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BATTENBERG AND THE TOADIES

Thomson's Caustic Comment on the Boot-Licking Brigade

Well, the agony is over! The flun-eys and jingoes have had their car-ival of self-abasement over the pres-nce of "royalty in our midst," and rince Louis, of Battenberg, has de-arted in a blaze of glory, duly im-ressed with the loyalty of the Can-dian people. And now in view of ll the newspaper utterances and peeches of welcome which have been voked by his visit, the real aim and urpose of it must surely begin to awn upon the dullest observer. The ending of the naval squadron to anada with a royal prince in com-and, is simply a step in the Imper-alist propaganda which has been eadily and insidiously carried on or some years.

It is intended to pave the way for closer bond of union between Can-da and the mother-in-law country, that the capitalists for whose enefit the British Empire is run can ift part of the burden of taxation volved by the keeping up of an im-ense military and naval establish-ent, officered by a horde of aristo-atic idlers and incompetents, upon e Canadian people. The British ploiters and jingoes have been aw-ened by the booming of Canadian osperity to the fact that a new eld for Imperial taxation exists. nd, consequently all the forces of plomacy and statesmanship are be-g employed to induce Canadians to bmit to the fleecing operation. oyal visits and the interchange of mpliments between British mag-tes and Canadian politicians whose nsel decorations are a badge of eir subserviency to Imperial inter-ts, are all part of the same sinis-r programme. Canadians are to be axed, wheedled and bribed by the omise of commercial advantages o promising men and money for gland's piratical wars.

Flunkey or Funny Man—Which?

It would be profitless to quote om the numerous articles which ve appeared in the prostitute press Toronto and other places, in hich the visit of Battenberg has en made to furnish a text upon hich to expatiate in favor of a lib-al contribution from Canada to aintain the British Navy. They ay very well be "taken as read." t there is one extract from half-a-lumn or so of the most abject flun-yism published in the Montreal ar, which is such a brilliant speci-en of unconscious humor that it is orth reproducing. After reciting e Prince's claims to honor on ac-unt of his royal connections, the itor goes on to say:

"But the fact which will most ake for his popularity in Canada, that he himself has chosen to cast his lot with the British Empire, d has devoted his life to the ser-ce of the Imperial navy. It is easant at this time, when danger real ill-felling growing up between gland and Germany threatens all unpleasantly, to be reminded at this German Prince is a living k between the two countries; and link which, though German by ood, is finally British by choice." sn't that delightfully funny? Cast in his lot with the British mpire" did Battenberg? Well, ra-er! As a matter of fact, the Bat-nbergs were notoriously poverty-icken, even for German princelings til like so many others of their d, he managed to work a graft the English court and the Imper-treasury. As for "links" be-een Britain and Germany it might supposed that the ever-lengthen-g chain of descendants of the house Guelph gave promise of a suffi-ently ample supply. Perhaps after it wasn't unconscious humor. rhaps the editorial hireling wrote with his tongue in his cheek, uckling softly to himself, over an congenial task, and determined to ake the whole thing as ridiculous possible to those capable of read' g between the lines. I have known tellectual wage-slaves try to pre-rve a modicum of self-respect in is way.

The Slavish Middle-Class.

It is instructive to socialists to te that all this while no note of otest or defiance in regard to these perializing schemes comes from the ddle-class reformers and palliative ngers. They are silent, if not ac-iescent, either from cowardice or cause they do not see the connec-n between the political and the nomic phases of social reform. ey apparently do not understand at the whole Imperialist system is vised and carried out solely in the erests of the exploiting class, and at its growth and extension in nada is really the greatest dan-, which confronts the liberties of e people, both from the political d economic point of view—if the o can be separated. That, in fact my sole excuse for devoting so ch space to this Battenberg epi-de, because I—and herein I think st socialists will agree with me—ly realize that it is part of an in-ious plot whereby in the specious mes of loyalty and patriotism the edatory classes of both Britain and nada aim by developing the spirit imperialism and militarism to riv-more tightly the shackles upon the bs of labor. So kindly bear with a little longer on the same topic. saying that no middle-class social former had anything to say against Imperialistic schemes, I ought possibly to have excepted

Professor Goldwin Smith

who is a class by himself. Professor Smith is never tired of protesting in speech and writing against Imperialism in the abstract. But unfortunately for his own reputation he is one of the most inconsistent of men. He talks one way and votes the other. He opposes Imperialism and lends the influence of his presence to Imperialist demonstrations. He felt highly honored when Earl Grey, who is helping along the Imperialist propaganda for all he is worth, planned a memorial tree in his grounds to commemorate his visit to the Sage of the Grange. His name appears on the list of those present at some of the Battenberg functions. Newspapers will lie, of course, but as he has not repudiated the statement, it is to be presumed that he was there. Goldwin Smith's weakness—owing to which he has just missed being a great man—is a longing for social recognition. He opposed the commercial union or veiled annexation scheme like a hot potato, because he found he was being cut out by the Toronto snobocracy — the Denisons wouldn't come to Mrs. Smith's garden parties. The fact is that Prof. Goldwin Smith is one of a large and increasing number of people who want the glory and prestige of being reformers, but are not willing to pay the price. They won't give up their respectability, their social connections, or their share of the plunder to carry out their convictions. Talk and writing, even in classic English, amounts to mighty little unless there is a man behind them. Goldwin Smith is hardly a man—he is a gift of language.

Absence of Popular Enthusiasm.

There is just one cheerful, encouraging feature about the Battenberg grovelment which has not been much noticed—the indifferent and apathetic attitude of the people. It is only the capitalist and middle class who have enthused. The working people were emphatically not in it. They are not yet "onto" the Imperialist game, except, of course, the Socialists and those under Socialist influences—but they have an instinctive feeling that all this patriotic and loyalist splurging is not in their interest—and the affair has not passed over without a few manifestations of class consciousness, which the jingo propagandist will do well to note. Accompanying Battenberg were 300 blue jackets, who were lent by the naval authorities to go through sundry drill evolutions at the Exhibition. These have served a double purpose—to swell the gate receipts, and develop a spirit of loyalty and Imperialism (accompanied, of course, with a frantic desire to pay Imperial taxes)on the part of the populace. The first part of the program worked all right. The crowds came and saw—took about as much interest in the evolutions as they would in an exhibition of trained monkeys. But did they enthuse? Not much. Let the capitalist press tell the story. Here is a clipping from W. F. Maclean's World, the advocate of bourgeois reforms and middle-class interests:

Failed to Cheer.

"While not wanting in that love of country called patriotism, the crowds who lined the route of march of the blue jackets on their way to the ring seemed so much interested that they overlooked the fact that cheering along the route was entirely lacking. The spectators seem to heartily appreciate the visit of the sailors, but appear to forget to give vent to their feelings."

It doesn't seem to have occurred to the writer that possibly the crowd realized that at the word of command the blue jackets whose training and discipline they were called on to admire, would train the big guns on them just as readily as on Russians or "natives." The workers are betting very class-conscious these days. It appears that the sailors are bitterly dissatisfied with their reception in Toronto and complained that they were simply regarded in the light of a travelling variety show, and one of the attractions at the fair. On this point the Globe of September 1st, says in reference to the remarks of an officer complaining of the treatment received:

"Those who stood along the fence of the Exhibition race track on Tuesday night and heard the chaff and jeers, whethered good-humored or not which were hurled at the men as they performed their laborious drill, and displayed the perfection of discipline which distinguishes the first line of defence of Great Britain and Ireland and the Greater Britains across the seas, may be disposed somewhat mournfully to acquiesce in the strictures of the gallant officer."

So that even in jingo Toronto, the most British city in Canada, the scheme of developing popular enthusiasm for Imperialism by the presence of a royal prince and a band of naval mercenaries exhibiting their precision in the work of murder, has resulted in flat, dismal failure! The masses are growing class-conscious indeed, and the Socialist propaganda may fairly claim a share of the credit. Out-and-out converts to Socialism may be few comparatively, but the people are at least getting to know what rifles and shotguns are for.

Mercenaries Jumping their Jobs.

