, to keep them alive and in comfort, it requires but the reasoning facilities of a child to see that they must own those tools, in order to enable them to retain the food, etc., for their own use. If other than the ones who perform the labor own them, they as owners will also own and control the products brought forth through the operation of the tools. The character of the tools clearly determines the form of ownership which can secure to the worker who uses them control of the food, etc., produced by his labor. It at the same time points out the form of ownership that will enable some other person or persons to appropriate the products. If ownership be vested in he who uses the tools and resources, he will be secured in ownership of his products, or the products of his labor. His freedom will be assured. If the ownership be vested, however, in another person or persons the control of the products of his labor will go with such ownership. His slavery will be assured.

Individual, or hand tools of production demand individual ownership by the worker in order to secure him in his freedom. Social tools of wealth production, tools that are used by the workers together or collectively, demand that they be likewise owned by the workers together or collectively, in order to secure to them their freedom.

As a result of their miseries the workers are prone to

Vent Their Spite

upon individuals of the master class. or its henchmen. Such proceedings are childish in the extreme. Their miseries come upon them as a result of the logical working out of the present system of property, and not because of the vicious propensity of individuals. The vicious propensity is located in capitalism itself and not in its beneficiaries.

To snuff the latter out whenever fancy pleased and leave the former untouched would in no way lessen the misery. Capital is not a creature of its owners. The owners of capital are its creatures, however much of an "Irishism" this may appear to be. The owners do not and cannot control capital, but capital controls them. By capital is meant the means of wealth production under the present or capitalist form of ownership. The

Function of Capital

is to absorb or suck up the products of labor, and by such process grow and develop like any other living thing. In fulfilling its mission it will brook no interference, at the hands of either owners or non-owners. Conscience, honor, sympathy, philanthropy and all of the supposed virtues are brushed aside as mere nothings, and rebellious interference with its stream of sustenance, surplus value or profit, is punished with the savage ferocity of a hungry lion in pursuit of mutton. The

Countless Brutalities

going on all over the civilized (?) world are in obedience to the commands of the means of wealth production under its present garb of capital. The clash of arms in the orient, where Russian and Japanese working men who have nothing against each other, fly at each other's throats in the glorious (?) occupation of murder; the insolent tread of ruffians as they poke their impudent noses into the internal affairs of inoffensive Thibet, or with their barbarous rapidfirers mow down her people; the swish of waters neath the prow of slave ships carrying their human cargoes to the compounds of South Africa; the forbidding "bull pen" of Colorado, and the tread of uniformed cutt-hroats as they feed it with victims; the dull, sodden misery of the countless thousands of working people in London, Paris, Berlin, New York, and the other great centres of population; the groans of anguish arising from the outraged and exploited slave of the factory, the mine, the railway, the sweat shop, and other slave pens of capitalism, proclaim that capital rules and its commands are being carried out to the letter.

Upon this world-wide sea of brutality, of horror and of misery, the pulpit, the press, and the professor look on with a complacency which betokens satisfaction.

If the machinery of production and the resources of the earth, upon which the workers depend for sustenance, are to remain as capital, the workers must continue in a servitude the miseries of which are continually on the increase. If the workers would be free they must own the means of labor, as they operate them, together or collectively.

If the machine does not teach this, what does?

BROTHERS CAPITAL AND LABOR

How They Dwell Together—Side Lights on Family Affairs.

The wife of Bishop Potter, of New York, is robbed of $50,000 worth of jewellery, which goes to prove the wisdom of the good Bishop in teaching, "Lay not up your treasures on earth where moth and rust doth corrupt, and thieves break in and steal."

Forty-eight officials and members of the W. F. M. have ben placed under arrest charged with murder. These arrests have taken place in consequence of the explosion at Independence, Col., which resulted in the killing of a number of non-union miners.

The striking employees of the Dominion Iron and Steel Co., at Sydney, C. B., have been treated to a moving picture exhibition in the shape of militia and artillery from Halifax. They afterwards wisely departed from the company's property, and retired to their residences.

Chas. Moyer, president of the W. F. M., who has been held in the "bull pen" for more than three months without being charged with any crime, has at last ben charged with complicity in the killing of McCormack and Beck, in the explosion at the Vindicator mine, Nov. 6, 1903. He is now at liberty under $10,000 bail.

For the purpose of extorting confessions from the innocent men, "miners have been taken from the bull-pens, hung by the neck until nearly dead, suspended by the thumbs and tortured by thumbscrews," says William D. Haywood, secretary-treasurer W. F. M. Gen. Bell piously remarks: "only I and the Lord knows what the next move will be, and the Lord is not very sure about it."

Upon the nomination by the Republican party, of "Teddy" Roosevelt of "spiked club" and "strenuous" fame, as candidate for the presidency of the U. S., F. W. Arnold, secretary of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, sent the following telegram to the "strenuous" one: "A thousand times one thousand congratulations. Labor will make it substantially unanimous in November."

The sham is rapidly being stripped from all fulsome boast of liberty and human rights. The only right possessed by the "proletariat" is the right to work provided it first obtains permission from those who control the instruments of labor. The value of such a right must be apparent, and should be protected at all hazard.

We shudder to contemplate the awful consequences should the working "plug" be stripped of his right to hunt for a "job." The Manufacturers' Association and the Citizens' Alliance are doing valiant service in securing, to at least a portion of the working class, this right by refusing to employ it. It can keep on hunting.

Nanaimo Miners' Union, No. 177, W. F. M., will hold a special meeting on Saturday afternoon, July 9th, at 3 o'clock, for the purpose of considering the question of working Saturday afternoons on pay days.

The blood lust of capitalism has been exemplified in the two-days' work of a Dutch expedition into the northern part of the island of Sumatra recently. Four hundred and one men, four hundred and sixty-seven women and two hundred and eighteen children were butchered, one hundred and three were wounded and forty-five captured. The loss to the Dutch forces was three officers, thirty-five soldiers and six coolies.

Even the daily press mentions this as a "butchery," a "slaughter of women and children,", a killing of "innocents." Our expedition to Thibet should not be classed in the same category, however, as it is merely a peaceful one. A sort of friendly visit, as it were.

Messrs. Buscombe and Garrett having resigned from the Vancouver police commission, in consequence of their attempt to increase the pay of the force being turned down by the government at Victoria, has thrown the "Province" into a conniption fit. That worthy sheet is exceedingly wroth because an increase of pay has been denied to what it evidently considers a part of the working class. As the Province is a C. P. R. organ, and that company's propensity to look kindly upon the demands of labor being well known, the tender solicitude of this paper will be readily understood.

We fully appreciate the arduous duties devolving upon policemen and detectives. To be continually "moving on" unoffending citizens, and once a week or such a matter arresting a harmless drunk is certainly no light employment. To detect and bring to account those who have no visible means of support, commonly known as "vags," without making the mistake of getting hold of any West Enders, is even more arduous. As the pay of policemen and detectives, however, is fully double the average yearly earnings of the working men hereabouts, it seems as though they might squeeze through.

The complaint put up by the Province much resembles a very large "tempest" in a very small "teapot."

SNAP SHOTS TAKEN AT RANDOM

At Various Events Both Social and Industrial Reported During the Past Week.

CURRENT ITEMS CULLED FROM CAPITALIST FIELDS

Dominion Day Celebrated—Political Exiles and the Czar—Sydney Strikers and the Militia—Rossland Miners Union in Trouble.

Dominion Day has been again celebrated in Vancouver. Released for the short space of a day from the ordinary strenuous grind, the Vancouverite and others from adjacent places gathered early upon the city's streets for the purpose of viewing the parade which is usually the chief feature of public holidays. The parade took place, and of what did it consist? Was there anything in connection with it breathing of peace, progress or liberty? Anything referring to or calling to mind the grand achievements of mankind in its long and wearisome journey towards higher and better things? Aught to indicate the solidarity of the race, that brotherhood of man of which the sage has taught and the poet sung through all the ages? Most emphatically, No! That which would in any manner tend to give expression the higher, the nobler aspirations of the race, was conspicuous only by its absence. The parade consited solely of a display of the power of repression. Bedecked in the gaudy splendor of military trappings, with the death-dealing rifle upon their shoulders, and the murderous knife at their belts, shallow pated, beardless youths, scarce past the age when their mothers washed their faces and tucked them in bed, marched proudly to the strains of martial music, music which inspires men to kill and destroy. Sinister looking cannon were dragged along at the hands of men, like mules in harness. The sheen of weapon, the measured tread of the men, and the dull rumble of cannon wheel, gave forth a muttered threat like the growl of a savage beast at scent of danger. That the crowd lining the street upon either side instinctively realized the sinister meaning of this display of barbaric force was made manifest by its standing silent and motionless while the disgusting display was passing. Were the shades of the murdered victims of the Paris Commune of 1871, of Homestead, of Hazleton, of Chicago, of Buffalo, of Coeur d' Alene, of Colorade, hovering over the scene?

Those cunning cannon and cute little rifles on display in Vancouver on Dominion Day were no doubt very pretty to look at. That would largely depend, however, upon one's viewpoint. The bad, very bad, strikers at Sydney, C. B., will now have an opportunity to judge how such things look from the muzzle end. These bad, bad men have actually armed themselves with sticks and stones, with, no doubt, murderous intent, and the good, good capitalists have called for argument to be used in convincing the bad, bad strikers of the error of their ways. The government has forwarded the argument in the shape of a company of artillery, and one of the "Highlanders," armed with "cunning cannon and cute little rifles," just like those dragged under the noses of Vancouverites on Dominion Day. Just what impressions the strikers may get from the muzzle end viewpoint remains to be seen. It strikes us that the cannon, sword and bayonet furnish the means whereby capitalists "read their title clear," not to "mansions in the skies" where they might dwell in unending bliss throughout eternity, but to factories, mines, railways, etc., here on earth, so that they may be able to sponge a luxurious living out of the working class, during that portion of eternity spent on this side of the great divide.

The Czar of Russia has made an offer to the Siberian political exiles, to grant them pardon if they will but go to the front and fight in the war with Japan. To this offer reply has been made by the exiles in a document expressing the most scornful defiance and contempt for both the Czar and his government. To this was boldly affixed the signatures of the exiles. These men have been exiled for active participation in the movement of the world's proletariat looking to its emancipation.

What they suffer and endure in thus being exiled from family, friend and native land, can scarce be imagined. Some faint realization may be arrived at by those who have read of the horrors of Siberian exile. The strength of "moral fibre" and the undaunted courage of these men in hurling defiance at the brutal ruling class of Russia and its contemptible tool, the Czar, by spurning the impudent offer of pardon as the price of service in furthering additional infamies at the hands and in the interest of capitalism and its robber class, marks them as men of the highest type, a type that only a cause of noble aims and lofty ideals can bring forth.

The working class is the only useful class in human society. It is, therefore, the only class that can make for the uplifting of humanity to higher planes of civilization. It alone can develop honor, courage and manhood. Awakened to a consciousness of the iniquities practised upon it, and quickened by the revolutionary impulse, this useful class, this working class, develops the highest types of courageous manhood.

May the day speedily dawn when these exiles of Siberia, these comrades of ours, may return to their native land, to find the present brutal class rule, with its barbaric equipment of cannon, bayonet and sword, and the murderers and cutthroats who wield them, relegated to the lumber room of oglivion where all such infamies and trappings properly belong. May they find the red flag of human brotherhood floating over a people no longer armed with instruments of murder, but with the implements of peaceful industry.

Capital is leaving no stone unturned to give to the working people a thorough instruction as to the absolute futility of all attempts to "better conditions" under the wage system. The Rossland Miners' Union, W. F .M., is now being called upon through the courts to make good the losses suffered by the mine owners at that place in consequence of the strike of 1901. Viewed from the standpoint of capitalist law there is no logical reason why the union should not be forced to pay. The wage system must be accepted with all of its consequences or not at all. As the workers have as yet not repudiated the wage system they must abide by it no matter how distasteful the consequences.

There is a line of action which can be followed without danger and which leads to the freedom of labor if the workers can get sense enough in their heads to see it. It does not lie, however, in the direction of patching the system in the hope of making it more tolerable, but in overthrowing it. The task of teaching the workers the correct line of action is a difficult one. The Socialist might well despair of his efforts as teacher ever meeting with success, were it not for the invaluable assistance rendered by the capitalists through the legislative, judicial and executive functions of government.