Another little straw to show how the wind blows—tghe blue jackets went back to their ships, but as Tennyson says: "not, not the three hundred." Quite a number of these picked men, selected specially for the trip because it was thought they were proof against temptations to desert, showed their good sense by jumping the job. About half a dozen deserted at Niagara, and a like number turned up missing in this city. Reports from Halifax say some fifty men have liberated themselves from the hard and ill-paid service of the navy. The scheme of Imperializing Canada seems to have its difficulties even at this stage. But just wait until the working class fully understand the intent and meaning of all these demonstrations, the logical end and outcome of which is compulsory military and naval service. Then the jingoes will hear something drop. Even Billy Maclean's middle-class farmers and bourgeois won't stand for that.

Phillips Thompson.

119 Indian Road, Toronto, Sept. 3, 1905.

NEW UNIONISM'S NEW LOGIC

From False Premises False Conclusions Must Be Reached

The Industrial Workers recently organized at Chicago expresses clearly and logically the industrial demands of the working class up to date. This new industrial organization declares in favor of political act on in waging the class struggle. It actually unites all workers so that any given industry is under the sole jurisdiction of a single union and the workers in any given department are assured of the united support of all their co-workers in the event of a strike or any other exigency that requires the united action of all.—Extract from an article by E. V. Debs, in Chicago Socialist.

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And what are the "industrial demands of the working class up to date?" The only demands we have heard of have been demands for more wages, shorter hours, or similar crumbs from the employer's table of favors. These demands from the very nature of the workers' position in capitalist society are demands tnat savor strongly of mendicancy. In fact the objects in view cannot be obtained either by demanding or begging.

It is perhaps true that the organization in question "expresses clearly" these "demands," but it is equally true of the A. F. of L. and all the rest of them. To garb the dilapidated old skeleton of unionism in a new mantle and by vociferous lung blasts expect to rejuvenate it with new virtue, and clothe it with additional power, will prove as fruitless a task as the attempt to make a "silk purse out of a sow's ear." The cold fact stares every one in the face, that the "demands of the working class up to date," i.e., better wages, hours, conditions, etc., can no longer be enforced because of the overwhelming pressure brought against them by a chronically overstocked labor market. At no stage of the game could these demands be made effective unless the conditions of the labor market were favorable and in that case it was unnecessary to make demands. Conditions of the market favorable to the sellers of labor-power will inevitably express themselves in better prices, etc., and vice versa.

The new organization "declares in favor of political action in waging the class struggle," says Debs. Can it be possible that a man who has been an apostle of the Socialist movement as long as Debs has, does not yet know that ownership and control of the machinery of wealth-production is the storm center of the class struggle, and, in fact, that that is what the struggle is about? Such being the case the class struggle can be nothing but a political stsuggle, i.e., a struggle for possession of the power to control industry. Whether that struggle is carried on at the hustings with ballots, or on the field of battle with gun and bayonet does not alter the fact that it is a political struggle. The war in Manchuria has been a political struggle, inasmuch as it has been a struggle for mastery over the field of industry.

The conflict of interest between capitalist and wage-earner is expressed in the fact that one is an exploiter, the other is exploited; the one is master, the other slave. Out of this condition arises war to the death between them. Though they may from time to time engage in quarrel and dispute over some matter incidental to the master and slave relationship existing between them, such as wages, hours of labor, etc., that for which they will eventually wage "war to the knife and the knife to the hilt," has absolutely nothing to do with the price of labor power, or the circumstances surrounding its sale. This warfare will be waged over the ownership and control of the means of wealth production, i.e., the resources of the earth, and the implements of labor. The capitalists will struggle to maintain their control of the means of production and their consequent mastery over the workers. The latter struggle to break the relationship by seizing control of the means of production and then freeing themselves from exploitation. It is needless to say this warfare will be waged without mercy. This class struggle will prove to be no child's play. There will be no quarter.

The ridiculous little squabbles that occur in the "economic field" over the price of commodities—which, in the case of the worker means wages—have no more relationship to the class struggle than has the quarrel of a couple of Irishwomen over the price of half-pint of goat's milk. The conflict of interest that arises between the buyer and seller of labor-power is the same that arises between the buyer and seller of anything else. Out of that conflict may arise a fight between individuals, or a number of them, but no struggle of economic classes can arise because there is no class interest at stake. Human society is not divided into economic classes by the line between buyer and seller, but by the line between exploiter and exploited. The buyer in one case becomes the seller in the next, thus finding himself alternately upon opposites of the line. Rarely, however, does the exploited succeed in lifting himself into the ranks of the exploiters. The working class is both buyer and seller, the same as the capitalist class. Along these lines there is no distinction to be made between them. The working class is at all times an exploited class. The capitalist class is at all times an exploiting class. In this case the distinction is perpetual. Out of this comes the class war.

No industrial organization can under capitalism, unite the workers. There are more workers than jobs, and it is bryong the power of any organization to decrease the number of the one or increase that of the other. To any sane person this fact should be conclusive.

The average wage is equivalent to the average cost of a day's labor-power. In other words, the average day's wages is equivalent to the cost of keeping the laborer one day. When that laborer goes on strike it may readily be seen how long he can hold himself up. No work; no wages; no grub. There you have the measure of the average worker's ability to stand out in a contest against the employer. This is the case of our laborer the average laborer remember. Now, multiply the strength of this one by the total number of laborers in existence and you have the measure of their combined strength, as against their master in the economic field. Here it is. One million times nothing equals nothing, and it does not alter the fact if we make it a hundred million. To talk about the "united support of all their co-workers in the event of a strike, etc. is the veriest balderdash. In the last analysis that support is bound to be realized in the "moral" brand, and that will not satisfy the cravings of a stomach.

The sooner some of our shining lights in the Socialist movement who talk glibly and loudly about the class struggle, acquire at least an inkling of the meaning of the class struggle, the sooner will they be qualified to offer advice to the rank and file of labor as to the path to follow in order to escape from the dreary wilderness of wage servitude.

In referring to the spoutings of our "industrial" friends as "the New Logic," we do not wish to be taken seriously. Its propounders no doubt really believe it to be new. But candor compels the confession that it is so old that it is fairly musty.

JUNKETING TAXES AND GRAFT

Spartacus Has Something to Say About them in the Winnipeg Voice

A letter by "North End," appearing in the North-Ender and quoted in last week's Voice, contains a complaint against the taking of holiday trips by civic officials at the ratepayers' expense and expressed surprise that the Trades and Labor Council have never taken this illegal spending of the "workingman's money" into consideration.

* * *

The idea that it is the "workingman's money" that is spent, legally or illegally, by the hogs in the public trough municipal or otherwise, is an idea that is firmly implanted in the brain of the average workingman It is true that the money spent by governments is the taxpayers' money but it is money to which the average workingman has no right whatever as he pays no taxes.

* * *

This is not saying that no workingman pays taxes. Taxes are paid on property and here and there is a workingman who has managed, by stinting himself and his family or by exploiting his fellows, to secure a two by four lot with shack thereon, which he is proud to call his own and on this he will pay taxes. On the other hand many workingmen have not sufficient of this world's goods to pay for a bed at this time of writing. On the average, therefore, we may say the working-class owns no property and as direct taxes are levied on property they cannot be paid by the working class.

* * *

The advocates of the fallacy that the workers pay the taxes perceive in a dim way that the workers create all the wealth that exists, but they do not perceive at what point of the game the worker and the wealth are parted. When once this point is clearly grasped, the worker no longer worries over what is happening among the political grafters, municipal, provincial and federal, for he understands that the wealth squandered by these individuals has never been in the possession of the worker

* * *

The worker is robbed once and for all at the time he sells his labor power. His master buys his labor power at the market rate, which rate on the average is cost of the worker's living and that of his family. This price is called wages. The worker, however, produces much more than his wages, but never obtains this surplus—it gets into his master's possession and is there exposed to the onslaught of the landlord, banker, and the others of that horde of parasites that go to make up the business world. Out of this surplus must come the taxes. The worker having only a subsistence in return for his labor-power has nothing with which to pay taxes.

* * *

The question of "who pays the duty" is another stumbling block to those who merely judge by the surface of things or take the decisions of other people as correct without examination.

* * *

It is self-evident that the worker must receive sufficient for himself and family to live upon and we know that his wages are, on the average throughout his class, ever hovering around this subsistence point, therefore it can matter nothing to him if the prices of the article necessary to his existence are artifically enhanced by a protective tariff or not. If enhanced, his wages must be sufficient to cover the enhanced price, if protection is removed and prices fall wages fall also, and the master's cost of production is decreased by the amount of the fall in the price of necessaries. That is why the manufacturers of England fought so hard for the repeal of the corn laws. They knew the price of bread must fall with the fall of duty, and therefore that wages must fall, and the facts bore them out.

* * *

To worry and fret over the disposal of the ratepayers' money is a waste of energy on the part of anyone with the interests of the working class at heart. It is the wage-system that is to blame. Abolish the wage-system and give the laborer the full product of his toil and there will be no funds for civic jaunts in which only a few favored ones can take part. But that would be socialism.—SPARTACUS, in Winnipeg Voice.

FAITH IN THE POTENCY OF LAW

Dreamers and Surface Skimmers Know Not from Whence it Comes

Either they, (the great corporations) will have to submit to reasonable submission by the national authorities or else they will ultimately have to submit to government action of a far more drastic type. —Roosevelt, in his recent Chautauqua address.

And Teddy's words threw the Los Angeles Record into reminiscent mood to the extent of the following and some more of the same sort: "Judged by their actions, the men who control the great monopolies of the country are proceeding on the theory of the French Bourbous—after us the deluge." They are reckless in their outlawry. They not only oppose the passing of laws legal and just, but they grossly violate the laws we have."

This is indeed tough and the great corporations ought to be ashamed of themselves. Surely they will mend their manners after the "strenuous" one's warning, and the Record's melancholy complaint. So confident are we of this that we do not deem it necessary to "butt in."

One of the most noticeable propensities of the average man is an abiding faith in the power of the law. It seems to be quite a shock to both Roosevelt and the paper in question, that the great corporations do not, nor will not obey the law, i.e., statute law. If such people would but stop to reason a little, they would soon discover that no living thing in the matter of its growth and unfoldment obeys any other law than that which underlies and determines its existence. It obeys in the last analysis, only the law of self-preservation, which has been denominated as Nature's first law.

The economic law underlying th? growth and development of every living thing reigns supreme and unless the puny enactments of man conform closely to those underlying laws they will prove null and void and might better never have been passed.

Like every other living thing, capital must either grow or die; like every other living thing, once it can no longer add to its status and its powers, decay sets in and death is within measureable distance. The growth, development, and consequently the health of capital depends solely upon the absorption of surplus-value from wage-labor and the canversion of that surplus-value into additional bone and tissue, i.e., additional capital. In this manner, capital adds to its stature and powers, in much the same manner as an individual does by absorbing food and converting it into additional flesh and blood and bone ann marrow.

Whenever man made law stands in the way of the individuals obeying the very law of its existence, that law, the law of self-preservation, furnishes ample warrant for the individual to walk rough-shod over such human enactments. And what is true of the individual person, is likewise true of every living thing.

The modern corporation is the living embodiment of capital. The law underlying its existence, and that will brook no restraint, demands that it add to its stature and strength or perish. In obedience to that demand the corporation is perfectly justified in ignoring the petty obstacles that may be placed in its way by meddlesome lebislators who are long on impudence but short on sense.

To the student of social evolution the present system of property in the means of wealth production, is but a passing stage in the great scheme of things, and whatever tends to check or retard its development is to be severely condemned, upon the grounds that it can only result in prolonging the misery entailed upon the working class, and which is incidental to the rule of this particular type of property.

When a hungry lion sets forth in quest of food, the only code of morals and ethics that has any influence upon his conduct is that written by his stomach. If his natural food be mutton, no man made law against the eating of mutton will satisfy the demands of his appetite. The only way that mutton may be able to escape his teeth, and claws is by such measures as will make it impossible for him to obtain access to it, and the result will be death for the lion.

Capital feeds upon surplus-value wrung from the sweat of wage-slaves This is its natural, in fact, its sole food. This it must have, not only in sufficient value to satisfy the material necessities of the parasites, (capitalists and their hangers-on) which fasten upon it, but over, above and beyond this sufficient to enable each individual capital to add to its stature and its powers.

The law that determines the conduct of capital therefore underlies its very beings and determines the course it shall pursue. This law is inexorable and before its terrific onslaught man-made law is rendered null and void and becomes an insignificant farce.

To speak of the "men who control the great monopolies" is the veriest nonsense. It is another case of the "cart before the horse." The form of property prevailing at any given time, determines how the various members of human society shall make their living. This in turn determines their rule of conduct. So long as that form of property remains dominant it will make its own laws, or rather give expression by way of obedience to the economic laws that underlie it. Not only it will not, but it cannot obey any other. To do so would be to perish, and the law of self-preservation, we have been repeatedly told, is Nature's first law.

As well expect the wild beast of the junble in obedience to man-made laws to refrain from using teeth and claw while in pursuit of its food, as to expect capitalist property to refrain from the exercise of its normal function of feeding upon surplus-value extracted from wage-labor.

It is doubtless true that corporations pay little or no attention to laws as written upon the statute books, and there is a good reason for it. At least, many of these laws are intended to hamper the exercise of the rights of capitalist property. Rights that are strictly legitimate because determined by the healthful needs and requirements of that peculiar form of property. Such laws are in every sense of the word reactionary and therefore inimical to human progress. For this reason they not only should, but must be trampled under foot.

Stupid folk who are possessed with an overwhelming reverence for the law, and have an abiding faith in its potency to correct the evils which afflict human society to-day, will wake up some fine morning to find their souls filled with bitter disappointment. Their elaborate structure of legal safe-guard against evil, in the shape of anti-trust, anti-monopoly, anti-expansion, anti-discrimination, anti-this and anti-that laws will be brushed aside by the inexorable though unwritten laws that spring from the vitals of property. Within capitalist property itself lies the law that cannot be denied if capital is survive. That law must reign supreme until the working-class through intolerable exploitation is forced to rise, break the rule of capital and inaugurate a system of property in the means of wealth production more in conformity with their needs and requirements. This form of property will in turn make its own laws.

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MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.

If there is one particular propensity among persons who imagine themselves socialists that is particularly nauseating it is the disposition to be eternally bawling about some capitalist hireling, hanger-on, or scalawag, looting the "public treasury." He who understands the conflict of interest between the two economic classes in human society, knows government to be purely a class instrument, and the so-called "public treasury" merely an institution of the ruling class. True to their thieving instincts the members of that class will help themselves to the contents of the "public treasury" whenever opportunity offers. Not only does their thieving instinct and training prompt them to, in the first instance, rob the working class out of the product of its toil, but also prompts each individual thief to pilfer from his fellows. Whenever one of this particular fraternity gets a chance at the thieves "treasury," he very naturally, and quite in conformity with ruling class ethics, seizes whatever of value is lying around loose, and surely it is no one's business outside of that economic class whose property this "public treasury" is.

The exploited class, the plundered working class, can not be properly interested in the matter either one way or the other. The funds that go into the "public treasury" are ostensibly to be used for the purpose of holding the exploited in subjection to their exploiters, i.e., to maintain the machinery and powers of government. If grafters and crooks were to get away with the entire contents of the "public treasury," there would be nothing left for the maintenance of the army, navy, deputy sheriffs, judges and all of their accursed apparatus of repression. This might tend to make it easier for the oppressed worker to stand erect and assume the attitude of a man.

Doubtless the objections raised in capitalist circles against the looting of the "public treasury," arise from a consciousness that such a disposition of the "public:' funds diverts them from the highly commendable purpose of repression for which they have been originally set aside.