The Indian fishermen on the Skeena recently went on strike as the canners refused to pay the price demanded. There being some Japanese fishermen among them who also struck as a result of the influence brought to bear upon them by the Indians, the good canners proceeded to play the usual game of "battledoor and shuttlecock" by playing one bunch of workers against another. They at once got busy "working on the feelings" of the Japs by reminding them of the fact that in the strike of 1899 the Siwashes went back on the Japs, left them in the lurch and caused them to lose a week's fishing." This freshening up of the memory of the Japs seemed likely to bear good fruit at the time the last report came down. Tinhorn labor skinners in trying to ape their superiors often make a mess of it that brings disgrace upon the profession. Up-to-date skinners would not violate the ethics of the profession by publishing, or allowing it to be published that the game was to be played. This Port Essington bunch of tinhorns let the cat out of the bag by means of about half a column in the daily press which is altogether too clumsy to allow to go unrebuked. Upon behalf of the noble art of labor skinning we insist that the time honored secrets of the trade be not given away. Play "battledoor and shuttlecock" with the workers, but do not tell about it. They might get onto it and not be so easy.

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UTOPIANS.

The revolutionary Socialist is continually meeting with people who acknowledge his ultimate aim, the abolition of the wage system, to be all right, but because in his program there are no provisions for the ever present right now, set him down as an impractical dreamer, a utopian. The devotee of "something now" is by no means at sea as to the need of it, but he signally fails to explain how any or all of his pet panaceas can bring any "something now" that would be in the nature of a relief to the victims of the present system. What has he to offer or suggest, that could or would tend to break down or seriously interfere with the iron law of wages? Does he suggest any measure that would make it easy or possible to fit a large number of wage-earners into a limited number of jobs? Can he offer anything that would check the concentration of capital, or, in any manner lessen its power to exploit labor? Could he do any or all of these things, would it tend to hasten the day of arriving at that ultimate of which he approves, the abolition of the wage system?

The iron law of wages might perhaps better be termed the iron law of market, because it applies equally to all commodities. No combination of men has yet been found sufficiently powerful to do more than temporarily disturb its workings. An individual or a combination has succeeded at times in cornering some certain commodity, that is getting control of the visible supply of it, and temporarily forcing the price upward, but their control of the situation could be held but a few days at the most, and prices would fall to their proper level, as determined by the conditions of the market. Even the much abused monopolist, with his supposed arbitrary powers, does not attempt, if he be wise, to run counter to the inexorable though unwritten laws of the market. He makes no attempt to fix prices arbitrarily, but keeping close watch of all market indications, is enabled to interpret the correct price as determined by the conditions of the market. If the demand presents a steady even flow the price requires no change. If the demand shows a marked increase it is an indication that the price is too low, and should be advanced. If the demand falls off the price is too high and must be dropped. Thus far our "something now" reformer, it would be a sin to call him revolutionist, offers nothing that could in any manner alter this iron law of the market. Until something is offered it is useless to waste time over the matter.

As to fitting a large number of workers into a limited number of jobs our "something now" friend would doubtless suggest that jobs be provided by inaugurating public works. With government in the hands of the class in whose interest it is that there should be a constant surplus of labor in the market, it is ridiculous to expect government to be used as a means of reducing such surplus. To provide work upon non-productive public works, would mean increased taxation upon capitalist property, and upon productive public works a still further glutting of the market with products, and a consequent injury to capitalist production and exchange. In order to provide for the employment of the surplus labor in the market on public works it, therefore, becomes necessary that the workers obtain possession of government. That being the first step necessary, what folly to use those powers once gained, for any purpose short of the abolition of the wage system.

Could anything be done to check the concentration of capital, or lessen its power to exploit, it goes without saying that it would not tend to hasten the abolition of the wage system, but on the contrary to prolong its life. The reign of capital is supreme. It will brook no interference, and tolerate no meddling. It demonstrates its right to live by its power to overcome all obstacles. "Something now" reformers who expect, while capital still holds the reins of power, by meddlesome interference, to exact concessions that will materially better the conditions of the workers are the most impracticable of dreamers. They are pure and unadulterated utopians, dreaming of things impossible of attainment.

Upon the contrary the revolutionist is the most practical and matter-of-fact of men. He arrives, after a careful examination of the present system, at the indisputable conclusion that it can not be reformed, and efforts in that line are but time wasted. Being most practical and matter-of-fact, he realizes that the hardships experienced by the workers under the capitalist system are inevitable. They come, not because of the vicious tendency of individuals, but because of a certain relation between capitalist and wage earner which springs from the peculiar nature of capitalist property. The relation is that of master and slave. "Something now" programers and reformers do not and cannot destroy this peculiar form of property. In fact, they in no wise threaten it. As they do not attack the present system of property, the relation existing between capitalist and wage earner is in no manner threatened. The incorporation of even the petty reforms or palliatives suggested by many into practice involves as a first step the capture of the reins of power. As there is nothing in such palliatives to appeal to the material interests of the wage workers, it is foolish to expect to win their support. The "something now" to be obtained by our utopians, the workers are getting with a vengeance all over the world. It is not necessary for workers to fight for it. They will get it anyhow so long as the wage system remains unbroken.

The "something now" really needed by the workers is the knowledge that the present system cannot be reformed to do them any good, and that the first step in the way of bringing relief to them consist in capturing the reins of power, government, so that it may be used to destroy the wage system.

They who expect to reform or patch the present system into a more kindly treatment of its exploited class are the wildest of dreamers, and should rise up in protest against any other being termed utopians. All signs point to a rude shattering of their utopian dreams in the near future.

A NEW SLOGAN.

A new slogan has been coined for the hosts of Labor. The coiner is no less a personage than Samuel Gompers. The mighty Samuel has presided over the destinies of the American Federation of Labor for lo, these many years, in fact, so long that it has become a habit of his. In coining a new slogan for the hosts of labor Samuel is by no means venturing upon forbidden ground. As a coiner of good things he is as much at home as when presiding over good things.

In the Federationist for July, Samuel valiantly proclaims, from the house tops, as it were, the new rallying cry. Samuel would not let a good chance to fulminate slip by unobserved, so he gives the Federationist's horn a gentle toot by pointing out the fact that the per capita tax receipts increased from $51,000 during a certain six months during 1903, to over $72,000 during the corresponding six months of the present year. This we are told is an evidence of the growing power of the Federation "in spite of the newly manifested bitter antagonism of the worst elements of the capitalist class against the trade union movement."

Having in this self-satisfying manner shown the growing per capita paying power of the Federation under the guidance of the Gomperian wisdom, he proceeds to blow such blast of his own horn as to knock into smithereens any Jericho-like walls of doubt that might exist as to the magnitude of importance attached to the Gompers personality. To use Samuel's own words: "During a menacing period to labor we took occasion to sound the tocsin of labor's duty to itself and the world of humanity. We can pen no words now more convincing or encouraging than those at that period."