Mind your own business, is a good rule to observe. It is one the proletariat should learn to follow to the letter. The artistically exploited wage-slaves of capital should carefully keep their noses out of their masters' business. The cunning little financial tricks the members of the ruling class, and their hangers-on, play upon each other should be allowed to pass unnoticed and without adverse comment. If individual members of that delectable fraternity expend energy in looting the so-called "public treasury," that is in plundering each other, the workers might as well thank their lucky stars that it is that much energy expended that might otherwise have been used to tear the few remaining patches of hide off their own backs.

The proletarians have no small job on their hands if they attend strictly to their own business, and keep their noses out of the Kilkenny cat fight that goes on within the ranks of their exploiters over the division of the proceeds of the swindle perpetrated upon them under the rule of capitalist property.

NO PAUPERS IN JAPAN.

With all our high wages and boasted civilization, the fact remains that you will see more wretchedly poor in any of our great cities in a day than you will see in Japan in a lifetime. In other words you will see no destitution in Japan. Though some are very poor, yet all seem to be well fed, clothed and housed and are invariably cheerful, and what is more surprisingly, invariably clean. There are no paupers in Japan and, therefore, no workhouses or poorhouses, though there are many hospitals where the sick are healed gratuitously. Practically everyone can earn a living. Would that we could say the same.—Pall Mall Gazette.

If the Gazette will possess itself with patience until the capital system has had time to develop in Japan to anything like its proportion in England, or upon this Western Continent, it will discover the Japanese working class floundering in the same slough of misery and despond as the English and American workers. There will then be paupers, workhouses and poorhouses in abundance. It is safe to predict that once the present war is over and the thousands of soldiers are returned to peaceful pursuits tapitalist development in the island Empire will proceed apace, and the workers be rapidly reduced to the worst extremes of misery and exploitation.

The fruit that capitalist development bears in one country it must inevitably bear in others, and that fruit is conscienceless and unabridged power in the hands of its beneficiaries (capitalists) on the one side, and unlimited poverty and misery for its victims (the workers), upon the other.

The activity at present displayed in the Japanese business world, is but the bloom that presages the coming fruit. The crop will be a prolific one and it will speedily ripen.

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Upon finishing the above we picked up one of our Japanese exchanges, "The Chokugen," which had just arrived and found therein chronicled that the authorities of Tokio were working out a plan to remove the slums to some point in the suburbs of the city. The capitalist fruit crop is further advanced toward maturity in that country than we were aware of.

WHERE WILL THE LABOR COME FROM.

The Springfield Republican intimates that it may be necessary in the end to call for volunteers to perform the labor of building the Panama Canal, to which the United States has set its hand. Both Japanese and Chinese laborers, it says, are disinclined to undertake the work, and the Italian Ambassador to the United States warns Italia laborers away from the Isthmus o account of the unhealthy conditions prevailing there.

We have been repeatedly told that it was our great captains of industry, who build the railways, factories, steamships, canals, etc. What is the matter with these worthies digging their own Panama ditch? Not long since we read of a fellow by the name of Van Horne whom it was alleged built the Canadian Pacific Railway. This was in itself no small achievement. Surely the man who could accomplish that could dig a ditch of 40 miles or so in length with little or no assistance. Were all of the capitalists of the States who are interested in putting through the Panama scheme, to go down there, roll up their sleeves, grab pick and shovel and go at it. the job would, no doubt be finished in short order. About the chief draw-back to this, however, lies in the fact that while these captains of industry were engaged on the Panama job, there would be no one left to carry on industry at home, and the women, children, workingmen, and other incompetents might starve.

If the workingmen will not go to Panama, and the "captains of industry" cannot be spared, it truly places us in a dilemma most perplexing.

Upon second thought it occurs to us that it matters not to the workers whether the ditch is dug or not. They will in either event be penniless wage-slaves in a competitive market forced to sell their labor power from day to day or starve.

TROUBLE AHEAD.

The arbitration award of 1903 in the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania, expires next April. As the Western Clarion has pointed out, there are plentiful signs of trouble when it comes to making new contracts with the men. The coal companies have been and are still making preparations to enforce their demands. In spite of all the sophistical arguments of the Mitchells and such like, to the contrary, the conditions of the labor market are continually becoming such as to favor the position of the companies in the struggle should such occur.

In a recent speech at Tamaqua, Penn., Mitchell is quoted as saying: that he "will demand an eight-hour working day and the recognition of the union in the anthracite region so that thereafter we can say to Baer, here is the labor of 150,000 men and boys. We want so much for it, and you can take it or leave it." The miners can do that now as individuals, and it will have the same effect as though the 150,000 made the demand together. If there be an ample surplus of labor in the market, the demand will prove fruitless of everything save refusal, and Mitchell ought to know it if he does not. The gains made in 1903 as a result of the arbitration awerd have been of doubtful value and are almost certain to be lost when the award expires. Anything short of a thick-headed ass can see that nothing is or can be gained by such a line of action as bucking an overstocked labor market.

The demand for recognition of the union, i.e., the employment of union men only, is open acknowledgement of the adverse conditions of the labor market. When the demand that only union men be employed is made it is open confession that the market is overstocked, that is that a surplus of labor is available. When that condition prevails it is utterly impossible to maintain prices,—(wages.)

If Mitchell leads his dupes up against the adverse conditions of the labor market that will as surely exist next spring as they do now there will be but a repetition of the hopeless struggles of the past, in which the rank and file have put up the price, fought the battle and endured the miseries, while the Mitchells, et al., have never missed a meal or paid a cent. So long as the rank and file is hoodwinked by the stereotyped mouthings of these professional boosters of capitalism, so long will it be impossible to enlist them in a movement for their own deliverance from the miseries of wage-slavery.

AN INFERNO.

From such accounts as reach us it appears that all Russia, during these days is little less than an inferno. Thousands have been slain and the killing is continually on the increase. In some places the soldiers enter cheerfully upon their bloody work, in some cases not even waiting for orders. In other cases they fraternize with the peasants and workmen, even to the extent of joining in the pillage of the estates of the big landlords. One thing seems assured, and that is that the Czar's government finds itself each day more impotent to repress the uprisings and disturbances. This is in itself a good sign as indicating that the brutal repressive measures so long exercised can no longer be enforced.

While the experience being undergone by the Russian people is an awful one, and promises to be long continued, it is necessary before they can arrive at the attainment of the liberties towards which they are so valiantly striving. If the Russian peasants and workmen but had arms in their hands how different the tale might be. That which they are suffering at the hands of brutal rulers, because of their defenceless condition, ought to point out to the workingmen of other countries the wisdom of procuring arms as against the day of need. An armed proletariat would not be subject to quite such harsh treatment as is measured out to an unarmed one.

MORE "EXCELLENCIES."

A car-load of "excellencies" in the shape of a real live Lord and two Ladys by the name of Grey, toured the Crow's Nest Pass on September 12. The toadies and boot-lickers were on hand at the various villages along the line, and the usual kow-towing, presentation of addresses and other flummery was gleefully indulged in. The he "excellency" was, of course, "profoundly impressed" with the prosperity and "richness of the district," ad infinitum, ad nauseum. Their "Excellencies" went into the mine at Coleman. "All were intensely interested and Lady Grey was not content until she had taken a pick and picked down several lumps of coal, which the various members carried away as souvenirs."

If the coal had been carried away for ordinary purposes, this "excellency" female might be complimented upon having did at least one useful thing in her life. But as it is, even this poor honor must be denied her.

After the slobbering had been finished the car-load of "excellency" was headed eastward, which it is hoped may be taken as an indication that Vancouver is to be spared the infliction of a similar boot-licking exhibition.

PROBABLY ALL DRUNK.

Burglars entered the residence of some swell people near Stamford, Connecticut, recently, and carried off a 400-pound safe containing about $20,000 worth of jewels. As there were eighteen people sleeping in the house at the time, and the burglars did the job without disturbing any of them, there would seem to be but one explanation that would fit the case.

DAILY STINK-POT.

The ordinary daily newspaper affords a faithful reflex of this glorious civilization of ours that is based upon the plunder of labor at the hands of Capital. The following is an accurate list of the head-lines upon the first page of one of the Seattle Daily Stink-Pots, of recent date:

"Harriman and his Party in Grave Danger."