It is no slouch of a sounder who can "sound the tocsin of labor's duty to labor itself," but when such ability is coupled with that rare modesty that prompts the sounder to blow his own horn it forms a combination of doubtful value. Should the sounder blow his own horn a trifle too loud the tocsin might not be heard.

Just what the sounding of that "tocsin" consisted is not at present brought to mind. This is, however, a minor matter, alongside of the fact that it was sounded. There lies the chief value of this or any other "tocsin."

But on to the new slogan. "The most benighted of greedy monopolists, rapacious capitalists, see in the trade union movement the opening of a new era for labor. They oppose it by the blacklist, the lockout and provocation to disorder and strike." But, says Samuel, "Grit your teeth and organize."

"Judges issue injunctions, misconstrue the law in the hope of crushing labor," but Samuel says: "Grit your teeth and organize."

Though rights are invaded, free assemblage and speech prohibited, and you are met by bullets on the highway, the valiant Samuel says: "Grit your teeth and organize."

After a jumbled mutter about "ingenuity of man," the "world's wealth," "pauperized labor," "detriment of the masses," "union frowned down," and so on, Samuel again says: "Grit your teeth and organize."

More buncombe about "forging ahead," "a larger share," "shorter hours," and a solemn warning not to "leave the substance to grasp at the shadow," and once more Samuel says: "Grit your teeth and organize."

With a flourish of words, meaningless ones at that, about "better wages," "less hours," "labor's rights," "obliterate injustice," "disenthralment of man," "freedom," "the dawn of labor's emancipation will be so much nearer every time," the doughty Samuel drives the nail home and clinches it fast, by again hurling forth the slogan: "Grit your teeth and organize."

Just what the purpose of organizing is to be is not made clear. Is it for the purpose of continuing the present goodly stream of per capita, or maybe increasing it, thus insuring to the Samuel shins the continual resting neath the mahogany of the late lamented Hanna's Civic Federation, upon frequent occasion?

With the new slogan the tread of the clans of labor will no longer be heard from a thousand hills, but their coming will be announced by the gritting of teeth. The weird uncanny sound of millions gritting their teeth in concert will be sufficient to strike terror to the hearts of bad capitalists. When once they discover this gritting of teeth to be but the prelude to organizaion they may reasonably expect to drop dead in their tracks.

Hurrah for the amalgamated association of teeth gritters. Let all working men jion it and standing together jaw to jaw grit it out on Samuel's line if it takes forty summers. If we keep on winning victories as we have been doing in the past, the time is not far distant when we will have nothing between our teeth to interfere with our trade as "gritters."

COLLECTIVISM.

To the Editor of the Clarion:

I have been very much pleased with what I have seen of your resurrected paper, The Clarion. The man who does clear thinking is certainly on the road to right thinking, or rather to right conclusions. I am not sure that I agree with everything you have said in the editions I have seen, although I am not at present aware of any divergence of opinion.

I would like, on my own initiative, to introduce a matter which in some ways may be considered as somewhat new. And, in doing so, I might intimate that I will be entirely complaisant even if my statement or communication should be torn in pieces, trampled under foot, or thrown entirely out of the arena by the editor himself or by any of his correspondents.

After the manner of the preachers, I will now announce my text. As reported in the American Review of Reviews for May, entitled "The Secret of Human Happiness," Mr. Novikoff (presumably an eminent philosopher), makes the following assertions in the Nouvelle Revue: "That the object of Socialism,—namely, to give to each inhabitant of each planet an existence worthy of man— is the beginning and the ending of all political wisdom, while the means proposed —namely, collectivism,—is pure madness."

It is a matter of common observation and almost universally admitted, that the wisest men in the world have sometimes given utterance to the foolishiest things that have ever been uttered. We take the latter part of the quotation we have made to be such a statement as we have described. We believe that M. Novikoff's conception of the term collectivism is, to say the least, fantastic. We will not say that his conception is entirely unusual but will endeavor to show that it is an erroneous conception. As an example of what we consider collectivism, in actual, present-day operation, we will take, in a free country, what is generally known as civil government. We contend that, in such a country, an overwhelming majority of the population collectively work together in upholding and operating, not only the peculiar institutions of their respective governments, but, in a general way, government itself. We freely admit the existence of a small minority who are neither interested nor concerned, either in government itself or in any of its peculiar institutions, or who may even be their latent or avowed enemies. And we must also take into account the considerable numbers of true reformers, notably Socialists, who yield a loyal obedience to our present system of jurisprudence and recognized equities, but nevertheless demand, and earnestly contend for radical and even revolutionary changes in both of these latter.

And there is no reasonable doubt that, whenever what is generally known as Socialism is attempted to be put in actual operation, there will be found a considerable number of people submitting insilence while attempts and experiments, which they consider useless, or even pernicious, are being put to the actual test and trial of actual demonstration. And it seems evident enough that, under any conceivable system whatever, the sensualist will always need restraint, and the lazy and shiftless a certain amount of coercion. It may well be that, under favorable conditions, the numbers found in either of these classes might be relatively very small. The great captains of industry and leaders of finance would give comparatively little trouble. Power is the great desideratum with these men, and many of them no doubt would be assigned to lofty and responsible positions. It sems tolerably evident that a complete system of co-operation or collectivism, in order to be successful, would imperatively demand the hearty co-operation of an overwhelming majority of the whole population.

We might be accused of giving utterance to a mere paradox, if we said that co-operation was always successful, but let us consider whether this is not actually the case. There is a very old and homely, but repeatedly proven assertion that two heads are better than one. . Arithmetic and common sense teach us that three heads are better than two. But many co-operative associations have failed. This proves merely that some, perhaps a majority, of the members of such associations did not co-operate. If a majority of the members did not co-operate these asociations were not co-operative in spite of their names.

This brings us to the last matter upon which we shall touch in this article. We are not aware that a majority of the people in this or in any other country are, as yet, ready or willing to co-operate for the benefit of the whole people of even that particular country. Complete forms of national, and more especially of international co-operation, collectivism, and communism are therefore for the present, practical impossibilities. Communistic societies have been, for the most part, failures. What have been the exceptions. We believe they have been those in which the membership has been carefully selected, where it has been animated by a high moral purpose, or where the society has been exposed to persecution from without. Would a society that was partly communistic and partly individualistic be a success? Our answer is that all our churches and all our fraternal societies are conducted to a small extent at least, on the communistic principle. We go further, and assert that this is the most powerful factor or principle they possess. The world is beginning to demand of Socialists what it has always demanded of the churches, that they should practice what they preach. We are well aware that we are here antagonizing the views and feelings of those Socialists who claim, that the most important, the all important, fact in the inauguration of Socialism, will be the transference of the means of production from private control to the control of the whole people in their collective capacity. Many of us have already given too much attention to our material interests, if the term be understood in a narrow, selfish, individual way. How should our sympathies be broadened? What can we do to advance the material interests of others? Look out for No. 1? Well, that is undoubtedly the starting point, paradoxical as the statement may appear. Taking this as a neucleus or centre, the next idea is to enlarge the circle. Where will be found suitable material for this enlargement. It will undoubtedly be found among those whose views and interests are most nearly allied to our own. Many church people expect the Kingdom of God, the Millenium, to descend some day from the clouds. Will Socialism descend from the clouds, or will it come when we make it come? Undoubtedly when we make it come, and we must be different people in heart and deed in order to become real Socialists. It may be that the change is even now going silently forward, and that we may some day be found shaking ourselves, and looking around, be able to realize that the happy days of universal co-operation and brotherhood have at last arrived. But the scourging and chastisement, the conflict and disaster will no doubt first arrive, and some of these, at least, are already upon us.

JOHN K. MACKENZIE,
Hall's Prairie, B. C.

The Rossland Miners' Union, W. F. M., is being sued by the Mine-owners for damages resulting from the strike of 1901. Eighty men struck on the construction work of the C. P. R. hotel at Winnipeg. The strike lasted half an hour, it requiring that amount of time to fill he strikers' places. Prior to the strike the men were being paid 15 cents per hour. The strikers are now at liberty to invest their ill-gotten gains in looking for another job. They eviedntly could not stand prosperity.

Jim Hill, of the G. N. Ry., is said to be in eastern Canada engaged in catching fish. As he has been fishing all of his life, and like the successful "captain of industry" has succeeded in catching a fine string of "suckers," this would seem in no way remarkable.

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..

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.

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council. Meets first and third Thursdays in each month, at 7.30 p. m. President, Geo. Dobbin; vice-president, Wm. George; secretary, C. T. Hilton; financial secretary, J. L. Lilley; treasurer, A. N. Harrington; sergeant-at-arms, J. C. Kerr; statistician, E. L. Beuford; trustees, Messrs. Pound, Cross and Thompson; executive committee, Messrs. George and Gothard.

Vancouver Typographical Union, No. 226. Meets the 4th Monday in each month at Union hall. President, Ralph Wilson; vice-president, H. Hubbard; secretary, W. H. Hunt, P. O. Box 66; treasurer, John Watkins; sergeant-at-arms, Jas. Webster; executive committee, A. Pelky, W. Pound, C. Grassie, W. Brand; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, R. P. Pettipiece, W. F. Farrow, George Bartley, George Wilby.

Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators.. Local Union No. 138. Meets second and fourth Thursdays in Labor hall. President, E. Holland; vice-president, S. Foster; recording secretary, E. Crush, 767 Eighth avenue, west; financial secretary, A. Gothard, 821 Howe street; treasurer, H. McSorley.

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. 22, 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. 8, 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.

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

Socialist Party of B. C.

From Executive Headquarters

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE MEETING.

Provincial executive meeting met at Local Headquarters on Tuesday evening, June 5th, 1904. Present, J. E. Dubberly, E. T. Kingsley, L. T. English, E. Burns, and the Secretary, E. Burns in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Correspondence was received from Grand Forks, Phoenix and Com. Hawthornthwaite, Nanaimo. Reports from Victoria, Phoenix and Vancouver, that of Local Phoenix having a most encouraging growth in membership during the past few months.

Com. Hawthornthwaite's letter was taken up for discussion, clause by clause, with the folowing result:

Moved by E. T. Kingsley, seconded by J. E. Dubberly: Resolved, That it be the sense of this committee that in all cases where the assistance of the elected members be solicited to aid in securing to private persons patronage at the hands of the government that such aid be refused upon the ground that such members have no influence nor do they wish to acquire any influence, except such as may be obtained upon the floor of the legislative chamber, and used openly." Carried.

Moved by J. E. Dubberly, seconded by the Secretary: "That, pending further comunication from Nanaimo Local, which is announced as being on the way, the matter of members of the Socialist party accepting employment under a capitalist government be left in abeyance for one week." Carried.

Moved by E. T. Kingsley, seconded by J. E. Dubberly: "Resolved, That it be the sense of this committee that our elected members should receive and use passes tendered by transportation companies, and should publish in the columns of the Western Clarion the announcement of such acceptance and intention to use." Carried.

Chairman Burns wished to be recorded as being opposed to the adoption of this resolution.

Moved by L. T. English, seconded by the secretary, that Local Vancouver be requested to appoint two of its members to audit the books of the Provincial Executive Committee for the half year ending June 30th. Carried.

The Treasurer reported $7.50 receipts since last meeting, and $4.50 expenditure for printing.

Adjourned.

M. B. BURNS, Secretary.

LOCALS TAKE NOTICE!

Whereas the constitution of the B. C. S. P. provides for the holding of an annual convention between August 15th and October 15th (Sec. Art. V., Sec. 1), Locals are hereby requisted to place in nomination the town or city favored as the location of said convention. It will also be in order to make suggestions as to the date of convention.

It should be remembered that the conventions of the party have hitherto all been held at the coast; that the cost of travelling over our country of "magnificent distances" is pratically prohibitory to the unmonied Socialist; that the convention should be made as fairly representative as possible; and the nominations made with a view to meeting and squaring this triangle of condition.

The following form may be used as nomination paper. Send them in as soon as possible in order that the ballots for the general vote may be distributed without delay.

FORM.

Local No. ..... S. P. .....B. C. nominates the city of ... ...for place of annual Provincial Convention.

Signed.....

Nominations close Aug. 1st, 1904.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

A smaller attendance has been the rule this month, owing no doubt to the warmer weather and the opening of the picnic season; our best meeting having been that of the 19th, addressed by Com. Titus of Seattle. However, quite a number of hearers have been in attendance who were not in the habit of attending our meetings in the old hall, and have been much enlightened in regard to Socialism. Attendance of active members at business meetings has been fair. Amount of literature sold during the month $5.50, of a varied character. C. C. Williams, Sec. Local No. 2, Victoria.

"Are pleased to say the people have been stirred up a little lately through Com. Osborne's meetings. We are selling a few small pamphlets at our meetings now and a great interest appears to be taken in the speeches." J. W. Dykes, Sec. Local No. 3. Nanaimo.