"Earthquake Kills Hundreds in Italy."

"Deluge Gunners with Blazing Oil"

"If you don't get the—call it Stink Pot—you don't get the news!

"Seek to Unseat Fire Chief Cook.

"No Charges Made.

"Statement Denied that Charges were being Prepared Against Chief Cook.

"Report Given Out.

"Fire Chief Criticized and Intimation Given of Drunkenness in Department.

"Scandal Exposed in Department of War.

"American Railroad Man Who was Threatened.

"Corporate Taxes Shifted on Public.

"Millionaire's Party is Guarded by Mikados' Soldiers."

And this was by far the most decent and readable page in the entire paper. Great is the Daily Stink-Pot; Faithful mirror of a Stink-Pot civilization.

BATTENBERG.

It would have been ungracious while Battenberg was with us to say a word that could have been deemed discourteous. But now that he has gone, we may remark that this excessive adulation of every sprig of royalty is more suitable to a title-hunting fast set than to the sensible and self-respecting citizen. Battenberg bears the specially German title of Serene Highness, and is related to royalty. But in England he is a British Admiral without any extraordinary position, and Englishmen would smile at the demonstration of supreme homage which followed him here.—Weekly Sun.

This is courage and manliness for you with a vengeance. To remain silent while the toadies were figuratively licking the boots of this useless Battenberg bric-a-brac, was to acquiesce in the toadying. It was probably a somewhat tardy feeling of shame that prompted the Sun to bawl his Serene Battenberg out in this manner after his departure. Royalty either main stem or "sprig" would have no excuse for existence were it not for toadies and slobbering idiots. No sensible and self-respecting citizen will pay any attention to anything so contemptibly nauseating under any circumstances whatever.

NOTE AND COMMENT

In the press reports of the terrible famine in Spain it is stated that the working people are living on roots. Just what the non-working people are living on is not stated, but it is safe to assume that they are not rooting for a living.

—o—

The profession of the law should be a noble one, as its object ought to be to secure justice to every man.—Wall Street Journal.

Law has been well defined as the "science of injustice." This is so palpably true that the Journal is scarcely justified in speculating upon anything so ridiculous as stated above.

—o—

The Japanese are beginning to harvest the aftermath of the Manchurian war, and it is safe to assume that it will amount to a large crop before they get through with it. The present disturbances at Tokio are attributed to dissatisfaction among the people over the terms of peace arranged at Portsmouth. When the hundreds of thousands of men return from the front, and the reaction that always of necessity follows in the footsteps of war, sets in, there will be further trouble, but of a different kind. It will be the trouble that arises from stringent times, lack of employment and low wages.

—o—

The prohibition laws of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Iowa, New Hampshire and Vermont have been repealed and though still upon the statute books in Maine and Kansas, they are acknowledged to be practically null and void. All of which goeth to show that the underlying economic laws of capitalism are more powerful than the petty legal enactments of states. There is profit to be made in the manufacture and sale of liquors and profit is the supreme power in the domain of capitalist property. It is about time our prohibition friends, and other silly folk who fancy that morality, rectitude of conduct and general good behaviour can be enforced by legal enactment, took a tumble to their folly.

—o—

The real essence of unionism as it exists to-day was beautifully protrayed recently in Chicago. The boss printers posted notices that hereafter their composing rooms would be operated as open shops, wages and hours to remain the same as before. Everything went along smoothly until a non-union man was given a job, when the union men struck. This showed conclusively that the chief purpose of their union was to corral the jobs for its members, as against those outside of it, and that wages and hours were merely incidental to the main proposition. Some of the establishments struck against had not employed non-union men, but upon being asked to give assurances that they would not do so they had refused, hence the walkout of the men.

—o—

According to the Appeal to Reason, the Kansas City Chief of Police sent plain clothes men into a socialist street meeting for the purpose of discovering if any socialists had revolvers on their person. Presumably the game was to arrest a bunch of armed despetados and of course make a lot of noise about it. No guns were found, however. The Appeal warns all socialists to be especially careful about going to meetings carrying revolvers about their person, lest a pretext be afforded the authorities to exercise drastic measures against them. The Western Clarion would emphasize the warning. Don't carry a revolver anywhere. It is too small and ineffective a weapon. Save your money and buy a canon, and always keep it within easy reach, so you may instantly lay your hand upon it in time of need. Be sure and get one with long range, the longer the better.

—o—

The Grand Central Station in New York is reported about to cut off all wages from their red-capped porters, who now get so much in the way of tips that there are many more applicants for the jobs than there are places to be filled. At least Collier's Weekly thus states it. If the tips amount to sufficient to supply the toadying slaves' necessities, why should the company be called upon to make payment in the shape of wages? Should the tips increase to a sum more than sufficient to supply the servile stomach with needful food and the slavish back with clothing, etc., the slaves should be compelled to surrender the surplus to the company, to whom in all decency it would properly belong. Justice demands that everyone receive his due. All that a slave can justly lay claim to is his keep, whether he be the quadruped horse or the biped ass. The logic of wage-slavery leads us up against some concluslusions that would once have shocked us. As we recognize the true significance of the wage-system these conclusions become quite common-place.

The press despatches report two hundred Japanese policemen wounded in Tokio disturbances of Sept. 7th. Evidently the Japs are not made of that material that will submit to police brutalities without resentment. Had it been our own people the broken heads would have been all on the ather side and the police would have escaped unscathed.

Socialist Directory

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

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

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

LOCAL VICTORIA, No. 2, S. P. of C. H. J. B. Harper, secretary, Rock Bay Hotel, Victoria, B. C.

LOCAL REVELSTOKE, No. 7. H. Seigfried, secretary, P.O. box 208, Revelstoke, B. C.

LOCAL NANAIMO, No. 3. Daniel Livingstone, secretary, Box 452, Nanaimo, B. C.

LOCAL VANANDA, No 22. Edward Upton, secretary, Vananda, Texada Island, B. C.

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

Union Directory

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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. Francis Knott, president, Archie F. Berry, secretary.

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USE OF ELECTRICITY IN STEEL MAKING

The use of the electric furnace in he manufacture of steel is arousing uch interest, although steel-makers nd engineers seem by no means to e of one mind regarding it. On the he hand it is claimed that electric melting will revolutionize the manuacture of structural steels as at resent made by Bessemer and the pen-hearth process and, on the oth- hand, that it can not compete ith the crucible process or the op-n-hearth furnace. F. W. Harbord, ho writes on the subject under the ead of "Electric Steel" in The imes, (London, August 2; Engineerg Supplement), believes that the uth lies between these two exemes, and that the manufacturer ho takes advantage, with judgment nd knowledge, of the great possibiies of the electric furnace will be a most exceptional position. He es on to say:

"During (the past year) very conderable quantities of electric steel ve been made both in Sweden and France, and have been used with ost satisfactory results for all asses of tools and cutlery, and for rious other purposes for which the ghest class crucible steel was forrly employed. . . . Considerable antities of this steel have been supied to Sheffield firms, who have us been able to convince themsels of the exceptionally high quality. e manufacture of crucible steel for ol purposes, important as it is to e country, owing to the worldde reputation for quality which it s acquired, is, however, only one mparatively small branch of our eat steel industry; and perhaps the st important question is to what tent electric smelting can be emoyed for the manufacture of the merous classes of steels between is and ordinary Bessemer, or openarth steel."

Even without attempting to come with the latter quality of steel, . Harbord concludes, there is an mense field for the electic process the production of steel for tubes, rge forgings, axles, tires, special res, ordnance and weapons, and esially for dynamos, "in which diction," he says, "the electric furce promises great things," owing the great purity of its product, rticularly the small percentage of rbon and manganese. He adds:

"Numerous experiments have shown at electric steel is not only exemely pure, but it is also exceponally homogeneous, and this is a st important point in the manuture of large steel castings. When it is remembered that, for special purposes, castings, sometimes of 50 or 60 tons, have to be made by mixing the contents of a number of crucibles not containing more than one hundredweight each, the advantages of being able to make steel equal in all respects as to quality, in quantities of 15 tons and possibly more, will readily be apparent. . .