Com. Baker reports from "this hell of capitalism," as he names the city of New York, and says: "Have been to the Comrade and Worker office and had a long talk with both Wagener and Algernon Lee, and was pleased to see that both of them held my views on the union question. Lee was most emphatic in his criticism of those who seek to drive all union sympathizers out of the party. * * * * I am to see Ben Hanford tomorrow if I have time. * * * *

"Greater interest is now being taken all the time in Socialism; in Phoenix at all events as the growth of our Local wil show." W. H. Banbury, Sec. Local No 8.

"Com. Williams and self are now working on report of legislation last session and hope to have it in this week." J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M. L. A., Nanaimo.

How many locals have ordered a bundle of Clarions to sell at street meetings, etc?

SOME NOTES FROM WASHINGTON.

The Secretary and Treasurer spent Sunday and Monday with the Socialists of Whatcom county, Wash. They attended the county convention and annual picnic at Lynden and had an all-round good time. The convention nominated a full county ticket with the exception of Superior Judge and Prosecuting Attorney, there being no qualified members of the S. P. to fill these offices. Chas. E. Cline, of Lynden, who will speak at our Local propaganda meeting on July 24th, is the nominee for senator of the district.

About five hundred people gathered at the camp grounds on Sunday to listen to the blind orator, J. B. Osborne, who unfortunately was ill and unable to speak. Mrs. Osborne gave a little 'talk," which with local speakers, kept the crowd interested until "milking time."

On Monday the asemblage was not so large owing to the counter Fourth of July celebration in the town. About two hundred persons listened to addresses by Comrades Osborne, Titus and Burns after the business of the convention was over.

There is a prophet in Lynden, Wash., who ought to be honored of the Socialists, even in his own country. A life-long Democrat, he has grown disgusted with the methods of the party he has been tied to so long, and expressing to an old neighbor the conviction that one party was as deep in the mud of corruption as the others he avowed his determination henceforth to vote the straight prohibition ticket.

"Why not vote the Socialist ticket?" he was asked.

"Oh, them Socialists! Why, do you know; if we once voted them fellows into power we'd never get 'em out."

So mote it be.

A young old man of Lynden, Wash, aged 81, is a recent convert to Socialism. He joined the party on convention day, and paid a year's dues in advance. There's an example worthy to being followed by every Socialist in B. C.

The following notice was posted up at Lynden, Wash., recently: Lost, Strayed or Stolen.—Left her home about the time of the Colorado trouble, my oldest daughter, the Goddess of Liberty. Has not been seen since. Is supposed to have taken refuge in the Socialist camp. Any information of her whereabouts will be thankfully received by her grief-stricken parent. UNCLE SAM.

It has since been learned that she was chased into the Bull Pen by Gen. Bell, and is now beyond the reach of "habeas corpus."

The Clarion wants 50 men in B. C. to pledge themselves to a "Clarion Fund" of $1.00 per month to meet deficits for the next three months. Who's to be the first?

JUNE INCOME.

The amounts received from shareholders, borrowers and proceeds of the sale of debentures in the month of June made up a total income of $95,210.19 for the British Columbia Permanent Loan and Savings Company. The average for the past six months was $91,617.99 per month, as against $53,972.78 average monthly income for the first half of the year 1903, thus showing an increase of over thirty-seven thousand dollars per month for the first half of this year over the same period of last year.

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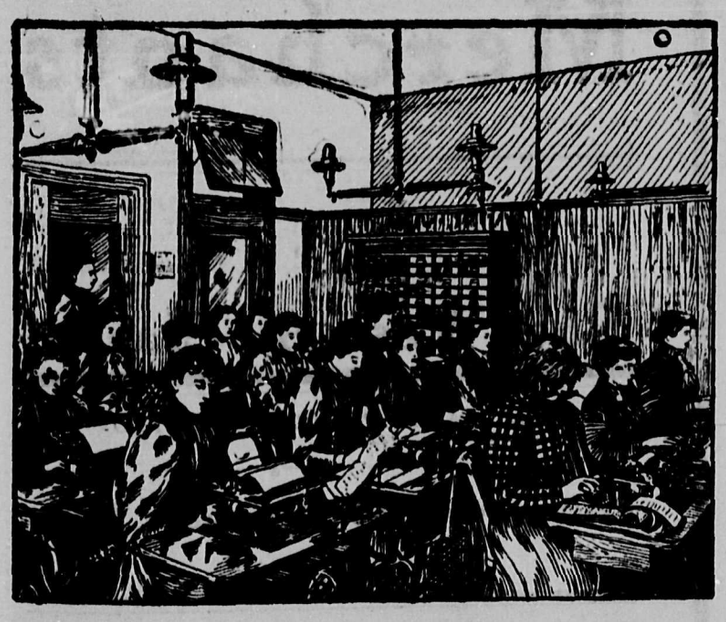
DID IT EVER STRIKE YOU?
DID YOU EVER FIGURE IT OUT?

That giving your girl or boy a business education is better than a life insurance, and what is more, it is cheaper. A course does not cost much. A course is based on a cash basis, but you can make arrangements with us to pay it in instalments, if it is more convenient to you. **What we want is to train your girl or boy** and put her or him in a business office. In another place in this advertisement you will find a list of firms whom we have supplied with stenographers during May, and May is not a good month either. All these young people are on full salaries. Our young people do not need to work for "EXPERIENCE." After we have placed your daughter or son in a business office, they would be able to shift for themselves. They have then climbed the first rung of the ladder. There is always room on top, especially in business; it rests with them, with their own ambition, how high they want to go. It is with them only a matter of will. It does not require genius to be a good business man or a good business woman, it requires application. It does not require even a university or high-school education. Those young people who leave the public school and go through a business college and enter a business office at an early age are more successful than those with a university training. If your son or daughter is now in the ofth reader, they are far enough advanced. We have to teach them anyway, business arithmetic, business penmanship and business correspondence, in short we have to teach them to use what they learned at school, in a business-like manner. However, after we are through with them (and they can do it in six months) they are settled for life. They have a trade out of which they can always make their living, but more than that, they have got something that they can apply to any trade. Too many tradesmen and mechanics are not successful, because they have not studied business.



The School is always open. We have no vacations.

A HINT TO THE GIRLS

A large number of girls are very anxious to come to school and prepare themselves for business. They could easily raise the amount for the course, but they are unable to come on account of the cost of boarding. If you are such kind of a girl, and still ambitious, we will give you a pointer which scores of girls have used, if you will write to us.