"That steel made in an electric furnace should possess superior properties to steel of similar composition produced either in a Swedish Bessemer converter or in an open-hearth claiming a great deal, but such apclaiming a great deal, but such appears to be undoubtedly the fact, and this is due probably to its production in what may be regarded as a practically neutral atmosphere, under conditions in which the occlusion of gases and overoxidation is reduced to a minimum.

"It is frequently urged that the cost of electric energy in this country makes the production of steel in anything like quantities a commercial impossibility; but . . . by using the gas furnace for the melting, and the electric furnace only for the final operation, the difference in cost, as regards electric energy, will probably be more than met by the lower price of our raw material and our proximity to markets for the sale of the finished product . . . .

"In the electric furnace of the Resistance type. . . . the highest-class steel can be made from English scrap, such as rail ends, but against the saving effected in this direction has to be set the cost of the electric energy required. The electric furnace, even under the best conditions, is not a cheap melter, but as a refining furnace toward the end of the operation, when a very high temperature is required, it is far more efficient; it therefore seems probable that the future development of the electric furnace will be in combination with some form of continuous open-hearth process, in which molten pig-iron is converted into what we may term 'molten scrap-steel' in a gas-fired furnace, and then transferred in the molten state to the electric furnace for final purification. By this means the additional cost over ordinary open-hearth steel would be comparatively small, the melting and preliminary refining having been done in the gas-fired furnace, and the electric furnace being employed only to do the final refining at such high temperatures as those at which it alone is able to work most efficiently and economically."—Literary Digest.

TWO KINDS OF ADVICE

The workingmen of Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay expects big strikes and lockouts within the next six or eight months. American seamen, longshoremen, and other workingmen connected with the transport industry ought to prepare to help them by refusing to carry or unload cargoes put on board at the ports of those countries by scab labor or under military compulsion. The capitalists of the United States are taking a lively interest in South American affairs these days, for their own profit. So ought the workingmen of the United States to do, on their side.—The Worker.

The American seamen, longshoremen, and other workingmen ought to commit no such folly. Neither will they if they possess as much grey matter in their cranium as the ruler of the universe is supposed to bestow upon the proverbial goose. There has been altogether too much of this balky-horse play indulged in already by the American workingman. It speaks volumes for his lack of intelligence if he is sufficiently stupid to be induced to make a further ass of himself in this direction. It also speaks volumes for the quality of the mental pabulum of any individual, editorial or otherwise, who will continue to advise him to persist in the folly at which he has been repeatedly trounced during the past hundred years. If any South American working mules wish to balk, that's their business and their folly.

It is high time in the light of the experience of the last century in particular, that the American working mule acquired sense enough to at least begin to act like a man. There is work for the laborer to do if he is to break loose from the shackles of slavery. This work can not be accomplished by committing the folly of imitating a balky horse. It is work that calls for the action of men alond the line of exercising their intelligence and power for the purposing of obtaining possession and control of the means of production, and thus setting themselves lree from capitalist exploitation. Let this asvising of the working men to commit acts of assininity cease. Let him be told the truth no matter how much it may jolt him, in order that he may be broken of his commodity habits, and take on the spirit and action of manhood.

If American workingmen ever take a lively interest in affairs for their own profit, they will be forced to broaden their view of things, so that their horizon will b? of greater extent than that of a bilious and balky blind mule.

UNECONOMICAL ECONOMY.

In St. Louis there is a Yankee who settled in the Mound City after the Civil War and has there built up a fortune of millions. The economies and conservatism by which he has accumulated his little pile have increased with his years. Acquisition has become a habit.

He has one son over whose expenditures he keeps careful watch. Recently this offspring took an uptown car. The father who saw him board the car, and knew his destination, judged he had spent his fare foolishly.

That evening, after dinner, the elder called the younger man into the library, saying he had something to tell him. "But first," he interrupting, rising from the chair, "I will turn down the light; we can talk just as well in the dark, and it will save the gas." He then proceeded to give reasons why the expenditure of the uptown car fare was unnecessary. As he went on explaining the value of economy, out of the darkness where his son sat he heard fumbling and shuffling. Much to his distaste the noise continued. At length, heated to impatience, he cried "Sam, what are you doing?"

"Father," came from out of the darkness, "I can hear just as well without 'em, and, while we're sitting here in the dark, I'm taking off my suspenders to save 'em."

For the rest of that evening economies were not discussed.—Success.

IT WAS ALL OVER.

"No more will I hear his footdteps on yonder walk as the clock strikes the hour of 8."

"Gracious, Jeanette!"

"And the parlor light will never burn now for him again."

"You don't mean it?"

"I do, and furthermore, he will never sit on this sofa three nights a week and call me pet names, as he had been doing for two years."

"I am astonished."

"And tonight I am going to burn all the old love letters in my trunk"

"B—but why are you going to discard him?"

"Discard him! Why, you goose, I am going to marry him!" —Columbus Dispatch.

A writer in the current issue of the Commons, Chicago, says: "The black flag of Anarchism flaunting destruction to property, and therefore relapses of society to barbarism the red flag of Socialism inviting a redistribution of property, which in order to secure the vaunted equality must be repeated again and again "constantly decreasing periods" etc here we have our friend the "dividing up" bogey, and in a magazine which we supposed was too well informed to put such rot in type. The editor of the Commons, Graham Taylor, the well known settlement sociologist, certainly knows just what socialism stands for, and should not let a writer who is ignorant, use the pages of his publication to spread false teachings. If the writer had referred to the actual dividing up which is forced upon the worker by the capitalist system and which operates to give the big share to the capitalist class and to leave the working class poor, he would have been getting at facts.—S. D. Herald.

THE MEN WHO DO NOT LIFT.

The world is sympathetic. The statement none can doubt;
When A's in trouble don't we think that B should help him out?
Of course we haven't time ourselves to care for any one,
But yet we hope that other folks will see that it is done.
We want the grief and penury of earth to be relieved.
We'd have the battles grandly fought, the victories achieved,
We do not care to take the lead and ... stand the brush and brunt,
At lifting, we're a failure, but we're splendid on the grunt.
And there are others, so we find, as on our way we jog,
Who want to do the lifting on the small end of the log;
They do a lot of blowing and they strive to make it known
That were there no one else to help they'd lift it all alone.
If talking were effective there are scores and scores of men
Who'd move a mountain off its base and move it back again;
But as a class, to state it plain, in language true and blunt,
They're never worth a cent to lift, for all they do is grunt.

—Hamilton, (Ont.) Times.

LOST, STRAYED OR STOLEN

A large, strong and symmetriral wheel, with hub and spoke, and tire and felloe complete, all in A1 order, has mysteriously disappeared from the upper premises of "Father" Haggerty. Whether lost, strayed or stolen is not known, but any person returning the same in good order will receive as a reward the enduring gratitude of the world's millions of enslaved toilers whose emancipation from wage bondage cannot be effected without the wheel. All persons are earnestly requested to be on the lookout for this property. It will be easily recognized, as there never was another one anything like it.

Later:—From all accounts, "Father" Hagerty (the father of the wheel) is also lost. Should the two articles be found by the same person, the "Father" may be kept as an additional award, and no questions will be asked.

A writer in the Typographical Journal, says: "The teamsters strike, (Chicago), came to a hapless and inglorious end. Now, instead of the Garment Workers lying alone in the ditch, there are two admittedly strong organizations that have met with defeat," The magnitude of their strength is demonstrated by the fact that they lie in the ditch together. It can readily be understood how much strength is necessary to do that. The writer further adds that the lesson to be drawn from the three months' struggle is that "it is unwise, inadvisable and dangerous to pin faith in the outcome of a strike by relying on force and outlawry." Quite true; Quite true! If a horse balks, it is bad enough, but when on top of this, he resorts to force and outlawry, by kicking the other horse and the wagon to pieces, it is decidedly worse, i.e., for the balky horse. This particular writer is to be congratulated upon the keenness of his discernment. Would that there were more like him.

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

Orders.—Employer: "Well, what did he say to you?"