GREGG SHORTHAND We have taught the old system or over six years. A year and a halt ago we changed to Gregg's and WE COULD NOT BE PAID ENOUGH MONEY TO GO BACK TO THE OLD SYSTEM. GREGG SHORTHAND IS MUCH EASIER TO LEARN, VERY MUCH EASIER TO READ. IT READS LIKE LONGHAND. IT IS DECIDEDLY FASTER TO WRITE. We had a boy 17 years old, acting as police court stenographer in Vancouver, in fact he was too young for the job. He was not a graduate, but he writes GREGG'S.

BOOK-KEEPING. No other school can teach as we do. Every other school uses text-books. We have taught eight years without them. The result is that our book-keepers are real book-keepers and office hands.

Employment during May was brisk. Although not usually a brisk month, June is better in that respect. The following firms engaged graduates of ours: B. C. Fruit Canning Co., Shallcross, Macaulay & Co., barristers; Taylor, Bradburn & Co., Cascade Laundry, The Fairbanks Co., F. Buscambe & Co., Drysdale-Stevenson, Ltd., Federal Life Insurance Co., Canning Co,, Eburne; New England Fish Co., Waterfall, Beasley & Co., C. P. R. Freight Office, Pacific Transfer Co., Yoho Heater Co., A. MacDonald & Co., Ceperley, Rounsfell & Co. The lately appointed permanent court stenographer is also a graduate of the Vogel College.

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TO PULL OR NOT TO PULL

WHETHER IT BE BETTER TO PULL A A HORSE AND GET THE MONEY OR FLY TO THE WOODS AND PULL A SAWED-OFF.!

The incomprehensible part of the whole thing is that some systems of dishonesty are counted honorable and meet with the approval of the gang; while others, more manly if more dangerous, are voted dishonorable and punishable by law.

Take a case like this for instance: Suppose an alleged horse race is pulled off at Hastings, and a bunch of skates from south of the 49th parallel are fixed to peddle around the track and come in according to arrangements. Some fellows who are onto their job run the books and make the arrangements. Rubes clothed in white pants and innocence bet on the favorite, and the wily bookmakers get the money. But the work is exceedingly coarse—so coarse that a park policeman could see it; so the judges take official cognizance of the job and rule the jockey off.

Of course the jockey's price has nothing to do with the main case, but it transpires that all he got for his pull was sixty plunks, which makes him altogether too cheap a chechawka to be allowed scope. Sooner or later a boy of this kind might put in with an Englishman and give some industrious bookmaker the double cross (which would be a measly shame.) Such jockeys are a menace to legitimate sport and should be ruled off.

So the jockey goes to the barn and the bookies keep the lithographs.

Now it so happens that there be others with an ambition to get their hand on a piece of easy money, but they lack the science to frame up a proper "bunc." And furthermore they are not in on the track privileges. But one of them has a job and the other rustles a sawed-off, and with the sleeves of a sweater to pull over their physogs they meander down the back trail to a secluded spot in the primeval forest, about 40 rods from the brewery, there to lie in wait for the men with the mon. When the bookies come along hey are separated from their roll a la Arizona, in less time than it took to pull the horse.

And then commences the merriment. The hold-up artists, who will later take refuge behind technicalities, temporarily take refuge in the forest's deepest shades. Policemen arrive on the scene and the two-handed gun men are pursued to the limit of the law. And the newspapers get out special editions; the robbery becomes the leading excitement of the day.

In the grand finale it is a good even bet that somebody will study geology in Kamloops, and the chances are it will not be the bookies.

But the funny phase of the moving picture is that the law and its minions protect the gang who pull the horse; and the same law and the same minions pursue the gang who pull the artillery.

In the classic lingo of the Bawalamie Chinaman, "Wha' for?"

* * * *

Charlie Wilson and John Houston are exchanging amenities. The point of friction seems to be that Wilson is the appointed leader of the Conservative party but lacks the force to act, while Houston has the force but lacks the appointment. In the meantime McBride has an attack of the hahas.

* * * *

The Rossland Miners' Union is being sued in the Victoria court for conspiracy because the men quit work at the Centre Star at the time of the strike. The case is now a three-year-old and will probably become a centenarian before it goes through all the phases of the British Columbia courts, but it is worthy of note that in the indictment the men are charged with having caused great loss to Gooderham, Blackstock, et al. by refusing to hit the drill in their mines. In other words, it was the days' works, not the mine, that the promoters figured to make the money on.

* * * *

Lord Dundonald quit a $5,000 a year job because the minister of militia projected politics into the management of the soldiers. If the general had paused briefly to cogitate he might have taken a tumble that the principal mission of the military is to mainain the supremacy of that particular brand of connivance which he dubs "politics." Dundonald should have been a wiser, if less honest, gent. to hold his job.

* * * *

The "accidental" shooting of war correspondents within the Russian lines seems to occur pretty nearly on schedule time. The time is whenever a newspaper man happens to get where he can procure a few items of news. By carefully arranging for such accidents the Russians are proving to the world that their strategy board and the official censor are working hand in hand with a full appreciation of the fact that dead correspondents are impotent to add to the power of the press.

* * * *

If the story that Bill and Dan have sold the Canada Northern to the Grand Trunk Pacific be true, it would be interesting to learn what percentage of the purchase price represented the 1,200 miles of railway the people's parliament built for these gigantic grafters, and what per cent. went for their pull at Ottawa.

BILL SYKES.

THE CHURCH AS AN OBJECTOR TO SOCIALISM.

A writer in the April number of the International Socialist Review, warns our Party against committing the mistake that has been made by the European Socialists, especially those of France, Belgium and Germany, in allowing the movement to become anti-clerical, in consequence of which Socialism in Europe fails to find any response among the vast masses of population that holds allegiance to either the Catholic or Protestant church. The writer truthfully points out that the vast majority of the people of the United States are either active or nominal Christians, and, if a propaganda should be pursued by Socialists that would tend to arouse the antagonism of the great ecclesiastical institutions to our movement an insuperable barrier would be raised in the minds of the mass of the people against the acceptance of our teaching and the realization of the program of Socialism would thus be indefinitely delayed.

All of which is undoubtedly true, but, whether we court it or not, a life and death struggle between the forces of clericalism and of Socialism seems inevitable. The defenders of Capitalism will not fail to make the best possible use of this admirable weapon that lies so near at hand. In the immediate future we shall find the influence and prestige of the church (both Catholic and Protestant) lined up in opposition to the army of industrial emancipation. Commercialism is the all-powerful force in the industrial and political world. Commercialism subsidises the press, perverts our educational system and determines the actions and public utterances of many trade union officials into sane and conservative channels.