Clerk: "That he'd break every bone in my body and pitch me out of the window if I showed my face in his office again!"

Employer: "Then go back and tell him that he is vastly mistaken if he thinks he can intimidate me by his violence."—Life.

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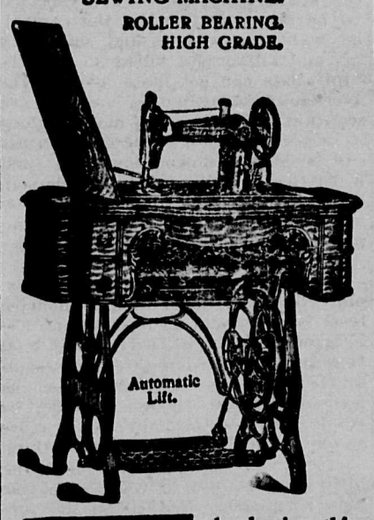

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PLATFORM OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for membership in ....
Local..... .....Socialist Party of Canada.

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

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

Applicant .....
Address .....
Occupation .....
Age..... Citizen.....
Admitted to Local.....19.....
.....Chairman .....Rec.-Sec.

BOTH DREAMER AND HUMORIST

Versatility of Tolsty, the Famous Russian Dweller in Cloudland

The following, which we clip from a Japanese exchange, The Chokugen, of Tokio, is particularly interesting, especially the information contained in Tolstoy's letter relating to the abandonment of the "fallacious theory of Socialism" in European countries. This is the first intimation that we, whose habitat is upon the earth, and not in the clouds, have had of such an abandonment. That we have not heard of it before is perhaps due to the fact that the press censor has suppressed the information. It is pleasing to note that our Japanese comrades are not made up of the dreamy, cloud-land Tolstoyan type of material.

The Tolstoy effusion is quite sufficient to excite the risibilities of even the most phlegmatic person.

* * * * * * *

A LETTER FROM TOLSTOY.

We have received after a very long delay, a letter from Mr. (we do not like to use such a word as "Count") Tolstoy, of Russia, in reply of our letter informing him that we had translated on our paper his anti-war essays which appeared in the London Times. We are very glad to publish it here, but at the same time we are very sorry to know that such a great man as Tolstoy is yet in error as to socialism and the solution of social problem, just in the same way as the common shallow people are. It runs as follows:

* * * * * * *

23—5 October, 1904f
Toula, Yasnaya Poliana.

Dear friend Isoo 'Abe,

It was a great pleasure for me to receive your letter and your paper, with the English article. I thank you heartily for both.

Though I never doubted that there are in Japan a great many reasonable, moral and religious men, who are opposed to the horrible crime of war, which is now perpetrated by both betrayed and stupefied nations—I was very glad to get the proof of it, ...

It is a great joy for me to know that I have friends and co-workers in Japan, with which I can be in friendly intercourse.

Wishing to be quite sincere with you, as I wish to be with every esteemed friend, I must tell you that I do not approve of Socialism and am sorry to know that the most spiritually advanced part of your—so clever and energetic—people has taken from Europe the very feeble, illusory abd fallacious theory of socialism, which in Europe is beginning to be abandoned.

Socialism has for its aim the satisfaction of the meanest part of human nature—his material well-being and by the means it proposes, can never attain them.

The true well-being of humanity is spiritual, i.e., moral and includes the material well-being. And this higher goal can be attained only by religious, i.e., morel perfection of all the units which composes nations and humanity.

By religion I understand tne reasonable belief in a (general for all humanity) law of God, which practically is exposed in the precept of loving every man and doing to every body what one wishes to be done to you. I know that this method seems to be less expedient than socialism and other frail theories, but it is the sole true one. And all the efforts we make in trying to realize false—and not reaching their aims—theories only hinder us to employ true means to attain the degree of happiness of mankind and of every individual which is proper to our times. ...

Excuse me for the liberty I take to discuss your creed, and for my bad English and believe me to be your true friend.

LEO TOLSTOY.

I will be always glad to have the news from you.

STONES FOR BREAD.

As was anticipated last week, the Unemployed Bill was carried through all its stages in the House of Commons, and may now b? expected to become law by the end of the session. This result is undoubtedly largely due to outside agitation, ably seconded by Kier Hardie and Will Crooks in the House of Commons. That the women's deputation to the Prime Minister produced an effect there is no doubt whatever, but probably the most effective work in connection with the outside agitation in support of the bill was that carried on by our comrades at Manchester. They have worked for many months persistently and daggedly, on behalf of the unemployed; and when it came to the foolish police interference with their perfectly peaceful agitation, Mr. Balfour may have concluded that an agitation in Manchester touched him too nearly to be ignored, and might even endanger his seat. How far he is likely to safe guard his seat by passing the present measure, however, is hard to say. It is bound to prove a bitter disappointment to those whom it is supposed to be intended to help. We cannot see that it will in any single particular place the unemployed in a better position than they were in last winter, and how they will regard the trick that has been played upon them remains to be seen. On the other hand, that the passing of the bill will blunt the edge of further agitation is obvious; especially after the blessings which have been bestowed upon it. It has been suggested that the measure is entitled to some welcome at our hands, seeing that we have been agitating for legislation, and we could not reasonably have expected anything better from the present Government. But we agitate for what we want; it is not a question of what we expect. The government might have met the agitation of the unemployed with the proverbial "whiff of grape-shot," it would have been no more than we might have expected; yet we should scarcely have expressed gratitude for such a response to our demands. Nor do we perceive any reason why we should profess to see some virtue in the present measure simply because we could scarcely expect anything better from the government. It has been described as a half-loaf measure, and we are quite willing to accept the half-loaf, while still demanding the whole one. But we do not regard this measure as any instalment of the loaf. On the contrary, while we have demanded bread we have been given stones.—Justice.

Certainly, it is no "instalment of the loaf." But it is the only instalment the workmen of England or any other country may be sure of getting so long as they depend upon asking for what they ought to take. The condition of the unemployed cannot be appreciable altered for the better so long as the means of production continue to function as capital. The sooner this truth be recognized, the better for all concerned. The first step to be taken by the workmen is the seizure of the reins of power for the purpose of transforming the means of wealth production from instruments of exploitation into the collective property of the working class, to be used by that class for the purpose of feeding, clothing, sheltering and making itself comfortable.

Such a "consummation devoutly to be wished" will be attained by taking and not by asking.

Unemployed Bills, and all other remedial measures under capitalist rule, must of necessity, prove disappointments. They strike no effective blow at capital, and the enforcement of their petty remedial provisions still remains in the hands of the class against whom they are supposed to be aimed.

The British workmen have a difficult task before them. There is but one way to accomplish it, and the task is made none the easier by begging for what they ought to seize by right.

During the disturbance in Japan which broke out immediately upon conclusion of tne peace treaty, it is particularly noticeable that the mob vented its spite upon the churches and the police. The burning of churches, it has been urged by some of the daily papers, was an insult to foreigners, these churches being the property of inter-meddlers from other lands. It were much nearer the truth to assert that the introduction of these factories for the output of baneful soporific doctrines, was an insult to the Japanese. Perchance they are discovering this, which might account for the destruction of these gospel shops. Their antipathy to the police might be accounted for upon general principles. The disposition to soak a policeman with a brick is one of the most pronounced indications of mental and moral vigor. It is pleasing to know that the Japanese along with their other good qualities possess this trait in marked degree. For the benefit of those who may have thought that the Japanese upper classes were instrumental in the rioting going on at Tokio and other places, it were well to call attention to the dispatches which assure us that Japanese youths and the lower classes" were responsible for it. This may be taken as an indication that the "upper classes" of Japan are as decorous, well-behaved respectable and cowardly as our own. Whatever rioting, pillaging, and blood-letting the upper class indulges in, is done by proxy. They are too careful of their own hides to take a hand themselves.

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WANTED—MEN FIT FOR SLAUGHTER.