Such being the case it is futile to suppose that the church, the capitalist church, the church of mammon, whose edifices are built and whose preachers are paid by contributions almost exclusively from wealthy donors, will remain neutral in this mighty struggle between the forces of vested interests and those of industrial freedom.

In addition to the promulgation of views concerning events after death, and our relation to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, the church, and more especially the Catholic church, actively promotes reaction in all its political and social tendencies.

It is not the result of an acident that the Socialist Parties of Europe are anti-clerical to the core, and that Socialism is weak wherever the church is strong. The explanation is not hard to perceive. The clergy and especially the Catholic priesthood, are a privileged class, living in luxury and ease, and giving no useful equivalent to society for the wealth they consume. The members of the clerical profession, and more especially the higher dignitaries of the church, come, almost exclusively, from the more wealthy classes, and naturally view the Socialist movement in a most unfriendly light. Then again the churches themselves are business undertakings, their incomes largely derived from lands and other investments. Investment! Good old word! Such a respectable, high-sounding name to cover fraud and robbery! Thus the church is conservative in its views of property and industrial relations.

It should occasion no surprise that men like Father Sherman, to say nothing of Archbishop Corrigan, are trying to stop the progress of Socialism by shameless slanders on its teaching. What is done today by a small minority of the clergy will tomorrow be emulated by the overwhelming majority.

Honest, fearless men, like Fathers McGrady and Haggerty, who sympathize too strongly with the cause of labor, will be quietly elbowed to the outside. From motives of sympathy as well as of self-preservation, the church must fight Socialism. It will be capitalism's last and most formidable line of defence.

The material interest of those gentlemen, who profess to guide our footsteps to the better land beyond, are wrapped up in the rule of capitalism right here and now.

The reforms of the world have come in spite of, and not through, the influence of conventional religions. The few men within the fold who have tried to tell the truth, have had their utterances gagged and ultimately have been forced either into silence or ostracism.

A large number of good meaning persons, both inside and outside the pulpit, are endeavoring to cultivate friendly relations between the church and labor; so far with very little success. In their last analysis the institutions of the world are dominated by those who provide the sinews of war. The rich subscribe the funds to run the churches.

In my own personal recollections, covering twenty years of the Socialist movement, its anti-clerical tendencies have become more pronounced both in Europe and America. Men like Robert Blatchford and Professor Herron, who commenced their career by attempting to reconcile the claims of Christianity and Socialism, now take a decidedly hostile position to traditional religious conceptions.

What has happened in Massachusetts and Milwaukee where the whole power of the Catholic clergy was actively thrown against Socialist candidates, will happen in every locality, whenever our strength becomes sufficient to menace the strongholds of the political puppets of capitalism. Of the ultimate result no student of history can be in doubt. The power of the church to control men's minds is forever on the wane. Clericalism has power only to delay our final victory.

We may regret that so much of our time and energy in the future will have to be spent in the barren fields of theological discussion, but this is inevitable.

Political and industrial freedom can never be made permanent while the human mind is bound by the superstitious fetters of its own creation. Progress may be slower, but it will be all the surer if we achieve intellectual freedom along with our industrial liberty.

All things tend for the best, and the linking together of the destinies of the church and capitalism may be a blessing in disguise. Sworn allies in life, in death they shall not be divided.

All hail the co-operative commonwealth in which we shall behold a free man, grown to full physical and mental stature, no longer haunted by the fear of poverty in the life that is, or the idle terror of tortures in a life to come.

ERNEST BURNS.
Vancouver, B. C.

TESTIMONIAL (?) DINNERS.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers, and District Secretary William Dodds have gone upon a European tour in the interest of their organization. Before leaving they were banqueted, which means wined and dined, in right royal manner by the operators at the Henry hotel in Pittsburgh, Penn., and were "presented with diamond mementoes of the esteem of the operators and miners." Upon this auspicions occasion the campaign of Francis L. Robbins, President of the Pittsburg Coal Co. for the United States Senate, was duly launched by Mr. Dodds, ably seconded by Mr. Mitchell. Robbins eulogized them both with flattering unction.

We learn, from the current number of the Locomotive Firemen's Magazine, of another testimonial (?) dinner which took place at New Haven, Conn., recently. The recipient of the honor upon this occasion was a Bro. A. P. Kelly, who has been for seven years master of Elm City Lodge, No. 284, B. L. T. This "function" was attended by President Mellen, and other chief "labor skinners" of the "New Haven" road, who poured out the fragrant flattering unction upon the deserving head of Bro. Kelly. The gent. also was the recipient of a diamond memento, all the same Mitchell and Dodds, in the shape of a ring.

Why this friendliness, almost bordering upon love, betwixt so-called labor leaders and high chief labor skinners of the Robbins type, or slave drivers like Mellen and his bunch? There can be but one answer, and that is because these labor leaders (?) have fiathfully served, not the interests of the workers, but the interests of the masters. The interests of master and slave were never identical, and could therefore, under no circumstances, be served at one and the same time. No man can serve two masters. When his action meets with the approval of one, the other has been bertayed. When a Robbins lauds Messrs. Mitchell and Dodds or Mellen pours out praise or flattery upon Kelly, Arthur and Sargent, no better testimonial could be required to the efficiency of these "labor lieutenants" in holding their duped followers in meek submission to the skinning process of capital.

The union man is often warned against the wicked Socialist, who may perhaps speak plain truths, as a dangerous person. We in turn warn them to look for danger nearer home.

Mention is made elsewhere of the refusal of the Siberian exiles to accept amnesty at the price of enlisting for the Manchurian campaign. Word has recently come that in consequence of the terrible hardships exacted as a penalty for such refusal, a body of the exiles in the province of Yakutsk provided themselves with food and arms and barricaded themselves in a house while they sent one of their number to the governor, who refused to grant and concessions. The house was surrounded by troops and police, and fusiladed, until "more than a score were killed." The balance are supposed to have since been executed.

A strike is on at the Issaquah mine in the state of Washington, resulting from the refusal of the manager to allow the men to take turn about at the work, so that each might be able to earn something on which to live.

The sheriff reports it unnecessary to appoint deputies, as good order prevails. This would indicate that the business element is conducting itself in a very unusual manner.

* The Great West Optical Manufacturing & Supply Co., Ltd., eye specialists, will make an original proposal in The Clarion next week. If your eyes need attention write them, or read further particulars next issue.

While engaged in dragging a cannon around on Dominion Day one of the sailors fell and was run over. Happily, however, the cannon was uninjured.

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Thos. T. Langlois,
President.

Vancouver, July 8th, 1904.

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