Only eleven out of fifty-nine applicants for the United States navy were able to pass the physical examination in Toledo last week. There are, unfortunately, few people who will stop to consider what this really means. When not 12 per cent of the young men are in condition to be called physically fit, it means that the remainder are unfit. And why? Mostly because of the debilitating, degrading and demoralizing conditions under which these young fellows, or their parents have had to work and which the present system encourages. How many people also have noted that the big glaring advertisements for recruits which the government is using do not call for recruits on the grounds of patriotism or love of country? The inducements offered are liberal pay with chance of promotion" and "a chance to see the world," etc. The government recognizes that men do not enlist in the army or navy because of patriotism, but mostly because they are either out of work or have disagreeable and poorly paid employment. The only time the soldiers or sailors are expected to be patriotic is when the capitalist want the soldiers and sailors to go and kill or get killed so that the capitalists can get more profits. The average workingman is coming to see that there is isn't much glory in modesn warfare, where regiments can be mowed down like wheat and a battleship full of helpless human beings can be sent to the bottom by a single shell from a hidden submarine.—Toledo Socialist.

The strenous Roosevelt's recent exploit in going down in a submarine boat is spoken of as one "characteristic of the man." Of course it was. It was done no doubt for spectacular effect and as a spectacular ass, he leads the bunch, though it may be that Bill, of Germany, is a close second. Some of the papers think he was not justified in "subjecting his valuable life to whatever risk may have been attached to the venture." Candor, however, compels the confession that we are unable to locate any particular value attached to the Roosevelt personality, or that of his ilk. At least any value measured from the standpoint of the only useful part of human society, the working class. We understand this person to be merely a public servant, and we never attach much value to servants anyway. They are usually a cheap lot and easily obtainable. Such being the case their owners need suffer no serious loss if an occasional one were to go to the bottom of the sea and fail to return.

Words fail to express the contempt that we feel for union men who fawn before the minions of capitalism who wields the club that beats them and sends police to scab their jobs and break their strikes. The labor leaders who were instrumental in having Mayor Dunne as one of the labor Day speakers, must have lost the last vestige of self-respect, if they ever had any.—Chicago Socialist.

They who parade themselves as commodities on the day set aside by capitalist government for that specific purpose, and go around and beg for the wherewith to make the occasion a festive display of their commercial value, never had any self-respect to lose. It is perfectly proper that Mayor Dunne and such flim-flammers and bamboozlers should take part in the ceremonies. It is well to remember the words of Gronlund, "wares cannot act like men, for wares are only things." It is eminently proper that economic things should be addressed by political things.

CHICAGO ACTIVITY.

We note from our Chicago exchanges that the comrades of that city are busily engaged in complying with the legal preliminaries required in order to nominate candidates for the forth-coming judicial and sanitary district elections. Those who are familiar with the ponderous and unwieldy election machinery in vogue in the big cities on the other side of the line will readily understand what a stupendous task it is for a new political party to obtain a legal foothold. In Chicago, the election of delegates to a nominating convention involves the holding of public primaries which in itself involves nearly as much time, labor and expense as to hold a regular election. It seems that the Chicago comrades have gone bravely at the task, determined to conquer all difficulties, and establish for the proletariat of that city its own political movement, through which to realize its economic aspirations.

THE 'GOOD NIGGER" OF THE LABOR STRUGGLE.

In the old days of chattel clavery, a certain type of slave was loudly praised by the master class, as the "good nigger." The "good nigger" bore much the same relation to his fellow slaves that the widely advertised steer of the Chicago stockyards bore to the other cattle which he led one by one to the shambles. Such slaves as could be trusted to serve their master's interests by treachery to their fellow slaves were "good niggers." In our day, the struggle for economic freedom is different in many particulars, but not in general character, from that of slavery days; and there is a type of workingman now who answers to the characteristics of the "good nigger" then. An example of the modern "good nigger" organized, is the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; and the Order of Railway Conductors appears to be a fair second. These organizations are prompt to denounce any movement to check the rapacity of railroad monopolies. They serve their masters not only in their regular work for wages, but as citizens in influencing legislative bodies and in influencing elections. They reject open and honest politics on principles calculated to serve labor interests in general; but their influence is at the service of their masters whenever the plundering power of railroads is menaced. Like the "good nigger" of slavery days, they expect to benefit themselves by a loyalty to their masters which involves treachery to their fellows. And for this despicable kind of faithfulness they are duly awarded by their masters control. They are praised and applauded, as the "good nigger" was praised and applauded for like fidelity fifty years ago. Labor organizations of this sort are the "good niggers" of the present stage of the irrepressible conflict.—The Public.

Another of those relics of feudalism has been added to the Dominion list. The Province of Saskatchewan has been formed. Its first ministry—which is but the polite term for a band of political leeches and grafters—has been set up. Henceforth the work of entangling the common plug of Saskatchewan in a network of laws, enactments, orders in Council and other impediments, will go cheerfully on. At periodic intervals, they will be worked into a fine heat in the interest of various gangs of political high-binders who valiantly struggle for the honor of serving their country by getting their hungry bellies next to the Provincial pie-counter, The establishment of provincial government, and the upbuilding of the political machinery which this implies, signifies that the people of Saskatchewan are to be brought more completely under the sway of triumphant capital. This political move will bind them more securely to its chariot wheels, and render them more submissive to its discipline. It is good. It is just as it should be. When the people of the Dominion find themselves completely entangled in the federal political network, they will awaken to a realization of the fart, that their deliverance from the thraldom of capital can be effected only by and through the conquest of the powers of Dominion government. They will be forced to center their attack upon Ottawa, the habitat of that coarse and unscrupulous band of political henchmen of capital who today hold the Canadian people in leash for exploitation.

WHAT MACHINES DO.

In ruling paper, the worker, using quill and ruler, seventy years ago, took 4,800 hours to do work now done by a machine in two and three-quarters hours. The old-time workers got $1 a day, now the two men employed earn $7 a day between them, and yet the labor cost of producing a given quantity is 85 cents, against $400. It is easy to understand from this how it is possible to use so much more material and to keep a great army of workers going instead of an individual.

Machinery is now extensively used in boot-making, making 100 pairs of men's cheap-grade boots in 154¼ hours, against 1,436¾ by hand, while the labor cost is reduced from $400 to $35. In women's boots the case is easily marked, for instead of one man being employed to do everything, there are 140 engaged, each on a different machine operation; but not only is the time taken to 100 boots reduced to less than a tenth what it was, but the cost is also reduced.

Again, in the breadmaking, less than a third of the time is now taken. One thousand pounds of dough for biscuits is rolled, cut and prepared for baking in three hours and fifty-four minutes, an against fifty-four hours by hand.—Tobacco Worker. Yes! Yes! But won't the "eight hour day," the "closed shop," the "union label" and "collective bargaining," fix it up all right for the working plugs? If not, what good is your "gol durned" union anyway?

The accounts of the burning of Togo's battleship, the Mikasa, state that "there were heavy casualties among the men," but great relief was felt throughout Japan when it was learned that Admiral Togo was not on board the ship at the time of the fire." There is evidently a great difference between the value of a head butcher and the human tools with which he plies his trade. We came very near writing it "fools."

In an essay on the Japanese an English schoolboy recently wrote the following remarkable sentence: "Until secently the Japanese used to fight with bows and arrows, but now they are equipped with the complete arms of a Christian."—Advocate of Peace.

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

An exchange says, "we need Socialists to interpret our laws." As man-made law is merely the edict of a ruling class, intended to hold an enslaved class in subjection, speaking from the standpoint of the latter class, it strikes us that a scavenger wagon is the thing needed to cart the whole mess to the garbage crematory. Every country on earth has enough of such written ruling class venom to make numerous large cart-loads. This world would be a more decent place to live in were the whole vile mess to go up in smoke.

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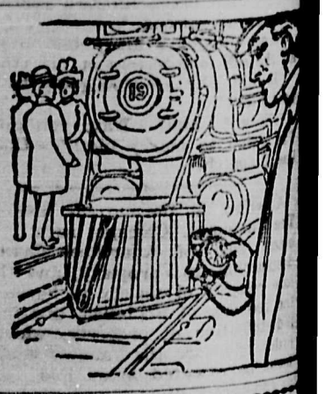

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